

MU Community says they will not co-operate the newly constituted Fact Finding Committee

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Re-constitution of the earlier fact finding committee on the request of the Manipur Government for inclusion of a retired justice fails to tame the anger of the Manipur University Community as no change has been made to the nature of the committee as well as both the persons who were close associates from the UGC and the MHRD still remain as a member. The Manipur University Community -MUSA, MUTA and MUSU has been demanding an independent enquiry committee after removal of the Prof. AP Pandey from the VCship. Earlier order released by the MHRD after 40 days of total shut down of academic activities comprises of JK Tripathi, Joint secretary of the university Grant Commission and Surat Singh Deputy Secretary MHRD.

Perhaps an assumption without going deep to the demand of the MU community, the Government of Manipur urged the MHRD for inclusion of T. Nandakumar, Former acting Chief Justice of the High Court of Meghalaya. An order has been issued yesterday. An urgent Joint meeting of the MUSA, MUSU and MUTA today at Manipur University dissected the MHRD order structure of the reconstituted fact finding committee. After deliberation the members of the Manipur University find the committee as an absolute insult to the intelligence of the people of Manipur in General and the University Community in particular. The members present during today's emergency meeting however lauded the appointment of a retired acting Chief Justice of Meghalaya High Court as the chairman of the committee. However, the members were dismay by the

amorphous nature of the reconstituted fact finding committee as neither Independent nor judicial. The meeting resolved to demand that the enquiry Committee after the removal of Prof. AP Pandey to look into the financial and administrative irregularities committee by him be truly independent and judicial. The MU Community resolved not to extend any co-operation to the so call fact finding committee. Regarding the demand for appointment of pro VC the members of the Manipur University Teachers' Association expressed surprise on what prompt the Chief Minister to mention it as selection of Pro VC is done after the recommendation by the Vice Chancellor and after getting approval from the Executive Council of the University.

Inclusion of a retired Judge to 'Fact Finding Committee' have no meaning - O Joy

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Veteran Politician and five time MLAs from Langthabal Assembly Constituency Okram Joy today said that inclusion of a retired judge to a fact finding committee have no meaning at all. Talking to this reporter exclusively at his residence today afternoon O Joy said that people are demanding an independent probe or Judicial

enquiry and the MHRD is constituting a fact finding committee which is no difference from a departmental enquiry.

The committee demanded should be constituted under the Commission of enquiry act and inclusion of retd. Chief justice to the so call fact finding committee is meaningless. "This fact finding committee will not be able to deliver impartial opinion", O Joy said..

I will consider whether or not to accept the proposal – TNK Singh

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Retired acting Chief Justice of Meghalaya High Court, T. Nandakumar Singh is not exited while receiving news about his being member of the Fact Finding Committee constituted by the MHRD. Talking over phone, T Nandakumar said that as of now he is not receiving any

communication officially and if received he will consider whether or not to join the committee.

As per information with the Imphal Times, Retd. Justice TNK still is at present serving as the president of the State Consumer commission. he is enjoying Honorarium and other government facilities from the government of Manipur.

VC AP Pandey is out of station again without handing charge to any person

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The controversial Vice Chancellor of Manipur is once more out of station amidst prolong impasse at the Manipur University which spread beyond the complex without handing over his charge to any of the competent authority. And source said that this time he didn't submit any leave letter to any of the concern as almost all the authority have been voluntarily resigned demanding his resignation. Pandey close association with the Union Home Minister Rajnath, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, RSS chief and senior BJP leaders is an open secret and as he will be left with no where to join if in case he is being removed he is doing

everything to remain as VC. When Pandey was sent as VC of the Manipur University he was to complete 65 years in 20 days. Now he can continue till 70 years but if he is removed there is no place for his position at any University. A high level source said that AP Pandey left Imphal for New Delhi at the same flight with the Chief Minister of Manipur. It is not sure whether the two had communicated before leaving Imphal but records with the Imphal Times said that Pandey left Imphal with the Chief Minister. The source added that the appointment of the BJP delegation headed by the Chief Minister to the prime Minister Narendra Modi was initiated by Pandey.

CNPO reacts to CM Biren's stand for Territorial Integrity of Manipur

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Chandel Naga Peoples' organisation in a statement has condemn the Chief Minister N. Biren Singh Statement regarding the territorial integrity of Manipur saying that the Chief Minister had forgotten the land occupied by the Naga since British period. In a statement the CNPO said that the context of the recent Press Interview of the CM of Manipur N Biren has brought to light the chauvinistic mindset of the State Government Sometimes they talk of 2000 year history of Manipur but never utter the hidden truth of the Naga People domination and occupying the Hill Territory of the present colonial state of India "When the British ruled the whole continent of India including the North Eastern Region, the segregation of Hill and Plain administration was prominently bifurcated as two different entities under British Manipur. "At this crucial juncture the Gol it appealed to protect and maintain the sanctity of the Historic Agreements they have entered With the Naga People and execute in delivering justice to the Naga people." the statement added.

