

CBI vs CBI case: SC reinstates Alok Verma as CBI director, quashes govt's removal order



Agency
New Delhi, Jan 8,

The Supreme Court on Tuesday set aside the government's order divesting Alok Verma's power as the CBI director and sending him on leave. Verma is now set to join back the CBI as its chief. However, the SC bench ordered Verma not to take any major policy decision with regard to the functioning of CBI on his resuming office as the CBI director. The SC passed "cease and desist" order against Verma which would cripple him from taking any decision till the selection committee decides his fate. The SC said there is no provision in law which permits the government to divest the CBI director of his powers

and functions without prior consent from the high-powered committee. The judgment on Tuesday was penned by Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi. However, the CJ didn't attend the court and the judgment was pronounced by Justices S K Kaul and K M Joseph. Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul while reading out the verdict said the meeting of the select committee would be convened within a week. The apex court also set aside the Centre's decision to appoint senior IPS officer M Nageswara Rao, who was the joint director, as the interim chief of the agency. The Centre had taken a decision against Verma after his feud with CBI special director Rakesh

Asthana become public as they made allegations of corruption against each other. Verma had contended that divesting him of his powers to act as CBI director and entrusting it to joint director M Nageswara Rao was tantamount to his transfer and same could not have been done without going back to the selection committee, as mandated under the law. Verma's two-year tenure as CBI director ends on January 31. Verma had sought quashing of three orders of October 23, 2018 — one by the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) and two by the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT), as being without jurisdiction and in violation of Articles 14, 19 and 21 of the Constitution. CBI's joint director M Nageswara Rao, a 1986 batch Odisha-cadre IPS officer, was given the charge of interim chief of the probe agency. The Centre had justified its decision to divest Verma of his duties and sending him on leave before the apex court saying he and Asthana were fighting like "Kilkenny cats", exposing the country's premier investigating agency to "public ridicule".

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.....The Politics of Appeasement Behind the 10% Reservation

He added that multiple judgements since independence finally culminating in Indra Sawhney and others versus Union of India (1992) restricted reservation of jobs and seats to not more than 50%. He said that the government would need to amend Article 15, 16, and 340 to implement its decision but even that would be subject to judicial review.

"Eventually, the court review will explore whether such an amendment violates the basic structure of the constitution, as Kesavananda Bharati vs State of Kerala (1973) had upheld. The court will look into the matter by referring to the constituent assembly debates. It is clear from those debates that the criteria for reservation are social and educational background, not economic," Ananth said.

He also said that the Mandal Commission kept in mind the economic standing of a group, but only as one of the criteria among others.

The only instance in India where reservation has exceeded the 50% limit is in Tamil Nadu, where reservation of seats can extend up to 69%. However, Ananth said that the Tamil Nadu reservation system was implemented before the Indra Sawhney case, and the government made an exception for the state through a constitutional amendment.

"Even that system is in question as appeals against it is pending in the Supreme Court," he said.

In 2011, when the UPA-II government cleared a 4.5% minority quota within the existing 27% OBC quota for government jobs and universities — which remained unfulfilled — the BJP went after the Congress hammer and tongs. That was a quota within quota formula and the UPA government had the Sachar committee — which had explored the extremely backward status of Muslims in detail — as back up.

The saffron party, however, blew up the "Muslim appeasement" rhetoric so much against the move that the state's commitment towards affirmative action stood questioned.

Now, the Modi government do not have a single study to enunciate the backwardness of upper caste groups, yet the BJP leaders see the union government's move to extend reservation to them as a historic decision. Except that the obvious contradictions in the saffron party's political rhetoric is there for everyone to see.

Prosperity and development through unity is essential: -Nemcha Kipgen

DIPR
Kangpokpi, Jan 8,

Social Welfare and Cooperation Minister Nemcha Kipgen expressed that prosperity and development through unity is essential to take our state further towards the path of progressive advancement. She stated this while addressing as a Chief Guest at the opening ceremony of the 18th Zillai Leiton Block (Vaiphei Students' Association) "Biennial Sports Meet & Cultural Fest-2019" held at L. Tangnuam Village, Kangpokpi on Monday. Nemcha stressed that all the people residing in the state should recognize one's unique cultures and identity as one's identity is recognized by the traditional dances, attires, sports, etc. Sports and education are also important for developing one's own personality and

lead a discipline lifestyle, she asserted. Minister Nemcha briefed on the various welfare schemes and programs successfully implemented by the Government and urged all the people as well as the concern elected leaders and official to make sure that all the government welfare schemes reaches the deserving beneficiaries on time and people should always pursue one's need so as to avail it. Cultural troupes from various villages performed cultural shows to mark the event. MDC (EM) - 13 Kangchup, Shri S. Damma Vaiphei, Chairman, VPC Leiton Block, Lunneimang Vaiphei, Chief of L. Tangnuam Village, Shri Hautinmang Vaiphei also graced the occasion as Guest of Honour, Functional President and Chief Host respectively.

