

Article 370 scrapped, Jammu & Kashmir to be carved into two Union Territories

Agency
New Delhi, Aug 5,

The Centre on Monday scrapped Article 370 of the Constitution that grants special status to Jammu and Kashmir, with an order saying "it shall come into force at once". The abrogation follows the Centre introducing the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganization Bill in Parliament.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah earlier today moved the Rajya Sabha, announcing the government has decided to repeal Article 370. Shah also said the government has decided to bifurcate the state into two Union Territories - Jammu and Kashmir, which

will have a legislature, and Ladakh, which will be without a legislature.

The scrapping of Article 370 will have far-reaching repercussions on the restive state as the abrogation suspends the clause that allowed all laws to be first ratified by the state assembly, which currently stands dissolved.

President Ram Nath Kovind has exercised his power under Clause 1 of Article 370. The presidential order has done away sections under Article 35A, which provides special privileges to "permanent residents" of the state while defining the term "permanent residents".

"Under Article 370 there is a

provision that the President may by public notification declare that this article shall cease to be operative... from such date as he may specify... Because there is President's rule, all decisions of the Assembly will be taken by the House and we can pass the order with majority," Shah said in the Upper House.

Article 370 laid down that except for matters related to defence, foreign affairs, communications and issues specified in the Instrument of Accession of Jammu and Kashmir, Parliament needs the state government's ratification for all other laws. So far, residents of the state lived under a separate set of laws, including those related to

citizenship, ownership of property and fundamental rights.

Jammu and Kashmir will now be governed by the laws applicable to other Indian citizens.

Shah's statement in the Upper House followed an urgent Cabinet Committee on Security meeting chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi before the beginning of Monday's Parliament session. The Upper House was rocked by an uproar following Shah's statement, with Leader of the Opposition Ghulam Nabi Azad saying, "Kashmir is under curfew, chief ministers and party leaders are under house arrest, there is an environment of war in Kashmir."

Azad hit out at the Centre

saying, "Today the BJP has murdered the Constitution as well as democracy by scrapping Article 370. The very Article that gave special status to J&K and linked it to the country has today been done away with mercilessly."

Shah responded to Azad saying, "This is not the truth. Article 370 has not linked J&K to India. It has only alienated J&K from the country. Only three families have looted the state and have benefited from it. The country wants to know why Article 370 was extended for so long, why people did not benefit from reservation, why so much money was pumped into J&K but why are the people still poor? Not a second should be wasted in

Ladakh will be a different UT without a Legislature

removing Article 370."

As a pre-emptive measure, Section 144 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC) was imposed in the state, which prohibits gathering of four or more people, late on Sunday. Both former chief ministers, Omar Abdullah and Mehbooba Mufti, were placed under house arrest. Communication lines, too, were snapped, and internet and mobile services suspended.

Former J&K chief minister and Peoples Democratic Party

chief Mehbooba Mufti, who was placed under house arrest on the intervening night of Sunday and Monday, took to Twitter to hit out against the abrogation.

"What did J&K get for acceding to India? Another partition along communal lines? Our special status isn't a gift bestowed upon us. It's a right guaranteed by the same Parliament. A contract entered into by J&K leadership and India. Today the very same contract has been violated," she tweeted.

Standard Robarth Hr. Sec. School does not have valid permit to run residential school

IT News
Imphal, Aug 5,

In an interesting development which is being unfolded during the course of police investigation in connection with the death of Ningthoujam Babysana is that the so called residential school runs by Pheiroijam Ongbi Landhoni does not have valid permit. A source said that the special investigation team headed by Addl. Sp Ghanashyam had found out that there are two separate school building in the name of Standard Robarth Higher Secondary School. The residential as well as day scholar school of the two does not have permit. Landhoni is the founder and the Principal of both the school.

Babysana Death case: Robinson sent to judicial custody for 15 days

IT News
Imphal, Aug 5,

Pheiroijam Robinson, the Junior Administrator of Standard Robarth Higher Secondary School, who is also the son of Pheiroijam Landhoni, the Principal of the school, who has been detained in police custody since July 30 in connection with the mysterious death of Ningthoujam Babysana inside the school hostel on July 18, was today produced to the CJM Imphal West Court today and remanded in Judicial custody for 15 days.

Since morning today police were seen deployed in and around Cheirap Court complex at Uripok in Imphal West as state administration fear break of violent protest when they produced Robinson in the court today. He has been in the police custody after he granted 7 days remand by the CJM-IW on July 30. Large number of people who were demanding justice for Babysana were expected today but police shrewdly



produced Robinson to the court before the agitator stormed to the Cheirap Court. At around 11 am, large number of women folk gathered at Khwairambandh keithel and were trying to move towards Cheirap Court. They were informed that Robinson will be produced before the CJM-IW at around 11 am. However, the police team already produced Robinson before they arrived. A confrontation took place between the womenfolk and the Police. The police fire tear gas shell to disperse the mob. Three persons were injured in the police action.

Principal of School, Pheiroijam Landhoni and the coordinator Romita were picked up on August 3 evening and remanded to Police custody after producing to a duty magistrate yesterday. As yesterday coincided with the Asthi of Babysana Large number of people staged rally and confronted with the police at Khuyathong area. Both Landhoni and Romita will be produced in the CJM Imphal West tomorrow.