48 hours general strike demanding removal of VC Prof. AP Pandey paralyse Manipur on the first Day

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The 48 hours general strike called by Manipur University Students Union (MUSU) demanding removal of VC Prof. Adya Prasad Pandey which begins midnight yesterday has completely paralyse the state of Manipur with almost all walk of lives putting to a grinding halt. Except one or two vendor ladies with in the presence of heavy security forces, the Khwairamband Keithel here in Imphal wore deserted looks. For the first time after Chief Minister N. Biren Singh held the Chief Minister Office Khwairambandh Keithel, which is in the heart of Imphal



city was seen pack with people wearing Khaki colour suits with baton and glass shield at every nook and corner. Some vehicles with stickers "Hospital", "Shardha"

"emergency" etc. were seen moving on the streets. Almost all roads in valley district were almost empty. Inter-district passenger service vehicles, Diesel Auto,

Tata Magic service and most private vehicles stay off the roads. Shops and business establishment remain shuts in all districts. Banks in the state remain close. Government

offices too witness only little attendance.

The 48 general strike called by the MUSU is being supported by almost all students' body including MSF, AMSU, DESAM, SUK, KSA and AIMS. Besides civil society organisation from across the state too had extended support to the general strike. At some of the areas particularly along the Singhmei to Chanchipur stretch many womenfolk came out in the street since early morning today morning and stopped all short of vehicular movements.

At some places like Thangmeiband, Khurai and some other places, strike supporters burn tyres in the

middle of the road. At Chanchipur, in front of the Manipur University gate, students of the University close the road by placing benches and trees. Even security forces vehicles have to turn back seeing the intensity of the strike called by the students. At Thoubal district and kachching district too, large number of strike supporters came on the road and prevented any form of vehicular movements. Report reaching here said that all the major market in the district - Wangjing market, Thoubal Market Yairipok Market remain shuts for the day. The general strike will continue till tomorrow midnight.

NEFIS protests against MHRD on Manipur University V-C and heci issues

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North-East Forum for International Solidarity (NEFIS) activists today held a protest at Ministry of Human Resources Development (MHRD), GOI along with other organizations demanding immediate removal of Manipur University Vice Chancellor, A.P. Pandey, and scrapping of proposal to replace University Grants Commission (UGC) with Higher Education Commission of India (HECI). A delegation of NEFIS activists also met Principal Private Secretary, MHRD and submitted a memorandum addressed to Union Human Resource Development (HRD) Minister regarding the issues.

Regarding the Manipur University (MU) issue, it should be noted that the university students, students' union, teachers and karamcharis have been agitating since last month, demanding V-C's replacement. They are demanding his replacement for the irregularities committed by his office. It should be noted that V-C's office has committed many irregularities such as making arbitrary and illegal donations from university funds to student group, ABVP. He has been guilty of not conducting meetings with Executive Council and Finance Council as stipulated by Manipur University rules and brazenly violates MU Act, 2005 by neglecting court

meetings. He is also guilty of grave financial and administrative irregularities, including appointment to non-existent posts and vindictive denial of promotion to a large number of teachers by making illegal changes in the due process. NEFIS also condemns the recent proposal to scrap UGC and replace it with HECI. The proposed act would ensure that political subservience becomes the basis for funding received by higher educational institutions. Also, the proposed HECI is tasked with promotion of financial autonomy in higher educational institutions, which would in effect bring in privatization in hitherto publicly funded universities.

In areas such as North-East where already huge disparity exists in terms of lack of public educational institutions such proposals would expedite the launch of teaching shops and would mean debarring majority of North-East youth from higher education. NEFIS delegation raised these issues with the Principal Private Secretary. The Secretary assured NEFIS delegation that it had received the earlier memorandum which was submitted by NEFIS and had already instituted an inquiry committee to probe the issue. However, NEFIS dissented as to the continuance of the V-C on his post, which would provide him ample space to influence the inquiry being

conducted against him and demanded that he should be immediately sent on leave, till the inquiry is being conducted. The secretary also assured the delegation that the MU issue would be sorted out soon. The delegation also raised the issue of HECI with the Secretary and demanded that the proposal be scrapped in the interests of the youth of the country. It should be known that NEFIS is conducting a signature campaign in Manipur and in several other areas of the country regarding these issues and has also resolved to intensify its movement in the coming days if its demands are not accepted by the Union HRD ministry soon.

Tribal body says agitation in MU is because of Mandey being a Mayang

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Joint Tribal Student Bodies, Manipur in a statement hit back on MSAD for using the word Mayang. In a statement the body said. The recent public invitation letter by MSAD using the word "Mayang" Vice-Chancellor (VC) to refer to the current VC Prof AP Pandey is a clear indication that the present VC is judged based on his race, ethnicity or origin. This indicates that the achievements which the VC has brought into the university are not at all acknowledged by the agitating students and it is truly sad that they do not accept the VC due to his origin or ethnicity.