

Manipur's Independence Day celebrated Leishemba Sanajaoba demands pre-merger status for Manipur

IT News
Imphal, Aug 14,

Titular King of Manipur, Leishemba Sanajaoba has demanded pre-merger political status of Manipur, while speaking on the 72nd Manipur's Independence Day celebration at Sanakonung, here in Imphal today. The Independence Day celebration was organized by Coalition for Indigenous Rights Campaign (CIRCA) under the theme - 'Why pre-merger status for Manipur' with the motto - "Celebrate The Spirit Of Freedom"

Addressing the large gathering, Titular King Leishemba Sanajaoba said that Kanglepak (now known as Manipur) was once a sovereign state. But after it was annexed to Indian Union post-independence the freedom of the people and governance was systematically subjugated. The unending socio-political issue which has marred the state of Manipur is the result of annexation of Manipur into



the dominion of Indian Union, the Titular King observed.

While, reiterating that Manipur got independence on 14th of August 1947- A day before Indian, Sanajaoba said that the then colonial British-India government left Manipur as an "excluded state" with the rights of "self-determination" and left subject of joining India or remain as sovereign state to the people of this land.

Further, Leishemba said, due to selfish ploy of some leaders, Manipur was merged into Indian Union in 1947. Following which, a separatist movement existed since 1952. He also said that the

celebration of Manipur Independence Day is not anti-national nor against the nation, but it is against the ill-treatment of Indian government towards the land and people of Manipur; it is to earn self-respect and dignity as paid by British to then independent Manipur. The titular king also appealed the government of Manipur to review the Instrument of Accession-1947 and grant a special status for Manipur to endow larger authority and rights for self-empowerment of the state governance as well as the people of Manipur. Implementation of the Instrument of Accession-1947

is the only option to restore normalcy and to get rid from all the menaces, which is being affecting the state.

As part of the celebration, the titular king hoisted a red flag decorated with the image of Pakhangba (Meitei deity) in gold at the centre in the Sana Konung which was also hosted in the history by the Late King of Manipur Meidingu Bodhchandra Singh in August 14, 1947.

The gathering also demanded to amend the Constitution of India to provide special constitutional status of Manipur to safeguard the interest of the people of Manipur.

Arrest VC, AP Pandey and resolve MU issue - Sanajaoba

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The Titular King of Manipur, Leishemba Sanajaoba has demanded to arrest the controversial Vice-Chancellor of Manipur, AP Pandey for causing social unrest in the state of Manipur.

Due to the ongoing demand for removal of the Vice-Chancellor of Manipur University large number of students are suffering and causing social unrest. The state government is incapable to act as the hegemonic control of the central

government, said the Titular King while addressing the gathering at the 72nd celebration of Manipur Independence Day held at Sanakonung here today morning.

While questioning the state government of not arresting the VC, Leishemba said that law and order is under state subject. Any person causing social turmoil should be arrested immediately and enquiry could be conducted after taking the person into custody.

"VC, Pandey may have connection with powerful

leaders of the Central Government, but government could arrest him immediately to ensure normalcy," said Leishemba, while adding that even if the people of Manipur wanted to arrest the VC or resolve the ongoing MU issue, the state government could not do so because of the state-centre relationship. The only solution to long lasting solution to all the problems in Manipur is review the Instrument of Accession and amend as per the wish and aspiration of the people of Manipur, Leishemba observed.

300 army officers to move to SC praying for protection of their fundamental rights

IT News
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Over 300 Army officers are filing a petition to the highest court of the country challenging legal action against on duty army officers. This comes against the backdrop of cases regarding the actions of on-duty Army officers coming under the scrutiny of internal security agencies and the judiciary, around three-hundred serving officers of the Army, in their personal capacities particularly in the state of Manipur and Jammu and Kashmir.

Republic TV report says that the petition will be filed on Tuesday seeking protection of their fundamental rights. The officers are to file a writ petition in the country's apex court asking a number of questions, among which are, "Can the discretion of a soldier be put under legal scrutiny?" and "Can anything be above national security?" On August 2, an Army officer



was booked by the CBI in relation to an alleged fake-encounter in Manipur. The central agency was conducting its probe on the orders of the Supreme Court, and the case, which relates to a 2009 incident, had been registered under murder-related sections of the Indian Penal Code. The incident had been termed a fake encounter

the SC-appointed commission. Earlier, in July 2017, the Supreme Court had entrusted the CBI with over 40 cases of alleged extrajudicial killings.

