

Manipur University once more turns as war field; at least 20 students pick up

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Manipur University has been once more converted into a war field as large number of police force has intensified its counter measures to suppress the students protest inside the University complex. At least 20 student agitators were reported to have been picked up by the police after

conducting raid at Boys Hostel of the University. Identities of those picked up could not be confirmed at the moment. Report says that Students of Various departments of the University today staged democratic protest in front of their respective department demanding immediate and unconditional release of the faculty members and the

students who were arrested by the police on the midnight of September 20 from inside the University. Manipuri Department of the University today called today shut down of their department demanding the justice and speedy enquiry of the ongoing conflict against VC Prof. AP Pandey.

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Human Rights Alert (HRA) urges DGP to release detained MU students, teachers

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Human Rights Alert (HRA) expressed concern at the ongoing protest initiated by Manipur University Community demanding the removal of suspended Vice Chancellor Prof. A.P. Pandey and subsequent Police action resulting in injuries to a large number of students and arbitrary arrest and detention of students and teachers of Manipur University.

Babloo Loitongbam, Executive Director, HRA, in a letter addressed to the Director General of Police (DGP), states that HRA is particularly shocked by the two incidents, which are not just ordinary offence, adding that the wounds inflicted on students and university teachers may not heal very soon, the way the police personnel acted against the students and teachers is unacceptable. Firstly, regarding the search and cordon operation conducted in the death of night on 21 September 2018 at the behest of a complaint by Pro VC Prof. K. Yugindro Singh, the letter reiterated that Police should be sensitive in dealing with a particular situation and exhaust all channels before resorting to use of force any kind of force, adding that it is mandatory to properly assess the whole situation otherwise any hasty action that goes out of control are often construed as post facto justified act.

The letter further elaborates that United Nations guidelines on the Basic Principles for Law Enforcement Agencies affirm the fundamental principles of necessity and proportionality. These principles require respectively that force should be used by police only when strictly necessary for law enforcement and maintaining public order, and that the application of force should be proportional i.e. force should be applied only to the extent required for the legitimate ends of law enforcement and maintaining public order. This Principle also affirms that injury or death from the use of

force must be dealt with as a crime. Exceptional circumstances or public emergencies do not justify departure from these Principles. Secondly, the FIR (No.223 (9) 2018 U/S 147/148/149/365/342/307/506/364/120-B/34 IPC & 7 Cri Law Amdt Act) that had been drawn at the behest of present VC (i/c) Prof. Yugindro results to subsequent brutal police action including arrest and detention of the students and university teachers are highly questionable as the allegation labeled in the FIR is far beyond the truth and charges are found to be fabricated. It was more evident that the entire scene was video-graphed and it is widely circulated in social media. The video evidence shows complete contradiction to the alleged offence mentioned in the FIR.

Pointing out the fact that in an official letter coming out of the Governor's Secretariat, dated 5 October 2018, (No. GSM/MU-1/96 (Pt-III)) a meeting was held between the Honorable Governor of Manipur and the VC (i/c) and charged VC (i/c) Prof Yugindro for defamation and crossing the limits of protocol and propriety and that during the said meeting Prof Yugindro had admitted to Governor that he had filed a false FIR against the students as the students never handled him. Under these circumstances when video evidence of the falsity of the charges have gone viral to the public and the office of the Governors itself have put down in black and white the fabricated nature of the charges, HRA seems not logic of prolonging the detention of the arrested students and teachers of Manipur University. The letter strongly urge the Director General of Police, Manipur to release them also further requested the office to see to it that the concern police station investigate the whole incident of abuse of power and hold the officials accountable, which has caused so much public distress besides compromising the career of thousand of students.

Has Rahul Kumar Jain made a Mockery of The High Court of Manipur?

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Out of the three directors of M.R. Roller flour Mill, one of the directors, Mr. Rahul Kumar Jain aged about 34 years and is the son of Mr. Mahendra Kumar Jain and Mrs. Shobha Devi Jain is on the run from the state of Manipur since the past 8 months. As per the sources he is currently residing in a huge expensive bungalow with extends up to 10,000 sq/ft area in Shyam Nagar which happens to be one of the most expensive and decorated colonies in the city of Jaipur, Rajasthan. It has been known that the State Bank of India M.G. Avenue, Imphal, based on sanctioned order obtained from LHO Guwahati G.S.Road had sanctioned a loan amounting to Rs. 8 Crore on the basis of stock available in the M.R. Roller Flour Mill. As per the SBI Mr. Rahul Kumar Jain, his father Mr. Mahendra

Kumar Jain and his mother Mrs. Shobha Devi Jain are partners in the firm M.R. Roller Flour Mill, Imphal. The loan was granted on the basis of stock available in the godown. However, it has come to the knowledge of the bank that the stocks were secretly removed with intent to defraud the bank and misuse the banking facility. On investigation earlier by the vigilance authorities of the bank, no decent amount of money was available with Mr. Mahendra Kumar Jain or his stated partners and hence the Bank filed an FIR for the failure in repayment of the loan. The bank claimed in a statement that the hypothecated goods were missing from M.R. Roller Flour Mill as on the present date. It is highly apprehended that Mr. Mahendra Kumar Jain and his partners in M.R. Roller Flour Mill had diverted/hidden/concealed/dispensed off the aforesaid hypothecated goods in order to defraud the SBI, M.G. Avenue Imphal Branch.

