



ASSOCIATION OF MANIPURI DIASPORA (AMAND), PUNE

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PRESS RELEASE

The Association of Manipuri Diaspora (AMAND), Pune has organized BLUE HILLS, a Manipuri cultural extravaganza in the city on Saturday, the 1st Feb 2014, with a motto of "Let them know us as we know them". Around 700 people including those theatre loving local people as well as many Manipuri families from very far places like Mumbai and Daman were attended. The cultural program was appreciated with huge applause by all the invited non-Manipuri audience of Pune. The cultural program was inaugurated by Maj. Gen. L Nishikanta Singh, VSM**, Cmt. Military Intelligence Training School and Depot, Pune in presence of Shri Rajesh Bansode, Dy. Commissioner of Police, Crime Branch Pune, Capt. N Khoikhoi Singh (retd), President AMAND, Dr. H Narendra Singh, Gen Secretary, AMAND and many other invited dignitaries from Govt. and Private organizations in Pune.

Dr. H. Narendra Singh, Scientist, Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, Pune and General Secretary, AMAND, Pune cordially welcomed the gathering. He also shared some glimpse of the Association of Manipuri Diaspora (AMAND) Pune as well as the main objectives of this cultural extravaganza. Dr. Singh requested to the audience to enjoy the program and go back to home with this motto "Let them know us as we know them" in their hearts.

Gen L N Singh, pointed out the necessity of sharing and exchanging diversified cultural heritages of the NE communities with the rest of the country and vice-versa for better understanding and appreciation among the citizens. He said this will bring peace and harmony among different communities of this vast country and hence promote unity in diversity. He appreciated AMAND for promoting national integration, peace and harmony through the concept of cultural exchange.

Shri Rajesh Bansode, DCP, Crime Branch Pune, appreciated the motto of the program and the noble cause AMAND has taken up. He informed that Pune Police and the Maharashtra Police will do their best to ensure safety and security of the NE communities residing in the state and specifically in Pune.

In his presidential speech, Capt. N Khoikhoi Singh (Retd) said that AMAND is a registered non-govt., non-profit community organization formed by professional Manipuris working/retired in and around Pune. He also mentioned that the main aim of the association is to provide a common platform for Manipuris residing in and around Pune for spreading awareness on social issues and raise issues related to social justice through fair and peaceful practices. AMAND Pune strongly condemned the unfortunate incident that has taken place in Delhi, the capital city of this country in the recent days. AMAND believed that this type of cultural exchange program will play a major role in understanding and appreciating our own countrymen amidst vast diversity and hence can bring peace and harmony in the country.

Programme was ended with the vote of thanks by Shri N. Giridhar Singh, Sr, Scientist, R&DE (Engg), Dighi and Joint Secretary, AMAND, Pune followed by a dinner hosted by AMAND for the cultural troupe with the Manipuri families.

(Dr. H. Narendra Singh)
Gen. Secy., AMAND, Pune