

Detention of Kishorechandra is suppression of Freedom of Expression of the people –AMSU

IT News
Imphal, Dec 24,

Reacting sharply to the detention of journalist Kishorechandra Wangkhemcha by slapping National Security Act (NSA) for voicing against the celebration of Jhansi Rani Lakshmi Bai, the All Manipur Students Union (AMSU) in a statement said that it is not only Kishorechandra that the government of Manipur is trying to shut but whole the people of the state that they are trying to suppress. The statement said that Kishorechandra had expressed his voice saying that the freedom struggle of Manipur has nothing to do with Rani Lakshmi Bai and the statement stands true. The statement of the Chief Minister in regard with the

celebration of the Anniversary of the Jhansi Rani which tried to connect with the region with the mainland is nothing but an attempt to distort the history of the region.

"Manipur become a part of India only after 1949 and Jhansi Rani had nothing to do with the freedom struggle of the region", the AMSU statement said. Even as the AMSU denounced the use of vulgar and obscene language by Kishorechandra, it stand with the fact that Kishorechandra had expressed and the AMSU will stand by it, the statement added.

The CJM Imphal West had already ruled that sedition is not attracted to what Kishorechandra had stated and thereby released him but again slapping of NSA to suppress him is nothing but a

direct attempt to suppress the freedom of expression of the people of the region.

The detention of Kishorechandra Wangkhem has been condemned by the Indian Journalists Union (IJU) and more media houses from across the nation keep continuing to support Kishorechandra. National TV channels including the BBC have been questioning the rationale behind the detention of Kishorechandra under NSA.

The AMSU while joining the voice against the detention of Kishorechandra under NSA said that the government of Manipur should drop the NSA from Kishorechandra and release him immediately. The students' body also threaten dire consequences if the government continue to shut the voice of the people.

Customs Asst Commissioner was released on bail after real owner of the ammunitions turns up

IT News
Imphal, Dec 24

Assistant Commissioner of Customs RK Darnedrajit who was recently arrested after a raid by Anti Corruption Branch of CBI was released on bail by the Duty Magistrate, Imphal East after the bullets confiscated during the raid were claimed by their owners.

According to a source with Imphal Times, the raid was conducted as RK Darnedrajit was suspected to amass wealth and asset more than his income. The raid was conducted at his residence Brahmapur Laljilakpa Leikai and his office and found a .32 Service pistol issued in his name and an excess of 20 bullets and 350 bullets of .22 Pistol whereas he was allowed to possess only 6 bullets of his issued Pistol. In this connection, the CBI team lodged a complaint with Imphal East District police and was arrested under Arms Act.

Further this source discloses that the excess bullets of .32 pistol which were in possession with RK Darnedrajit was of his onetime close college friend, Manibabu Liknabam of Khongman and working as Programme Executive of DDK Imphal. The said bullets were left at the residence of Darnedrajit on the 19th of this month wherein the two had dinner together and Manibabu didn't want to carry the bullets with him as it was late. In this connection, Manibabu has produced Gun License and Cash memo for the bullets. Also, Darnedrajit used to be the General Secretary of Manipur Rifle Association. The 22 bullets which were in possession of him happens to be the property of Manipur Rifle Association and several documents pertaining with the Association are with him and are waiting for a General Body meeting to surrender the said bullets and documents. In this regard, Manipur Rifle Association has sent a letter to the Imphal East Police station supporting Darnedrajit's claim. The court taking in view of all this new development, has released RK Darnedrajit on bail.

State Congress protest Rafale Scam case; stage protest



IT News
Imphal, Dec 24,

Joining the voice with its parent body, the Manipur Pradesh Congress Committee today staged a demonstration rally against the alleged misleading by the Central government to the ruling of the Supreme Court on the multi crore Rafale scam

case. Congress Legislator Wing leader Okram Ibobi Singh, CWC member Gaikhangam, MPCC President TN Haokip and other MLAs and workers of the Manipur Pradesh Congress Committee joint the protest rally which started from Congress Bhavan today morning. Speaking to media persons

leader of the MPCC said that the Rafale scam proves the sincerity of the Modi led government and as long as congress remain such mislead will not be made possible as long as Congress exist.

PIL plea in Supreme Court against computer interception order

Agency
New Delhi, Dec 24,

A public interest litigation (PIL) petition was filed on Monday in the Supreme Court challenging the Union government's December 20 notification authorising 10 central agencies to intercept, monitor and decrypt any computer system.

The petition was filed by advocate Manohar Lal Sharma.

