One-Day Awareness Programme on EDUCATION FOR THE MUSLIM WOMEN OF THOUBAL DISTRICT: MANIPUR

Sponsored by the Manipur State Minorities Commission, in collaboration with IGNOU Imphal Regional Centre held on the 28th September 2009

Dr. R.K. Ranjit Singh Regional Director, Imphal RC

As a precursor to the establishment of an IGNOU Special Study Centre for the Muslim women of Thoubal District, Manipur, the Manipur State Minorities Commission organized a one-day Awareness Programme at the Lilong Haoreibi College, Lilong, Manipur in collaboration with the IGNOU Imphal Regional Centre. The function was attended nearly by two hundred individuals, mostly educated Muslims of the District and graced it by the Chairman of the State Minorities Commission, Mr. A. Halim Choudhuri, IAS, former Commissioner of Education, Government of Manipur and Srimati. Laljan Begum, former Principal, the G.P. Women's College and Hon'ble Member Manipur State Women's Commission as the Chief Guest and the Guest of Honour respectively. Dr. Md.Maniruddin Sheikh, the former Speaker Manipur State Legislative Assembly was another Guest of Honour. Md. Abdul Nasir, a student leader also attended the function as a special Guest. The meeting was presided over by Janab A. Khalilur Rahman, the Principal of the Lilong Haoreibi College, Lilong. Dr. R.K. Ranjit Singh, RD Imphal RC and Dr. S.A. Latif Shah, Coordinator, IGNOU Study Centre 1707 (D.M. College of Science, Imphal) represented IGNOU.

Dr.Md. Sirajuddin, Reader in History, Lilong Haoreibi College in his welcome speech appreciated the stance of IGNOU for providing educational supports to the disadvantaged Muslim women and housewives who could not continue their studies in higher education due to various reasons. Md. Reheijuddin Sheikh, Secretary, Manipur State Minorities Commission, justified the identification of Thoubal district of Manipur as the Muslim concentrated district of Manipur by the Sachar Committee and the necessity of establishing a Special Study Centre for the Muslim women under Economically and Educationally Backward Blocks (EEBB) Scheme of the IGNOU.

The Regional Director, IGNOU Imphal RC placed before the house a vivid picture of the various programmes offered by IGNOU, right from Ph.D to certificate and awareness programmes. He stressed upon the distinctiveness of ODL from the conventional system of education and the advantages enjoyed by the learners under this system. He elucidated on the specific roles played by counseling and assignments which help in bridging the gap between the teachers and taught under ODL system of education. He also responded to a number of queries ranging from the recognition of the IGNOU certificates to the various courses of the Undergraduate programmes, raised by the participants.

The Sangai Express English edition of the 27^{th} September issue (attached below) carries the notice requesting the Muslim academicians and general public of the area to attend the awareness programme scheduled on the 29^{th} Sept. 2009:

condolences ad sympathy to the families of the deceased persons as well as the injured victims.

IGNOU centre

IMPHAL, Sep 26: A special study centre of ... IGNOU would be established in the minority concentrated district of Thoubal with special package for minority Muslim girls at Lilong Haoreibi college, said a press release issued by Secretary of the Manipur State Minorities Commission, Md Raheijuddin Sheikh. Saying that an awareness programme would held in this regard at Lilong Haoreibi college at 11 am of September 28, it appealed to all Muslim academicians of the state to attend the awareness programme. After the awareness programme, an MoU would be signed between the Principal of Lilong Haoreibi College and the IGNOU Regional Director, added the release.

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Weather Report

	Max	Min
Temperature	32.8 °C	22.8°C
Humidity		(E)79 %
Rainfall(mm)	NIII(M)	Nill (E)
Sunset	27-09-09	1705
Sunrise	28-09-09	0545
(Source: Meteorology Deptt.)		

his or her opinions and views.

"Congress in Nagaland is in a strongest position," he added.

The PCC chief said Congress in Nagaland is strong as people have refused to compromise with party's ethos and principles which were laid on a strong foundation. He also said strength of congress party lies with the people.

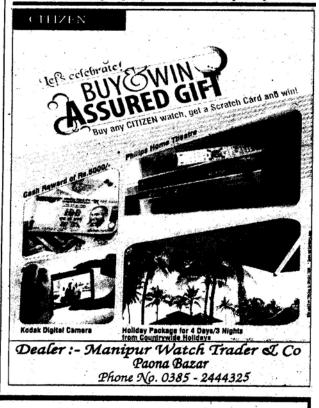
Pusa slammed the propaganda stating that till today no one has challenged the leadership of the party in Nagaland, but admitted that as a responsible pro-people

member PCC, Yankithans Lotha also rebutted reports of disunity in the party stating that congress is a seasoned political party and also party which is for the grassroots level. They also said NFP led DAN Government is anti-poor Government where funds are grossly misused by handful of people who are in power.

"Don't think that Congress in Nagaland is gone,"

they said.

PCC president in the meantime cautioned that party would not hesitate to take disciplinary action



Mr.M.A. Janab Khan, former Additional Director of Education (University and Higher Education), Government of Manipur, in his speech appealed the Muslim women to make use of the advantages which are going to be provided by the upcoming IGNOU Special Study Centre. The educational status of the Muslim women in Manipur is still pitiable, he added.

Dr. Maniruddin Sheikh, former Speaker of Manipur Legislative Assembly, also noted the backwardness of the Muslim people of the State in the field of education. He appealed the Muslim people to take advantage of the courses being offered by the IGNOU which are not presently available in the Manipur University.

Smt. Laljan Bagum, Hon'ble Member Manipur State Women's Commission, regretted on the poor attendance of the Muslim women, particularly of the nearby villages of Lilong area. She noted that it is a great opportunity for them. They should make use of these advantages offered by IGNOU in pursuing further studies in various fields.



Halim Choudhury, IAS, the Chief Guest addressing the gathering



Laljan Bagum, Hon'ble Member Manipur State Women's Commission making appeals to the Muslim women to Join IGNOU for their educational advancement



The Muslim women taking part in the Awareness Programme, Lilong, Manipur