Earlier two of the Hostel warden had also been sent to judicial custody in connection with the mysterious death of Babysana.

Forests Conservation and Preservation is a Collective Responsibility - Biswajit

DIPR
Imphal, Aug. 5,

Textiles, Commerce & Industries Minister Thongam Biswajit Singh today led a mass tree plantation drive inside the premise of Manipur Trade & Expo centre located at Lamboikhongnangkhang this morning. More than 500 tree saplings were planted today by the officials, staff of the department and entrepreneurs. The mass tree plantation will help in beautification and landscaping the premise of the centre.

Addressing media persons, the Minister stated that the mass plantation programme is part of the Central Government programme of Mission Green India, with an aim to create awareness among the people for conservation and preservation of forests. The Minister also emphasised that the programme is a continuation of Van Mahotsav, the annual tree planting festival. The

programme is envisaged to make a greener Manipur & Greener India and to help mitigate the impact of climate change which is being painfully experienced by the people of the State.

The State is facing unnatural frequent floods and drought like situation as the result of global warming which is a cause of concern for the citizens. He said trees contribute to regulating river flows both during dry seasons and high rainfall, thereby minimising risks related to water scarcity and floods. He opined that different varieties of fruit bearing, water bearing and shade providing trees will be planted inside the campus. He urged all the official and staff of the department to take equal responsibility in nurturing the plant till it attains maturity.

The Minister reiterated that the forest conservation is not the sole responsibility of the officials of Forest and Environment. The officials of Textiles, Commerce &

Industries also need to play an active role in conservation efforts. He cited that active involvement of various departments, entrepreneurs, NGOs, CSOS is needed for conserving forest. He also highlighted the importance of planting Agar and Red wood tree in the State, as the tree variety is suitable with our climatic conditions. The Agar and Red wood tree is a resourceful tree which can be a profitable source of income. The Minister also instructed General Manager of District Headquarters to carry out similar activities in the future to instil in the collective consciousness to the younger generation towards conservation and preservation of Forest and Environment.

The mass tree plantation was organised by Department of Textiles, Commerce & Industries and was participated by Principal Secretary P.Vaiphei, Director C.Athur, officials of MSME and members of All Manipur Entrepreneurs Association.

SEACO celebrates its 9th foundation day Role of SEACO in preserving culture and identity of Manipur is substantial: Karam Shyam

IT News
Imphal, Aug 5,

With a view to preserve the unique history, culture, identity and religion of Manipur, the 9th Foundation Day of South East Asia Cultural Organisation (SEACO) was held today at Lamyangba Sanglen, Konung Mamang. The event was mainly celebrated to observe the Malyapham Palchakumsing-3417 of the annual Manipuri calendar. Minister CAF & PD, Revenue, Karam Shyam; President, SEACO, Kolomcha Achoubi Khuman; Convenor, Act East Policy, R.K. Shivchandra Singh; Advisor, SEACO, Akham Langol; Chief Editor, Kangla Pao, Pukhrabam



Ibouchouba; Proprietor, Arun Enterprises & social worker, Thangjam Arun; Nodal Officer, MOMA (Manipur Organic Mission Agency), Agriculture Department, Government of Manipur and North East in charge, Infotech Standard Organisation, Thokchom Jimi Singh graced the dais as the chief guest, president and guests of

honour respectively. Addressing the function, Minister Karam Shyam highlighted on the importance of the role of SEACO in preserving our indigenous history, identity, religion, culture and tradition of Manipur. There is a strong need to analyse history, rectify the past mistakes and create a new, better indigenous culture

that will sow the seeds of human civilization in the present and future, he added. The Minister also said that nowadays people even represent their nations in United Nations Conference by wearing their traditional attires as a sign of preserving and promoting their own culture and identity. I believe that there will be positive change in our society too in the next 10-20 years, he also stated.

In his key note speech, General Secretary, SEACO, Konthoujam Ibouchouba Khanganba said that we need to take extra caution about the issue of preservation of our indigenous cultural identity in the wake of the present globalization.

Members of SEACO and people from different walks of life took part in the function.

IT News
Imphal, Aug 5,

E. Valentina's love for trees not only touched the heart of thousands people of the state but her love for trees today gives respect to the school where she studied and her parents.

"A child is known at its cradle", said Munal, Range Forest Officer, Chandel Soil and Water Conservation, in a function organised at Amutombi Divine Life School to honour her. Munal further said that a child's character is the mirror of its family and its school. He said while bringing up Valentina to love that much for plants, it was not only her parents but the school where he studied and its teachers that are having the equal contribution to her love for Plants and Nature. "We hope that the same

Valentina now become an inspiration for all



instinct for love of plants are also with the remaining other students of the school", he added. Munal congratulated Elangbam Priyokumar Singh, father of E. Valentina along with the teachers and school authority. "Amutombi Divine Life school, the name itself with Devine means pure and

dedicated life has the great part to shape in such instinct and curiosity for loving the plants by its students. We have witnessed that Valentina was weeping with broken heart as if her own loving mother or father or anyone of her family members was just dying.

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