

AMSU supports NESO; calls 15 hours total shut down on Dec. 10



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All Manipur Students Union (AMSU) a component body of the North East Student's Organisation (NESO) has called 15 hours total shut in the state of Manipur on December 10 in support to the total shut down called by NESO.

Announcing this to media persons at AMSU Head Quarter today evening, President -in-charge of AMSU, Laishram Athoubha Meitei said that the even though the AMSU understand the inconveniences that the people might face due to the total shut down called, the AMSU taking into consideration for the future of

the state decided to take the stern stand. He said that as the day falls as the International Human Rights Day, those related to the observance of the day will be exempted from the purview of the total shut down called along with the essential services and the media persons. He also appealed the Manipur University and Dhanamajuri University authority to reschedule the ongoing semester examination of that day.

"AMSU being a component body of the NESO, and in view of the India government attitude towards the state of Manipur and the NE states the AMSU is compelled to announce the total shut down in support to the NESO", Athoubha Meitei said.

He appealed people of the state to support the total shut down called and to show strong opposition to the citizenship Amendment Bill, that is scheduled to be passed in both the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha.

The president -in- charge of the AMSU said that All decision made by the NESO will be comply by the AMSU. On the assurance by the Union Home Minister for protection of the Manipur from the CAB, the AMSU said that there is no provision for the state of Manipur in the Bill (CAB) that is to be tabled for passing in both the parliament house even as there is a clause for exemption of the area under six scheduled and those states enforcing ILP system.

Lorho Pfoze cautions Modi government against the passing of CAB

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MP of the Outer Manipur Parliamentary constituency Lorho Pfoze has cautioned the Modi government against passing the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill (CAB) in its current form and asked him to pay heed to emotions and sentiments of the people of northeast.

"The government is trying to alter the demographic profile of the Northeast by 'dumping' outsiders in the volatile region under the garb of the citizenship bill", Lorho Pfoze of the Naga People's Front (NPF), which is in alliance with the BJP in Manipur, cautioned the Modi government against passing the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill (CAB).

News agency quoted the MP as saying, "The Union government views the northeast as a region which harbours a lot of discontent against the country, particularly because it has not blended with mainland India. This is why we think that all outsiders would be dumped in the region under the garb of CAB".

The CAB was introduced in Parliament prior to the 2019 Lok

Sabha polls but got lapsed after it could not be cleared in Rajya Sabha. It is now likely to be tabled in Lok Sabha on December 9 and taken up for discussion and passage the next day.

If passed by Parliament, it will be the first legislation under which nationality will be granted on the basis of religion. Granting citizenship to Hindus, Sikhs, Jains, Buddhists and Christians, escaping persecution was an election promise of the BJP in 2014 and 2019.

The bill has been opposed by several opposition parties with the Congress threatening to go to Supreme Court to challenge the proposed legislation.

Pfoze said an all-party meeting was recently held over the matter and the clamour raised by the people from the northeast against the bill had coerced Union Home Minister Amit Shah to give an assurance that special arrangements would be made for some northeastern states so that they do not get impacted by the CAB.

However, the MP said there was no clarity from the Centre on the issue.

"Home Minister Amit Shah had told us that there would be

special arrangement for states like Manipur which he would announce in his speech when the bill is tabled in Parliament... There is no clarity yet," he said.

The 59-year-old lawmaker further said that despite the assurance, there remains a lot of uncertainty about the Modi government's intentions especially after the way it abrogated the provisions of Article 370 and bifurcated the state of Jammu and Kashmir into two Union Territories.

"There is a lot of uncertainty looking at the way the government handles critical subjects. Look at the way Article 370 was abrogated... Until the day the special status was revoked and the bill brought in Parliament, everything seemed normal.

"...The Governor had said that they will not tamper with the special status of the state, but what happened on August 5 was surprising," Pfoze said.

His state of Manipur has witnessed the most intense protests against the CAB with people demanding that it either be rolled back or amended.