Meanwhile, in Jammu and Kashmir, an FIR had been filed by the police under sections 302 (murder) and 307 (attempt to murder) of the IPC against Major Aditya and his unit of the 10 Garhwal Rifles over the Shopian Firing incident of January 27 when three civilians were killed after Army personnel fired at a stone-pelting 200-strong mob of protestors in J&K's Shopian district. The Supreme Court is currently hearing the plea of Major Aditya's father, Lt Col Karamveer Singh, seeking to quash the FIR against his son. Lt Col Singh had said in his petition that Major Aditya was "wrongly and arbitrarily" named in the FIR as the incident relates to an Army convoy that was on bonafide military duty in an area under AFSPA. (Contd. on Page 2)

Congress slams BJP for not only fooling the people but also the MLAs

IT News
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Manipur Pradesh Congress Committee (MPCC) today slammed the ruling BJP government accusing the party of not only fooling the people but also the MLAs.

Speaking during a press conference held today at Congress Bhavan Spokesperson of the MPCC MLA Khumukham Joykishan said that, spokesperson of the ruling BJP led government Th. Bishwajit had announced to call a special session to discuss the issue of the frame Work Agreement and to make a consensus stand of the MLAs for protection of the state integrity on August 16. However as of now there has been no notification for summoning of the state assembly.

"Today is Aug 14 and tomorrow is the Independence day of the country and till now there has been no notification from the government for summoning of the state Assembly election", Joykishan said and added that such an attitude is a clear indication of how the ruling BJP led government is not only fooling the people of the state but also the entire elected representative.

SSUM condemns attack to Umar Khalid of JNU

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"Socialist Students' Union of Manipur (SSUM) expressed strong condemnation to the s attack on Umar Khalid of JNU terming it as State Sponsored heinous attack. A statement by Bhushan Longjam, General Secy. of SSUM said that the attack is another assassination attempt to kill Democratic voice who are strongly criticizing Hindutva hatred politics and Hindutva Ruling Government.

"Let us stand not only with Com. Umar but also against such coward attempts to attack the people who stand for Justice and truth". The statement said that Comrade Umar Khalid was attending a meeting at Constitution Club, against Lynchings that are happening after BJP came into power. While he was having tea outside the Constitution Club gate, suddenly someone from behind held Umar and tried to aim the gun at him. He tried to push away. Meanwhile, other comrades Khalid Saifi, Shariq Hussain and Banjojotsana Lahiri tried to overpower him, he escaped and Shariq chased him. While running away, the gunman turned around and fired but fortunately Shariq was not

hurt. The gunman left the gun on the road and escaped. Only a few months back, Ravi Pujari, the infamous "underworld gangster" had also issued death threats to Umar and when the Govt. was approached and demanded police protection, the police and the government have purposely put the matter on backburner and gave encouragement to the terrorists who are after Comrade Umar Khalid's life, the statement alleged.

This incident of attempting assassination by a gunman reminded the assassination of Gauri Lankesh by Brahminical Hindutva Fascists for standing for Justice, criticality and rationality. Along with Gauri Lankesh, Narendra Dhabolkar, Govind Pansare and MM Kalburgi were also made silence for speaking truth to power.

"Truth and reason cannot be killed by with bullets but the struggle for Justice would increase. And if the foot soldiers of Hindutva fascism think that they can silence and marginalize the voices of resistance against oppression, then they are mistaken. So, on this terror attack on Com. Umar Khalid by Hindutva Fascists, SSUM strongly oppose and stand to help radical student movements. Again, Hindutva brigade burnt Constitution in

daylight, now they attacked Umar at Constitution Club. Entire Country is going to celebrate it's Independence Day tomorrow, where people and Constitution isn't safe in it's own Capital City", the statement by SSUM added.

Manipur history retold on water canvas

DIPR
Imphal, Aug. 14

In a first of its kind in North East India, The Tourism Department, Government of Manipur, raised the curtain of Kangla Light and Sound Show on 13th August, commemorating the Patriot's Day.

The event was a part of the Development of North East Circuit: Imphal & Khongjom Project under Swadesh Darshan Scheme.

The 30 minutes Light and Sound Show at Kangla was staged at the inner moat of Kangla on the North of Ibdhou Pakhangba shrine. The show is aimed to let the tourists know the 2000 years old history of Manipur. Manipur history was retold on a water canvas with lazer light and projection of images.

Tri-Colour India is the expert consultant of the lazer and light show.



Present at the Curtain Raiser, Shri Budha Chingtham said that the narration in English was approved by an expert committee after which he translate it into Manipuri. The artist who acted at the short historic narration was also selected under his

guidance. This light and sound show will help the tourists know Manipur better, he added. The curtain raiser of the light and sound show was attended Cabinet Ministers, Secretary of Tourism, Ministry of Tourism,

Government of India Rashmi Verma, Chief Secretary of Manipur, Joint Secretary of Tourism, Ministry of Tourism, Siman Bila, Assistant Director General, Ministry of Tourism, Bharti Sharma and other high ranking government officials.