

# Interactive lecture on 'Governance, State Capability and Public Services: Power Reforms in Manipur' held

IT News  
Imphal, Sept 1,

Centre for Manipur Studies (CMS), Manipur University (MU) organised an interactive lecture on the topic 'Governance, State Capability and Public Services: Power Reforms in Manipur' with Dr Sylvia Yambem, ICSSR Post Doctoral Fellow, Dept. of Political Science, Manipur University as the main speaker and Dr. Vijaylakshmi Brara, Associate Professor, CMS, MU as the moderator.

In her presentation, she highlighted that public services and citizens' access to public services is an important indicator of the performance of the government. While emphasizing the nature of prevailing governance particularly as whether a strong capable state or a weak state, she attempts to study the reforms initiated in the



delivery of power services, to highlight upon the capability of the government of Manipur to deliver public services and the nature of governance prevailing in the state. In the 21<sup>st</sup> century developmental discourse public goods and services is a fundamental right—a rightful entitlement of the citizen and the duty of the state to deliver. Citizen's access to public services consequently indicates the performance capability of the state and the

strength of governance. The concept of capability herein implies the administrative capability of the state to implement policies and programmes and its ability to perform its most basic functions such as the delivery of public services, policing, law and order, regulation, etc., inherently a trait characteristic of governance or good governance. Governance and state capability to deliver public goods and services and implement programmes

and policies in Manipur is largely characterized as weak and are generally in dismal condition. This was also true of the power services. Power services, at least till the introduction of the pre-paid meters around 2012 and the corporatization of the electricity department in 2013, was characterized by issues of load shedding, power cuts, low voltage, erratic power supply that hindered industrial as well as domestic consumption. The unpublished Manipur state development Report (Government of Manipur) in fact attributed the constraints to industrialization in the state to the "inadequate availability, unreliability and poor quality of all infrastructural services like power". However with the reforms in the power services, there has been marked improvement in state capability to deliver power services. This stands in contrast to the general

consensus on the otherwise dismal state of public services in Manipur. Though Manipur has a long way to go in building inclusive political institutions, by learning from the experience of reforms in the power sector, it could be emphasized that overall state capability can be strengthened and governance improved in Manipur. What is required therefore is the willingness and commitment to reforming public services by strengthening state capability to ensure good governance, she concludes. Faculty members, research scholars, PG students also actively took part in the discussions and deliberations. The lecture concluded with a moderator's remark lauding the presentation of the main speaker by stating that such academic inputs is necessary for initiating policy changes.

# TSA replies to HTC, KSO, MYC and KWHR

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Imphal, Sept. 1,

The Thadou Students' Association (TSA) in a rejoinder to the joint statement of Hill Tribal Council (HTC), Moreh; Kuki Students' Organisation (KSO), Moreh; Moreh Youth Club (MYC) and Kuki Women Union and Human Rights (KWHR) on 29th August, 2018 regarding the July 13 Moreh terror attack stated that the TSA is seeking justice over the July 13 Moreh attack without any partiality or hatred to any individuals over the terror attacked and it does not reflect to any partiality over any individuals while we raise the matter at the High Court of Manipur.

"Thongminlung Haokip, president of TSA Moreh Block and his family were attacked gruesomely on the night by the Kuki National Organisation/Kuki National Army (KNO/KNA) because of his involvement with TSA as claimed by the Kuki National Organisation/Kuki National Army (KNO/KNA) in their first press release", the statement said.

It further added that the peace accord signed between the KNA and UKLF on July 23 was not related to the incident of firing and bombing of the residence of Thongminlung Haokip. TSA or Thongminlung also had nothing to do with the said peace accord or peace commission. The KNO/KNA in their several press releases had clearly stated that the attack was carried out by them and hence there is no need for clarification by the joint bodies for and on behalf of the KNO/KNA. Even if there was a misunderstanding between the two underground groups, the KNA and UKLF, as claimed by the joint statement, the KNO/KNA or UKLF or any other groups or individuals do not have the right to harm or murder innocent children and civilians, the statement added and said that if at all the mission of the peace commission was for the settlement of July 13 terror