According to the notification, the 10 agencies are empowered under the Information Technology (IT) Act for computer interception and analysis. Ministry of Home Affairs officials said. They are the Intelligence Bureau, Narcotics Control Bureau, the Enforcement Directorate, the Central Board of Direct Taxes (for Income Tax Department), the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence, the CBI, THE National Investigation Agency, the Research and Analysis Wing, the Directorate of Signal Intelligence (in service areas of J-K, North East and Assam) and the Delhi Police Commissioner.

In his petition, Mr. Sharma termed the notification "illegal, unconstitutional and ultra vires to the law". He sought to prohibit the agencies from initiating any criminal proceedings, enquiry or

investigation against anybody under the provisions of the IT Act based on the notification.

The plea claimed that the notification was issued "to find political opponent, thinker and speaker to control entire country under dictatorship to win coming general election under an undisclosed emergency as well as slavery which cannot be permitted within the Constitution of India".

It alleged that the Ministry of Home Affairs' "blanket surveillance order must be tested against fundamental right to privacy".

As per the notification, the state has the right to access every communication, computer and mobile and "to use it to protect political interest and object of the present executive political party", the petition alleged. The government's move set off a political storm, with the Opposition accusing the Centre of trying to create a "surveillance state".

However, the Central government said the rules for intercepting and monitoring computer data were framed in 2009 when the Congress-led United Progressive Alliance was in power and its new order only notified the designated authority which can carry out such action.

Rs 100 released in memory of Atal Bihari Vajpayee

Prime Minister Narendra Modi released a commemorative coin in the honour of former Prime Minister and Bharat Ratna Atal Bihari Vajpayee at Parliament House Annexe in New Delhi today.

Speaking on the occasion, Prime Minister said, Atal ji was away from public life for nearly a decade, but the way people paid tributes to him after his demise shows how much he was loved and admired. He said, Atal ji was a stalwart and respected across all sections of society.

RPF wishes on Christmas Day

IT News
Imphal, Dec 24,

Proscribed group Revolutionary People's Front wishes the people of Manipur on occasion of the Christmas Day celebration. A message by Y. Shyam, Secretary, Minority Affairs of the outfit wishes the people to live a peaceful and harmonious life with the coming of the Christmas.

The outfit appealed the people of the region to respect all religion and caution to stay away from falling as a prey to the kind of religious war carrying out. The outfit wished the people to come united with the coming of the Christmas Day.

Student body demands resignation of Brozendra Ningomba on moral ground



IT News
Imphal, Dec 24,

The Socialists Students Union of Manipur (SSUM) has demanded the resignation of All Manipur Working Journalists Union (AMWJU) president Brozendra Ningomba on moral grounds. The student body held a protest at Higher Secondary Madrasa, Lillong demanding the resignation of Brozendra on moral grounds.

The body said that it condemns the letter written by Brozendra to the Indian Journalists Union (IJU). It said that the duty of the AMWJU president is to uphold the rights of journalists, but his action has shown the scribe body in a poor light to the public of the State. Under his leadership, the masses have lost faith in the scribe's body.

The media cannot be controlled by an individual or by a group, it should be sacrosanct and remain democratic. The present stance taken by him leads to muffling the voice of the media and true democracy is at stake. He should not remain a president but should resign

on moral grounds.

It is a sad part in the history of the State that a protest is being held to demand the ouster of an AMWJU president and SSUM on behalf of the public urges Brozendra to resign from his presidency. It is high time that the public and concerned organisations demand for the rights of a journalist to be upheld. If not, then the media of the state will wither down and democracy will have no meaning. Rather, it will be left to the whims of individuals who takes media houses representatives for foreign trips. The student body urged that the government should not threaten the officials of Manipur Students Association Delhi (MSAD). The government should know how to utilise the social media, an unwanted comment can be hidden or deleted, or simply ignored. One cannot save the state or govern it through social media. The government should have a responsible political will and maturity and not try to stifle the voice of the public, a release by SSUM said.

MHJU Condoles

Manipur Hills Journalists' Union (MHJU) condoles the demise of Jacob Panmei, Jiribam Correspondent of The Cham. Jacob Panmei is one among the senior journalists in Rongmei community. His untimely demise is an irreparable loss for the journalist community at large, a press communiqué from the MHJU said. All Jiribam Working Journalists' Union (JWJU) also condoled the demise of the the Rongmei Senior Journalist. In its condolence message the Union share its pain and sorrow of the family of the departed journalist. The statement of AJWU further recounted the role taken by the departed journalist for lifting up of the journalist community of the region. Team Imphal Times also condoled the demise of the Senior Journalists.

Condolence

A condolence meeting was held in Department of Economics, Manipur University at 12.30 pm for the demise of Prof. H. Nabakishore Singh on 22nd December 2018. The Department expressed it as a great loss especially to the Economics fraternity of the State and pray to god for departed soul to rest in peace.