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284 eminent personalitiesshow solidarity to MU community's demand

"With the agitation called off, Manipur University was in the process of conducting long-delayed semester examinations. K. Yugindro Singh's attempt to assume charge as pro-VC on the strength of a suspended VC's 10 order is unquestionably superseded by the Sept. 18 accord between MHRD, Manipur Government, and the Manipur University community. Since August 3, Prof. Viswanath Singh has served as VC in-charge, so designated by the MHRD itself on August 2.

"It was in this context that the members of the MU community engaged with K. Yugindro (and M. Shyamkesho) to dissuade him from plunging the university into a crisis. That there was no attempt to kidnap or murder is clearly evidenced by the fact that the two faculty were unharmed after the meeting, and at full liberty to make the complaint personally. If anything, the conspiracy seems to be on the other side, as latest reports are that K. Yugindro Singh has assumed charge as acting VC of Manipur University (a ceremony that was attended by not even one faculty member) on the instructions purportedly issued by MHRD on Sept. 19. This gives truth to the charge being made in Manipur University that the police action and arrests of the professors and students

enjoys political patronage by both the state and central BJP-RSS governments. The aim of this 'invasion' was to create conditions that will simultaneously derail or tamper with the probe against AP Pandey, wreak retribution on the Manipur University community and particularly MUSU for their successful agitation, and serve as a chilling warning to all universities whose constituents dare to challenge corruption, arbitrary and unethical conduct by BJP-RSS appointees as heads of their institutions", it added.

The 284 eminent personalities having recognised at different field appeal the Visitor of Manipur University, the President of India to released all teachers and students of Manipur University arrested on 21 September and after, and a withdrawal of all charges and suspension orders without condition.

The statement also demanded removal of Yugindro Singh as VC in charge and a restoration of Prof. Viswanath Singh as VC in-charge, and Prof. Sougajam Dorendrajit as registrar in-charge, and a strict adherence to all terms of the Memorandum of Agreement henceforth.

Among the 284 eminent personalities signed in the statement includes - Noam Chomsky, Professor, University of Arizona, MIT emeritus, G C Spivak,

Columbia University, Mahatma Gandhi Central University Teachers Association, Mahatma Gandhi Central University, Aadiya Kulkarni, research scholar, Abha Dev Habib, Assistant Professor, Miranda House, University of Delhi, Abhijit Roy, Professor, Department of Film Studies, Jadavpur University, Abir Dasgupta, independent journalist, Adhiraj Nayyar, student, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Aditya Nigam, Professor, Centre for the Study of Developing Societies, New Delhi, Afrin Firdaus Idris, PhD student, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Aheibam Preetibala, Researcher, Anthropological Survey of India, Jawaharlal Nehru University students, Alfina, student, University of Delhi, Andrew Simpson, Professor, University of Southern California, Ania Loomba, Professor, University of Pennsylvania, Anirban Baishya, University of Southern California, Anita, Professor, Ambedkar University, Delhi, Anupama Potluri, Assistant Professor, University of Hyderabad, Ayesha Kidwai, Professor, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Archana Prasad, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Chandrasekhar, Professor, Jawaharlal Nehru University I. Hima S, Research associate, Sikkim University, Associate Professor, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Indira Ghose, Professor, University of Fribourg, Switzerland, etc.

SC Allows Live Streaming of Court Proceedings

Agency
New Delhi, Sept 26,

The Supreme Court signalled the dawn of a new era on Wednesday, September 26, by opening the doors for live streaming of court proceedings. The apex court observed that it will bring transparency and serve public interest.

A bench of Chief Justice Dipak Misra and Justices A M Khanwilkar and D Y Chandrachud had reserved its verdict on 24 August saying it wanted to open the concept of "open court" to decongest the courtrooms.

Attorney General K K Venugopal, appearing for the Centre, had said that live streaming could be introduced as a pilot project in the Chief Justice of India's court on matters of constitutional importance and had submitted suggestions on the guidelines for live streaming of court proceedings. "We don't perceive any difficulty in live streaming. Let us first start with it and see how it works. We are just on a pilot project. We are not ruling out anything and will improve with time. We cannot have everything together," the bench had observed.

Assam NRC Process to file NRC claims & objection begins amid anxiety & chaos

Courtesy
Guwahati Sept 26,

As the National Register of Citizens (NRC) process of filing claims and objections begins on Tuesday, one Azida Begum was in for a shock. The 44-year-old, whose name was missing from the draft NRC published on July 30, had gone to the Nagrik Seva Kendra (NSK) in Azara, a neighbourhood on Guwahati's outskirts, to file her claim for inclusion in the list.

"They have told me to either wait for a month or get more documents," said Begum, one of less than 50 people who visited the Azara NSK, according to officials. "This is my father's legacy document. His name is there in the 1970 voters' list," she said, pulling out a sheaf of papers from a plastic carry bag. Instead of submitting the legacy document of Abdul Hamid, her father, she had attached the document of Mohabbat Ali, her father-in-law, leading to a family tree mismatch and her exclusion from the NRC draft.

But the official at the NSK told Begum the 1970 voters' list with her father's name in it could not be accepted as a valid document at this point as per a Supreme Court order, leaving her worried. Recently, the SC had said only 10 of the 15 documents that were initially accepted as proof of citizenship could be submitted afresh with the claims form. A decision on the remaining five—an extract of the 1951 NRC voters' list and ration cards until March 24, 1971, refugee and migration certificates—will be taken on October 23 amid demands that they are allowed.