attack, why were the victims of the attack not involved in the peace banquet or their names mentioned in the agreement? If at all the joint bodies were for peace and justice, why have they not sought justice in the incident instead of bullying the victims and TSA who stand for justice?—the TSA questioned. Although Thongminlung Haokip has not made any formal complaint regarding the incident of the attempted murder on him and his family by the KNO/KNA, a suo-motuo case was taken up by the Moreh Police with an FIR No. 51(7)2018 MRH-PS w/s 307/400/34 IPC, 25(I-C) A, Act & 2/4 Expl Subs Act. Victims of such a serious and traumatic crime, who have not yet even recovered from trauma and who face death threats from the perpetrators, should not even be expected to lodge a complaint against the perpetrators.

"In spite of understanding reached between UKLF and KNO/KNA, the law should take its own course. The so-called peace agreement between the KNA and UKLF, that too nothing to do with the victims, cannot be an excuse to absolve the perpetrators of the heinous crime. In seeking justice, TSA filed a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) at Manipur High Court on August 16. This PIL has nothing to do with HTC and allies, but why are they up in arms against the PIL rather than speaking up for justice? It needs explaining as to what motivates the joint bodies to be against the PIL and TSA", the statement further said. The TSA said the appeal to withdraw the PIL is an indication threat to TSA. "TSA cannot and will not withdraw the PIL, however if HTC and its allies have any objection to the PIL, then they have the right to object to it through proper and legal channel, not through the tactics of intimidating, bullying or threatening", it said. It further said that the PIL has nothing to do with the peace agreement between the KNA and UKLF or HTC and allies.

# EduMinister inspects schools at Ukhrul



DIPR  
Imphal, Sept. 1,

Education Minister Sirarakhong Thokchom Radheshyam had visited Sirarakhong Government High School and Tongu High School and inspected the condition of the schools of the Ukhrul District on Friday. It was for the first time that a Minister made a visit at the Tongu High School. Speaking to the media persons, the Minister said there are few schools in the hills and one can hardly effort to send their children to the private schools. Attempt to give more emphasis and

importance on the infrastructure and numbers of staffs required in the Government schools are being put in as the Government schools in hill districts witness huge enrolment. On the problem of the lack of teachers, Th. Radheshyam said that as per reservation policy the population in valley is higher compare to the hill resulting to recruitment of more number of people residing in the valley. He added that the teachers recruited also consist mostly of women who faces lots of difficulties when posted to far flung remote places of

the state due to lack of proper accommodations. He also said that there are more than 34 dialects in Manipur and in primary level due to language barrier the student and teacher faces certain challenges. To address this issue, the Minister expressed that the Government is discussing for taking recruitment through district or sub-division wise. Th. Radheshyam assured that the approach road and the infrastructure of the school will be repaired. The Minister also interacted with the students of the Tongu High School.

# Undeclared emergency being enforced in the country: Popular Front

IT News  
Imphal, Sept 1,

The Central Secretariat meeting of Popular Front of India has strongly condemned the series of arrests and raids in houses of prominent human rights activists and academics simultaneously in different parts of the country by Pune police. The meeting observed that this latest move is yet another example that an undeclared emergency is being enforced upon the people of the country by central and state governments by misusing police and investigation agencies. The targets of the ongoing crackdown are lawyers, intellectuals and activists widely respected and loved by people for their human rights activism among the most depressed sections of the society and for their academic contributions. They have never been known to be even remotely linked to anything that goes against

the spirit of the constitution. The way police carried out the arrests and the raids amounts to a cruel abuse of power. Some of them were reportedly interrogated in a shameful manner in the presence of their students and relatives. The charges against them look far fetched by any stretch of imagination and people will reject them outright. It is as clear as daylight that this is a horrific misuse of power, reminiscent of the callous days of Emergency, to intimidate and silence dissenters. The Central Secretariat meeting of Popular Front urges Supreme Court to use its power to prevent such an open degeneration of the system. The meeting also asked opposition parties to speak up the truth before the centers of power. Chairman E. Abubacker presided over the meeting, which was attended by M. Muhammed Ali Jinnah, EM Abdul Rahim, KM Shareef, OMA Salam and Abdul Wahid Sait.

