

CBI vs Govt: Supreme Court to hear Alok Verma's response to CVC report

Agency
New Delhi Nov 29,

The Supreme Court Thursday is likely to consider the response of Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) Director Alok Verma, given in a sealed cover, to the findings of the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) in a preliminary inquiry against him in an alleged bribery case. Verma had moved the Supreme Court, challenging the government's midnight order divesting him of his duties and sending him on leave.

Verma was sent on leave following a tussle with his deputy, special CBI director Rakesh Asthana.



He has been accused by Asthana of accepting a bribe in a case related to meat exporter Moin Qureshi. Asthana, too, has been accused of indulging in corrupt practices by Verma.

The bench is also likely to consider the report of acting CBI Director M Nageswara Rao with regard to the decisions taken by him between October 23-26. It will also hear a public interest

litigation (PIL) filed by NGO Common Cause, which has sought a probe by a special investigation team (SIT) against the CBI officers. On November 20, the apex court had expressed anger over what it had considered a breach of confidentiality over Verma's response to the CVC report. The court had said, "This court is not a platform for people to come and express what they want. This is a place for adjudication of legal rights. This is not right. We intend to set it right." It also observed: "Our effort to maintain the respect of this institution is not being shared by everyone."

Assam 2 day CRPF conference to review security concludes in Dibrugarh

Guwahati Nov 29,

On Tuesday, the two-day operational conference of the CRPF to assess the present security scenario in upper Assam and districts in neighbouring Arunachal Pradesh concluded at the 171 Battalion of the CRPF in Dibrugarh. CRPF inspector general of upper Assam and Arunachal Pradesh, Ajay Kumar Yadav along with VS Sharma, CRPF operations deputy inspector general of upper Assam and Arunachal Pradesh had reviewed the status of security and overall prevailing law order situation from the CRPF commandants and other officers, including team commanders of the elite CoBRA (Commando



Battalion for Resolute Action) of upper Assam's Tinsukia, Dibrugarh, Charaideo and Sivasagar districts and Arunachal Pradesh's Namsai,

Changlang and Itanagar. During the meeting, an effective strategy against active Ulfa (Independent) and other insurgent groups were chalked out.

After assessment of the situation as a whole in upper Assam, IGP Ajay Kumar Yadav directed the field commanders to carry out firm and strict action against insurgents and other anti-national elements. Both the senior officers directed CRPF formations to ensure adequate security arrangements for the ongoing NRC process and upcoming panchayat elections. The commanders were asked to be aware about last-minute developments of law and order situation and take proactive preventive action so that any situation does not go out of control. They were also directed to keep specific focus on linguistic minority areas.

Blood donation organised



IT News
Imphal, Nov 29,

A non-profit organization called Towards Tomorrow Manipur today organised a

voluntary blood donation camp at Lamboi Khonang in collaboration with the Association of Voluntary Blood Donors, Manipur, Thoubal branch. The blood

donation camp was sponsored by the department of Transfusion Medicine RIMS, Imphal and State Blood Cell, NHM, Manipur.

Sikkim SDF confident of returning to power in 2019: No seat sharing

Agency
Gangtok Nov 29,

Sikkim Democratic Front (SDF) is confident of victory in 2019 elections again. The party functionaries expressed faith in dynamic leader, Chief Minister Pawan Chamling. Reacting to burning issues raised by opposition in public, Party functionary Bhim Dahal said, "We have been pursuing inclusive politics. Always victorious in elections, contesting without any alliances."

Nagaland Tenure of incumbent Naga Hoho extended for three months

Kohima, Nov 29,

The present tenure of the incumbent Naga Hoho has been extended for another three months till a new leadership is instated. The organisation conducted its federal assembly on Nov. 28 during which a number of resolutions were undertaken, a press release from the Naga Hoho stated Wednesday.

The press release read: 'With the ending of the incumbent tenure (2013-2018), the executive council proposed to relinquish the office with immediate effect. However, the house/federating units of the Naga Hoho was of the considered opinion that at this juncture when the Nagas are badly fragmented and passing through a very crucial period despite of inching towards political settlement, a platform such as Naga Hoho which has been recognized by outside world (sic) and serves as the catalyst for the Naga people especially on the Naga political issue cannot be allowed to be defunct abruptly.'

'Therefore, it resolved to extend the incumbent tenure of Naga Hoho for another 3 (three) months till the new set of leadership takes over the mantle.' The organisation has set up a nomination committee for the next tenure. The members of the committee

are TN Mannen, convenor; and Niketu Iralu, Dr. P Ngully, Inavi Swu; and the president of the United Naga Council. The updates stated that the president of Naga Hoho P Chuba Ozukum briefed the assembly on the 'current situation of Naga Hoho and the extraordinary situation that its executive council is going through owing to various factors, and inability to summon the federal assembly for more than a year despite of repeated attempt for holding one.' As such, the executive council proposed for conversion of the presidential council into the 4th federal assembly. With the formation of the quorum, the house unanimously resolved to convert the presidential council meeting into federal assembly on the ground of extra-ordinary situation and exigencies," the press release explained.

Accordingly, the august House proposed for a pro tem speaker due to the absence of the acting speaker of Naga Hoho. Ng. Gilbert was unanimously nominated as the pro-tem speaker to preside over the 4th federal assembly, the updates stated.