Mr. Mahendra Kumar Jain and Mrs. Shobha Devi Jain who were arrested on 06.09.2018 and have been released on bail on 11.09.2018. Mr. Rahul Kumar Jain has deposited a total sum of Rs. 3.90 Crore till 08.10.2018. Taking into consideration the big claims made by all the proprietors of M.R. Roller Flour Mills, it comes to a question that from where did they get the money or how are they promising the bank to repay the loan amount before 25.10.2018, when M.R. Roller Flour Mill has been non-functioning since the last 4-5 years. The vigilance department of the bank on investigating found no traces of stock of raw materials in M.R. Roller Flour Mill against which Mr. Mahendra Kumar Jain and his stated partners have taken loan. Big question rises as to how Mr. Rahul Kumar Jain filed an anticipatory bail in the event of arrest in connection with FIR No. 113(09)2018, dated 06.09.2018, City P.S. under the

Section 420/406/34IPC. He also pleaded for an absolute bail in the High Court of Manipur in the event of arrest stating that the loan amount will be settled. The case should be investigated and the accused should be questioned at length regarding the availability of money and promising of repayment of loan. Should the general public consider this to be a case of Money Laundering? There are several conditions drawn by the High Court of Manipur under which Mr. Rahul Kumar Jain shall be granted bail. 1. Mr. Rahul Kumar Jain will have to execute a personal bond in the sum of Rs. 1, 00, 00,000/- (Rupees One Crore Only) to the satisfaction of Jurisdictional Magistrate Court. 2. Mr. Rahul Kumar Jain will have to deposit a sum of Rs. 25,00,000/- (Rupees Twenty-Five Lakh Only) in the name of the Registrar (Judicial) of the court of SBI, High court

Branch, Manipur to be kept in recurring fixed deposit until further orders of the court. 3. Mr. Rahul Kumar Jain will have to furnish two securities for Rs. 50, 00,000/- (Fifty Lakh Only) each before the Judicial Magistrate Court. 4. Mr. Rahul Kumar Jain shall have to appear before the Investigating Officer at 10:00am every Monday and Friday until further orders. 5. Mr. Rahul Kumar Jain shall have to report before the Bank Manager SBI, M.G. Avenue Branch at 11:00Am on every Tuesday and Thursday until further orders. 6. Mr. Rahul Kumar Jain will have to bind himself before the Magistrate Court and not leave the state of Manipur without prior permission of the court and will deposit his passport. Not even one of the conditions has been seen to be fulfilled by the accused Mr. Rahul Kumar Jain. On that note no actions have been taken by the concerned authorities on punishing the accused.

Paddy products likely to decrease this year State farmers worries; Demand compensation as immediate measures, urges to frame a long time policy for farmers

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After farmers witness destruction of their paddy fields by frequent flash flood during the beginning of this year, they now face extreme hardship due to draught like situation in the state. Paddy production this year may reduce to half the annual production as almost all paddy fields in the valley districts of the state has been dried. The situation is even more devastating in Hill area. Worried over the situation, representatives of farmers' body from across the valley districts of the state today staged a sit-in protest at Keishampat Leimajam Leikai here in Imphal demanding compensation as immediate measures as well as paddy field owner to reduce their Lousal (rent on agri product). The protest staged today is being organised under the aegis of the All Manipur Progressive Farmers' Association (AMPFA). The association also demanded a

long term policy for the farmers so that genuine farmers could be easily identified and also to make sure of their security , the association also urged the state government to make sure that all genuine farmers of the state gets Kishan Credit Card. "It was because of the lack of proper irrigations by constructing canal and mini dams that we the farmers are facing hardship today", President of the AMPFA, L. Dhana Luwang said while talking to this reporters. He further added that they have got report about concern authority stating to media that almost all canal construction works for the paddy field in valley districts has been completed. But in reality those construction work seems to be completed on table only as there are no proper canal at any of the paddy fields. General Secretary of the farmers' body W. Inao while talking to this reporter said that the farmers appreciated the Chief Ministers' announcement for



distribution of Water Pump. But he expressed skeptical on whether the pump if distributed will be able to reach the genuine farmers of the state. On being asked if it is okay to declare the present state of the state as draught, Inao said that even as if declared draught they don't believe that it will serve the farmers as the package which may get will be distributed among the politicians and bureaucrats. Manipur annually produced around 6 Matric Ton of Rice

and this year due to scarcity of water the production may reduce half the total. October month is high time for appropriate supply of water to the paddy fields, but due to scarcity of water, most paddy fields are getting dried. H. Rajen, a farmer from Lamboi Khongnangkong in Imphal East said that he cultivates one pari of paddy field and this time there will be total loss. A loss of one year can hardly be recovered in two years. "I am worried as my family's

only means for survival depends on the Paddy field I cultivated, now I don't know how to pay the lousal to my owner", Rajen said. "There were report of water pump distributed for farmers last 2 3 years back but the reality is that the pump were for people who are near and dear one of the politician and it never reached the farmers. A farmer while taking to this reporter also asked where are all those pump which were distributed.

First anniversary of Meitei/Meetei Chaokhat Lup

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The first anniversary of Thoubal District Meitei/Meetei Chaokhat Lup (TDMML) Mayai Loishang was observed today at Imoinu Shangle of Khangabok Part-II. Thadumani-former Vice President BJP Manipur Pradesh, Kh Rajmohon-Khangabok Zilla parishad Member, S Opendo of Khangabok Part-II Gram Panchayat, N Lakpa-Nominee of Khangabok Part-

I GP Pradhan, M Leishanu Devi-Pradhan of Khangabok Part-III GP and L Ashakumar- SDC Thoubal were present at the occasion as Chief Guest, President and guests of honour respectively. In his keynote address, Mangi- President Thoubal district Meitei/Meetei Chaokhat Lup stressed on the need to work on various loopholes and deficiencies of the community for which the body was formed. (Contd. on Page 4)