

## Manipur University issue rocks both outside and inside State Assembly; Opposition MLAs question if VC Pandey is indispensable

IT News  
Imphal, July 23,

Ongoing impasse at Manipur University which put academic activities to a grinding halt for 54 days today not only rock the state assembly session but also normalcy in and around Manipur State Assembly was put to a war like zone as students' protestors along with local supporters confronted police personnel at many placed of Thangmeiband area. Inside the ongoing state assembly session Congress MLAs K Govindas and K Ranjit move a calling attention motion regarding the issue and plead the speaker of the house to convert it as short duration discussion so that a resolution may be adopted to pressurise the center over the demand of the Manipur University Community which is supported by various civil society organisations of the state, be submitted to the central government. Speaker of the house Y Khemchand denied the plea and appealed the two MLAs to continue as Calling attention motion.

Moving the calling attention motion Congress MLA Govindas Konhoujam drew the attention of the house over the state government inability to solve the problem at MU arises due to alleged irregularities by the VC Prof. AP Pandey.

"Is the VC AP Pandey is indispensable, if so the government should directed the central authority to place at somewhere which they felt it best as his presence in the Manipur university is ruining the whole students of the state", Govindas said. He added that due to the ongoing impasse result of the 6 semester Graduate result appeared by 15,800 students have been awaiting and it is likely that they may lost all chances of continuing their higher studies at Universities across the country as the present Manipur University cannot provide seats for all the students.

MLA K. Ranjit while joining Govindas in the calling attention said that he feel ashamed of discussing issue for a person like A P Pandey. "Is Pandey above the Chief Minister, the Governor or the 60 MLAs?" Ranjit questioned

and said that the house needs to take a resolution by converting the call attention motion as short duration discussion at which the speaker denied.

Answering to the call attention motion Education Minister Th. Radheshyam said that all effort has been taking up to find a solution. Appreciating the opposition MLAs for understanding that the state government has limitation to the issue of MU Radheshyam said that a team of the state government led by the Deputy Chief Minister Y. Joykumar have visited the MUTA members and discussed about the issue to find an amicable solution. Chief Minister N. Biren Singh, who is also the leader of the house while showing his concerned also stated that he and his government have been working all possible way to solve the impasse at Manipur University.

He said that as per the desires of the MUTA, MUSA and MUSU a strong delegation led by him had appraised the HRD Ministry to include a retired justice to the fact finding team which the Ministry accepted. He further added that all

political party meeting held yesterday had also resolved to appoint a Pro VC and enquiry of the fact finding committee be preceded after giving leave to the VC.

Reacting to the Chief Minister's statement K Ranjit said that the Chief Minister and his government did not seem to understand the demand of the Manipur University Community. He said appointment of Pro VC is done as per the recommendation of the VC and after the approval of the Executive Council of the Manipur University which the VC is the Chairman of the council which consist of Prof. from the University. He said the MUSU, MUTA and stands firm with their demand for an independent enquiry after removing VC. When the opposition and the ruling are having heated argument over the issue of the Manipur University, various students of the state thronged to the Manipur Legislative Assembly. Confrontation between the police and the students took place at various places around Assembly secretariat.

## Dozens of students injured in police action in the periphery of Manipur Legislative Assembly



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Government failure to listened to the demand of the students' bodies of the state over the demand of the Manipur University students' Union (MUSU), large number of students today thronged to the state assembly when the session is underway. District administration had already imposed prohibition under CRPC 144 at 500 meters around the State Legislative Assembly. Similar prohibitions were also imposed from Khuyathong to DM College western gate and the DM college campus as well at some area of Chingmeirong. Report reaching here said that large number of students first thronged at Thangmeiband

college gate towards the Manipur Legislative Assembly amidst heavy security presences using barricades. The students confronted the police team at the place. Around 8 students were injured. Sapam Rajesh a volunteer of MSF was reported critically injured at his leg in police action. 7 students march towards the State Legislative Assembly and stand in the middle of the road and demanded their arrest. They were picked up by a police team and were force to get down at Khuyathong which the students denied. At Khuyathong at around 3.30 police fired various tear gas shells to disperse the protestors. Khoisnam Sanjoy who is a deputy secretary of the KSA was among the 8

students sustain injury in the police action. Firing of tear gas failed to control the agitators. Till late in the evening the agitators pelted stones towards the police force. On the hand SSUM, SWA and Khwairamband Keithel vendors thronged to state assembly. Volunteers of SSUM, SWA and women of Khwairamband Keithel today thronged to the state assembly against the passing of the Liquor Prohibition amendment Bill, Border Pillar Issue and justice for Khumukcham Sanjita Chanu. The protestors confronted the police as they approached the state Assembly. The students' body SSUM have been demanding publication of the contents of the ILPS Bill before passing in the state assembly today.