While the Centre has said that states with 'Inner Line Permits' - an official travel document issued by the central

government to enter the respective state - will not be impacted by the CAB, people of Manipur are concerned as there is no ILP there.

"Manipur, interestingly, has autonomous district councils but is not covered within the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution that protects administration of tribal areas. People are much concerned over the bill as it does not even have an ILP," he said.

On Shah's statement in Parliament that the National Register of Citizens would be implemented across the country, Pfoze said in the case of Manipur, the cut-off date should be 1971 since Muslim infiltration in the rural belts of the state is a serious issue.

He further advised Modi not to "suppress the people of any region as attaining national ambition is possible only if proper care of regional aspiration is ensured".

"The prime minister has been talking about national ambition and regional aspirations... so, in my opinion... regional aspirations should be taken care of first and only then can true integration of the nation can be ensured," he said.

(with inputs from Agency)

CPI stages sit-in-protest against CAB and Naga issue

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Raising voices that the Citizenship Amendment Bill (CAB) and impending solution to Naga peace process should not affect the interest and integrity of the state in any form, members of CPI Bishnupur District Council staged a sit-in protest at Bishnupur Ward no 7 Market Shed, today. Later, the demonstrators also distributed leaflets regarding the issues to the people passing along the Tiddim road.

Speaking to media persons, secretary of CPI Bishnupur District Council, K Bimol said that the public of North East India, especially Manipur should not fall for the verbal assurance given by the Union Home Minister. Questioning if the Centre is considering people of Manipur as 'fool', K Bimol said that all left parties will unitedly oppose the contentious Bill so that the same is not passed. The protesters also shouted several slogans to save territorial, political and economic integrity of Manipur, apart from submitting a memorandum to the DC concerned to be handed over to Union Home Minister.

KNF (N) condemns extortion threat to PMGSY

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A statement by the Information & Publicity of KNF (N), Gou@Kuki has alleged the KNA of violating the ground rules of Suspension of Operation (SoO) by threatening a JCB driver by snatching the JCB key in between Bongbalkhollen and Kaihoa Village for monetary demand. The JCB is reported to have been used for PMGSY road construction.

The incident reportedly happened at around 3 pm yesterday as per the statement.

It added that The KNA is

presently ensuig Tripartite talks with GoI and GoM, but they still neglect the agreement and violated several ground rules. The outfit urged the Govt to investigate the issues and appealed to take up prompt action to the matter.

The cadres are reported to have been from KNA SINAI CAMP. When almost all Kuki SoO UGs has stopped such kind of barbaric act after the Tripartite talks, the KNA SINAI Camp movement affect social life, distress the Public sentiments and disturb Peace and Harmony of the Local Area, the KNF (N) statement said.

POCSO court sentences sexual offender 5 years imprisonment

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28 year old Md Basir Ahmed, who had been convicted by Special Judge POCSO Imphal East, under section 10 of POCSO Act for committing sexual assault upon a minor victim on June 10, 2014 on December 5 has been sentenced 5 years rigorous imprisonment for a period of 5 years with fine of Rs. 5000/-. The court also order to compensate the survive victim a sum of Rs. 50, 000/-.

Imphal-Dimapur Flight Service Commences Chief Minister inspects preparations for Japanese PM's visit

IT News
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Chief Minister N. Biren Singh inaugurated the Imphal-Dimapur direct flight service at Bir Tikendrajit International Airport today.

Speaking as Chief Guest of the function, Chief Minister expressed his happiness over the launching of the Imphal-Dimapur flight service which is being operated by Alliance Air, a private airlines company. Chief Minister said that better connectivity would build deeper connections among the people of the two states. He maintained that such flight

service would further strengthen the friendly relations between the States. The Chief Minister asserted that the flight service would be operational thrice a week. He announced that the Alliance Air has promised to operate daily flight service between Imphal and Dimapur in the next 2-3 months.