The house then adopted a number of other resolutions. Among them, the press release stated, the deputy / acting

speaker can only summon the federal assembly, if required, with consultation of the incumbent president and executive council. Any meeting called by the present deputy / acting speaker without the endorsement of the incumbent executive council 'shall be treated as null and void and no constituent units of the Naga Hoho shall attend,' the press release stated. 'The functioning of the dy. Speaker / acting speaker is questionable and therefore, the house advised the dy. speaker/acting speaker to desist from conflicting with the executive council but to function in tune with the executive council. Further, endorsed the executive council to officially communicate to the Rengma Hoho to relieve Mr. Kenyungseng Tep either from the post of deputy speaker, Naga Hoho or from the post of president, Rengma Hoho as he has not been doing justice to his assigned post because of holding dual posts.'

Also, the Naga Hoho referred to the decision of the Angami Public Organization and the Chakhesang Public Organization to 'detach or dissociate from the Naga Hoho; and removal of Naga Hoho officials representing their tribes.' It was 'with regret' that the assembly accepted the removal of Mutsikhoyo Yhobu and Ringutuo from the post of general secretary and finance secretary, respectively, the press release stated. The federal assembly also resolved to extend support to the proposed 'global Naga mass rally if the rally is going to serve the interest of entire Naga people.' The organisation also approved the executive council to 'pursue the joint consultative meeting with Naga leaders from Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur and Myanmar, and dedication of Lt. Inkongmeren Memorial Park at Longkhum village before the end of 2018.' Reviewing the Naga Hoho's constitution was another resolution for which a committee was constituted, the press release stated. The organisation also decried 'the prevailing situation and killings amongst the Naga family by warring groups/factions,' and urged for peace. The Naga Hoho then 'noted with discontentment over the slow pace of ongoing peace process and inability to bring honourable political settlement on the part of government of India, which has resulted in further fragmentation and complexities among the Naga masses due to delaying tactics being exhibited by the government of India.'

Good news for teachers! Meghalaya HC orders equal pay, benefits in schools, colleges

Agency
Shillong, Nov 29,

"We must remember that teachers are the backbone of the society and it is through their contribution, dedication and hard work which has moulded us to become what we are today; be it a Judge, a Minister, a Lawyer, a Doctor or an IAS Officer etc., and that, we can never forget".

In great news to teachers across the state, the Meghalaya High Court has held that both government school and college teachers as well as deficit/adhoc/aided are equally qualified and giving equal service, and they are entitled to equal pay, pension and other benefits.

The bench comprising Chief Justice Mohammad Yaqoob Mir and Justice

SR Sen was considering the writ petitions filed by the Meghalaya College Teachers Association raising the issue of denial of pension to the deficit/ adhoc/aided college teachers serving in the state.

It observed that if pension is extended only to teachers of government college keeping aside the teachers of government deficit/adhoc/ aided colleges is nothing but arbitrary, discriminatory and violative of Articles 14 and 16 of the Constitution of India and the Directive Principles of State Policy.

In its judgment, the bench observed: "Government should remember that teachers should not be considered as

beggers, they are one of the most respected citizens of the country and the backbone of the society. It is also known to all of us that in different parts of the world, teachers are respected and well paid." Though government has got the power to make a policy but such policy should not go against the common people's interest. We all know that the retired teachers and employees of the government deficit/adhoc/aided colleges suffer due to non-availability of the pension and live a very uncomfortable inhumane life, some even die due to starvation and cannot get proper treatment due to financial constraints."

The bench added that

equal pay for equal work is mandatory and the government cannot shut their eyes on the miserable life condition of the teachers due to non-availability of proper/adequate pension and other benefits. We always see very often teachers sitting on Dharna and claiming their rights for adequate salary, pension and other benefits, but no one has the time to think for those depressed and oppressed class of teachers which is really unfortunate and is a shame for all of us, it said. The bench disposed of the writ petitions by issuing several directions to the state for addressing the miserable service conditions of the teachers.

Meghalaya: Man slips while working at Stone Quarry in Mawkdok area; dies

Shillong Nov 29,

In a tragic incident, a 30-year-old man lost his life after he suddenly slipped and fell while working in the Stone Quarry in Laikthroh, Mawkdok area in East Khasi Hills district of Meghalaya on November 27. According to 108

sources, one Tynghshain Singh Synrem (30) was working in the Stone Quarry on Tuesday when he suddenly slipped and fell at around 05:11 pm, where he was reported to have sustained head injuries. When 108 Sohra Base Ambulance reached the incident, it was

observed that Synrem's vitals were absent for which the Ambulance Staff immediately administered CPR and shifted him to Swer PHC where the Doctor on Duty declared the victim dead. One person sustained injuries after an Auto Rickshaw he was in overturned

at Kosingkolgre village in Williamnagar on November 26 at around 9.20 pm. The victim identified as Jerry Marak (28) was administered First Aid and wound care was given. He was later shifted to Williamnagar Civil Hospital by 108 Williamnagar Ambulance.

Attention readers

Imphal Times is looking for a desk editor and two reporters, who are well experience in the field of print media and who can write English and can read Manipuri. We are also looking for distributors on paid basis, Working hour for distributors will be from 4 to 7 pm, while working hour for Desk editor will be 12 pm to 4 pm. For reporter deadline for submitting story is 2.30 pm. Interested candidates can contact the Editor, Imphal Times during office hour or email their application along with their bio-data at imphaltimes@gmail.com. One good news - Imphal Times is resuming 4 pages. Besides, Imphal Times is also opening coaching for students wanted to choose the profession earliest by December 2018. Limited seats - first come first candidate will be given opportunity.

Sd/-
Manager