# Sudha Bhardwaj denies Maharashtra Police's claims, terms it "concocted", "fabricated"

Courtesy the Hindu  
Gurugram, Sept 1,

A day after the Maharashtra Police claimed that they had "conclusive" evidence, including "thousands" of letters, connecting arrested activists and banned Maoist organisations, human rights lawyer Sudha Bhardwaj on Saturday vehemently rejected the allegations saying that the letter was "concocted" and "fabricated" to criminalise her and other activists and organisations for exposing human rights violations in Chattisgarh. Ms. Bhardwaj, in a statement through her lawyer Vrinda Grover, said the said letter was a "mixture of innocuous and publicly available facts and baseless fabrication." She said that it was an attempt to delegitimise various legal and democratic activities such as meetings, seminars and protests by alleging that they

were funded by the Maoists. She added that a number of human rights lawyers, activists and organisations were deliberately named to cast a stigma over them, to obstruct their work and incite hatred against them. "It is an effort to de-legitimise IAPL an association of lawyers whose president is Retd. J. Hospet Suresh and which has been active in speaking up against attacks on lawyers," said Ms. Bhardwaj, referring to the contents of the letter. Categorically denying that she had ever given ₹ 50,000 to hold any programme in Moga, Ms. Bhardwaj, a trade unionist, said she did not know any "Ankit from Maharashtra" or "Com Ankit" who was in touch with Kashmiri Separatists. She acknowledged that she knew Gautam Navlakha, a senior and respected human rights activist, and advocate Degree Prasad Chouhan, a



Dalit human rights activist, but added that the allegations made against the duo were baseless and their names were mentioned in a manner to criminalise and incite hatred against them. Ms. Bhardwaj also accepted that she knew Jagdalpur Legal Aid Group well, but denied having ever solicited any funds for them least of all from any banned organisation. "I categorically state that their

work has been absolutely legitimate and legal," said Ms. Bhardwaj, in her nine-point statement released to the media. Ms. Bhardwaj said she had refuted the contents of the letter when it was flashed on an English news channel on July 4, and it was never brought before either the Pune Court or Chief Judicial Magistrate, Faridabad, while seeking to whisk her away to Pune.

## GOVERNMENT OF MANIPUR OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, KANGPOKPI

NOTICE  
Kangpokpi, the 27th August, 2018

No. DC(KPI)2/12/87/Vol-III : It is hereby notified for general information that Shri K Kanaree S/o Shri Kangsong of Tumuyon Khullen Village, P.O. Senapati & P.S. Kangpokpi, under Kangpokpi Sub-Division, Kangpokpi District, Manipur has applied for registration of Sale Deed bearing patta No. 179/182 covered by C.S. Dag No. 14/part of Village No. 114- Kangpokpi and area of .06 acre out of .69 acre between Shri Lamminthang Neihsiel age about 38 years S/o Late Shri Ragu Neihsiel of Kangpokpi W/No. 5, Sub- Division Kangpokpi, P.O. & P.S. Kangpokpi, Kangpokpi District, Manipur as Vendor and that Shri K Kanaree S/o Shri Kangsong of Tumuyon Khullen Village, P.O. Senapati & P.S. Kangpokpi, under Kangpokpi Sub-Division, Kangpokpi District, as Vendee. The boundary of the said land is prescribed hereunder:

Schedule of the land:

- North : By the land of Shri Seilen Misao
- South : Remaining portion of Shri Lamminthang Neihsiel 's land.
- East : Remaining portion of Shri Lamminthang Neihsiel 's land.
- West : Lungphou Road

Objection is hereby invited from any interested persons(s) to file objection if any within 15 days from the date of publication of this Notice in Newspaper. If objection is not received within the stipulated period, it will be presume that there is no objection.

Sd/-  
Kaigoulal Kipgen  
Sub-Deputy Collector (HQ)  
DC's Office, Kangpokpi