Later, the Chief Minister along with his Cabinet Ministers inspected the preparations being made for the visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Japanese counterpart Shinzo Abe at Maibam Lotpa Ching, also known as Red Hill at Bishnupur District. Prime

Minister Shri Narendra Modi and Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe is likely to visit Manipur on 17th December, 2019. During the visit, Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe will pay tribute to the Japanese soldiers killed during World War II in Manipur at Imphal Peace Memorial located at Maibam Lotpa Ching, Bishnupur district. Chief Secretary, Addl. Chief Secretaries, Commissioners, Deputy Commissioners of Imphal West and Bishnupur district top civil and police officers accompanied the Chief Minister during the inspection.

ATRFM calls indefinite bandh from Dec. 16 in NHs and Tribal areas

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All Tribal Rights Protection Forum Manipur (ATRFPM) has imposed indefinite bandh on all National Highways and tribal areas of Manipur from December 16.

A statement of the ATRPFM, signed by its general Secretary James Haokip said that the indefinite bandh is being imposed after the state government has failed to address the ultimatum served by the ATRPFM and All Tribal Chief Forum Manipur (ATCFM).

The demand by the ATRPFM are -

1. Bifurcation / Recognition of new villages - All matters relating to the creation / recognition of new villages or

bifurcation of a village in hill areas of Manipur were done by TA & Hills, Govt. of Manipur since the beginning. However, the same were allocated to Revenue Department by an Office Memorandum (OM) dated 08.06.2008 issued by Principal Secretary (Revenue) under Para No. 9 and 30 of the Business of the Government of Manipur (Allocation) Rules, 2009 which is illegal. The said OM is illegal on the ground that MLR & LR Act, 1960 is not extended in the Hill Areas of the State as per Section 1(2) of the said Act. And as mandated under Article 371C of the Indian Constitution, the Governor is to submit Annual Report prepared by the TA&Hills, Manipur to the President of India. Hence, the State

Government should re-allocated all the matters relating to the creation / recognition of new villages or bifurcation of a village in hill areas of Manipur in accordance with law.

2. Funds and Pension for ADCs - Grant-in-aid for ADCs has paralysed their functioning and ADC Members do not enjoy pension. Hence, we demand direct funding to ADCs instead of grant-in-aid and also to revise of honorarium to Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Executive Members and ADC Members.
3. Doubling of district jurisdictions - There are many villages where they are covered by two or more jurisdictions of districts thereby causing confusion and hardship among the innocent general public. Hence, inter-

district boundaries i.e. doubling of villages in both the hills and valley district jurisdictions in the past Census records must be corrected in the coming Census 2021.

4. Inclusion in the Census - Many Tribal villages were found missing from the Census list of 2011 and Socio-Economic & Caste Census which deprived them from availing welfare schemes. Hence, we demand all villages should be included in the coming 2021 Census as well as in the current 7th Socio-Economic & Caste Census 2019.
5. Inclusion of VA Members in warrant of precedence - The Village Chiefs/Ex-Officio Chairmen are heads of the Village Authorities and all the

members of Village Authorities in the hill areas are elected members under the Village Authorities Act, 1956. Hence, they should be included in the warrant of precedence.

6. Illegal Eviction of tribal people by Forest Department - Right to shelter is a fundamental right under Article 21 of the Constitution and also right on land of tribal people and other traditional forest dwellers are well recognised by the Forest Rights Act, 2006 as well as under International Conventions/Instruments. Therefore, the Forest Department shall have no right to evict the tribal people from their residence/villages in contravention of the above-mentioned provisions.
7. Percentage of reservation in proportion to

population - It is a settled law and constitutional intention that percentage of reservation in educational institutions and public employment shall be in proportion with the population of different categories so that equal representation of all categories is maintained as far as that is practicable. The population of Scheduled Tribes constitutes 35.1% of the total population as per Census 2011. It was 31% in Census 2001. There has thus been an increase of 0.9%. Accordingly, the Manipur Rsvervation of Vacancies in Posts and Services for SCs and STs Rules, 2011 be amended and give reservation in proportion with population in the interest of equal representation in all areas.