"I am scared," Begum said, whose son is in the draft NRC.

Not many people turned up at the NSKs to file claims on the first day, which was marked by confusion and anxiety. Parbati Das, a 78-year-old khilonjia (indigenous) Assamese, too, has to wait for the SC ruling. Her name was excluded from the NRC because the 1970 voters' list, which she submitted, had her surname as Namashudra instead of Das. But the names of her son and his family, who submitted the same document, are on the list.

Begum and Das aren't the only ones doing the rounds of NSKs. Partha Saha in Pandu, a largely Bengali neighbourhood in Guwahati, has made as many as 20 trips. When the first draft came out on the midnight of December 31, Saha found the unique application receipt number (ARN) given to his family showed up another family of Nirmal Chandra Patowary.

Aadhaar verdict: Congress to move SC for upholding passage of Aadhaar Act as money bill

Agency
New Delhi Sept 26,

The Congress has decided to challenge the Supreme Court verdict to uphold the passage of the Aadhaar Act, 2016, as a money bill in Lok Sabha. The Aadhaar Bill was passed during the Budget session in March 2016, overruling amendments moved in the Rajya Sabha.

The top court, while delivering its verdict on Wednesday, had upheld the constitutional validity of the Centre's flagship Aadhaar scheme by 4:1, saying it serves a larger public interest and empowers the marginalised sections.

While addressing the media in the national capital, senior Congress leader Kapil Sibal said, "The passage of the law violates both the fundamental right to privacy and is a gross abuse of the Money Bill route." "One important part of judgement to be noted is—if in the future a Lok Sabha speaker declares a bill as Money Bill, then the court can review this and revert. We will approach a seven-

judge bench to consider this verdict again as this is clearly not a Money Bill," he added.

"If the government does not bring the Act to the Rajya Sabha for amendments, we will definitely move the Supreme Court," he said.

In 2016, senior Congress leader Jairam Ramesh had moved the top court, challenging its decision to treat the then Aadhaar bill as a money bill. Armed with the Speaker's decision that it was a money bill, the had government pushed it through the Rajya Sabha, which cannot amend it but only make recommendations for amendment to the Lok Sabha.

Once the Lok Sabha passes a money bill with or without amendments recommended by the Rajya Sabha, it is deemed to have been passed by both the Houses.

Showing urgency in getting the law through, the government, which enjoys a comfortable majority in the Lok Sabha, had brought the measure to the lower house within an hour of being returned by the Rajya Sabha.

ABVP, SFI protest Islampur deaths



Agency
Kolkata Sept 26,

Around 12 Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) members were detained after clashing with police during a rally from Swami Vivekananda's ancestral house in North Kolkata to Esplanade, to protest the killing of two students in Islampur.

After reaching Esplanade, the protesters burnt effigies of Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee and demanded the immediate resignation of state Education Minister Partha Chatterjee. As soon as they made attempts to block Central Avenue, a scuffle broke out between protesters and policemen. As the situation turned

violent, policemen resorted to lathicharge to disperse the crowd.

"The state government has to come out with an answer as to why two students were killed in Islampur or else the education minister should resign," said ABVP state president Subir Haldar said.

Earlier in the day, ABVP national general secretary Ashis Chouhan held a news conference and demanded a CBI inquiry into the killing of two students at Daribhit High School in Islampur.

"The state government has taken the 12-hour strike call by BJP as a challenge. Our request is instead of taking that as a challenge why don't the state government keep aside its appeasement politics. It is a shame that the students of West Bengal are unable to study in their mother tongue," Chouhan said. Meanwhile, SFI activists took out a March to Raj Bhawan, demanding an impartial judicial probe into the deaths. However, the march was stopped midway and SFI members shouted slogans against the state government. Later, they submitted a memorandum to the Governor's office, placing their demand before him.

Nagaland CAG report finds anomalies in state PHE Department

Courtesy
Kohima, Sept 26,

The Nagaland Department of Public Health Engineering (PHE) has failed to abide by certain prescribed safety requirements for safe drinking water with regard to the National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP). This was stated in the report of the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) for the year ending March 31, 2017.

Among the several irregularities detected in the implementation of the programme, the CAG found that state and district level

laboratories did not carry out water quality tests as mandated.

The CAG ascertained that the laboratories had "significantly failed" in carrying out the prescribed number of bacteriological and chemical contamination tests in the three districts to ensure the supply of safe drinking water to the populace in their districts.

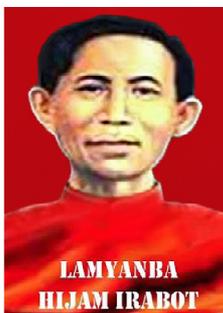
NRDWP guidelines require that all drinking water sources should be tested at least twice a year (pre and post monsoon) for bacteriological contamination and once a year for chemical contamination.

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LAMYANBA IRABOT NINGSING THABUM

1st Sept. to 30th Sept. 2018

Lamyamba Irabot-ki Liklam-na Yaifare
Manaba Khunnai Semlasi



Manipuri Proletariat Peoples Democratic Union - MPPDU
Socialist Students Union of Manipur - SSUM
Proletarian Feminist Movement, Manipur - PoFM
Socialist Women Association - SWA Manipur