## MUSU, MUTA, MUSA rejects CM invitation at 6 pm today

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Manipur University Teachers' Association (MUTA), Manipur University Students' Union (MUSU) and Manipur University Staffs Association (MUSA) has rejected the Chief Ministers' invitation to talk over the issue today evening at 6 pm. As per source from the MU community the Chief Minister had invited the MU community for a talk at 6 pm today evening but as the demand of the MU community stands unchanged, the MU community finds no use in meeting over the issue again and again untill the demand of the MU community has been fulfilled. During the Assembly session Chief Minister had stated that he had invited the MU community for talk today evening.

## Chief Minister dishonours dignity of the House - Joykishan

IT News  
Imphal, July 23,

Moving a point of order Congress MLA Khumukcham Joykishan today said that the leader of the house has dishonoured the dignity and sanctity of the house by calling an all political parties meeting for discussion over the issue of the Manipur

University crisis and Border Pillar issue on July 22. MLA Joykishan said that the issue has already been submitted as calling attention motion and has been listed for discussion in the house. Rules of business and conduct of the house clearly says that any matters which has been listed for discussion in the house

cannot discussed outside the house and that was why the congress did not attend the meeting. MLA Khumukcham Joykishan demanded sue motto case to all the political party members who attended the meeting as well as against the leader of the house for dishonouring the dignity and sanctity of the house.

## ZERO HOUR : 'Ban Imphal Times if the reports on use of expired tear gas by police and lost of 5 crore on the banning of the internet service is true'

IT News  
Imphal, July 23,

MLA Khumukcham Joykishan today drew the attention of the house regarding two news report published in this newspaper which said that banned of internet service will lose around 5 crore as transaction fails and also about the use of expired tear gas

shells by the police force while controlling agitators. Joykishan said that if the news report is true than the state government need to lift the ban on internet immediately and also to let the police force stop using expired tear gas shell. Imphal Times has reported that tear gas shells which are expired are toxic and health

hazard amounting to slow poisoning of the person who inhaled the gas. At another news report the Imphal Times had also reported that around Rs. 5 crore transactions may be ruined per day due to the ban of the internet service as today's world completely depended on the internet for every works.

## 2 Bills withdraws by the house; Manipur International University Bill 2018 passed

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Imphal, July 23,

The Manipur Land Reform and Land revenue 7th Amendment 2015 and the

Manipur Shop and Establishment 2nd Amendment Bill which were passed in 2015, 31st August by the Manipur state legislative Assembly has been

withdrawn today. On the other The Manipur International University Bill 2018 was passed without any opposition from the members of the house.

IT News  
Imphal, July 23,

Manipur Liquor Prohibition (Amendment) Bill has been referred to a 5 member select committee by the speaker of the house. The Bill was introduced on the first day of the 5<sup>th</sup> Manipur Legislative Assembly session on July 20 by the Deputy Chief Minister Y Joykumar. Opposition leader Okram

Ibobi while giving observation to the Bill said that it is not wise for the state to pass such Bill just because the state need revenue. He said that there are certain areas that the state can get assistance from the central government. The Leader of the house while clarifying that the Amendment of the Bill is not for revenue purpose but for the welfare of the state as the

probation will continue even though exports of the liquor. Later the speaker of the house referred the Bill to the select committee. Meanwhile, various civil society organisation of the state including AMKIL, Nupi Samaj and CADA staged a sit in protest at Western kangla gate in protest against the Bill. The organisations threatens serious agitation if the Bill is passed in the state assembly.



Imphal Times did not have its publication on Sunday, the July 22, 2018 dur to Kanglen festival.

Editor