State Institute of Journalism, DIPR Inaugurates Certificate Course

DIPR
Imphal, Jan 8,

The State Institute of Journalism (SIJ), Directorate of Information and Public Relations inaugurated the 15 Days course on Basics of News Reporting at Kha Manipur College yesterday. Victoria Yengkhom, the Chief Guest of the programme said that DIPR has provided a very good forum for the youths of Kakching district with the course and students should take the opportunity. She added that understanding the basic concepts of journalism will help students in any field they choose. The Chief Guest also mention about the many projects that have begun to take place in Kakching district. The President of the function W. Phajatombi Devi, Joint Director, IPR updated the trainees of



the different courses such a course in Kakching. The inaugural programme was attended by staff of Kha Manipur College, officials of DIPR with the Course Coordinator Seema Sanjenbam and trainees of the course.

AR conducts medicare for women



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Buyers sellers meet

IT News
Imphal, Jan 8,

A one day vendor development programme cum buyer seller meet organised by The National Small Industries Corporation Limited (A Miniratna Company), Uripok Achom Leikai, Imphal West in Association with Group Centre, Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) Lanjing was held at Group Centre, CRPF, Langjing, Imphal West. The objective of the programme is to create about the market platform by bringing together large buyers and Vendors/Sellers and also with the aim to increase the share of purchase from MSME Sector. I.Lokendra Singh, DIG, Group Centre, CRPF, Langjing, Munna Kumar Singh, Commandant, Group Centre, CRPF Langjing .Y. Raghuramani Singh Rtd. General Manager, DIC Advisor, MIDC among others attended as dignitaries on the dais.



IT News
Imphal, Jan 8,

Somsai Battalion of 10 Sector Assam Rifles under the aegis of HQ IGAR (South) organised "Medicare for Women" in Khangkhui Khunou village on 7th January 2019 under Sadbhavana Project. Medical provided detailed medical checkup and distributed free medicines during the Medical Camp. The benefit of this camp was extended to the neighbouring villages as well due to which people turned up in large numbers. The aim of this initiative of Assam Rifles is to provide free medical treatment and consultation to people residing in remote villages where even basic medical facilities are not available. Apart from providing free medical assistance, counselling on health education, hygiene and sanitation was also undertaken primarily for women. The enthusiastic involvement of the people, especially the Headman and Village Authority, is testimony to the trust and faith between Assam Rifles and the local population. Extending heartfelt gratitude, the villagers were highly magnanimous in offering their complements for the initiative.

Horticulture and Soil Conservation Dept's Yearly Calendar and Diary Released

IT News
Imphal, Jan 8,

Horticulture and Soil Conservation Minister Thounaojam Shyamkumar released the yearly calendar and diary for the year 2019 at his New Secretariat office on Monday. Speaking at the release function, Minister Th. Shyamkumar said that the calendar showcases the various works which were taken in the previous year by the Horticulture Department including those under the Manipur Organic Mission Agency (MOMA), Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH). He further said that despite lack of manpower, the Horticulture and Soil Conservation Department is committed and always ready to take up activities for the welfare of the people of the State. He said that there should be a strong bond between department, public and media for awareness of the various projects. JCRamthanga, Principal Secretary (H&SC), K. Kipgen, Director, H&SC Dept, K. Debadutta Sharma, Project Director, MOMA attended the release function

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Manipur Tourism announces the 4th Manipur Statehood Day Women's Polo Tournament

IT News
Imphal, Jan. 8,

Manipur Tourism has announced the 4th Manipur Statehood Day Women's Polo Tournament will be played at MapalKangjeibung Polo Ground in Imphal, Manipur from 17 - 21 January, 2019. Six women polo teams will compete in this field league tournament organised by Manipur Tourism along with the All Manipur Polo Association, and produced by Polo Yatra, the Indian women's polo initiative of Huntre! Equine. This year's edition of the tournament features teams from the USA, Canada, Argentina, Kenya, Indian Polo Association, and

Manipur. "We are very proud to be the presenting sponsor of the only international women's polo tournament in India in the birthplace of modern polo," said Ms. Nidhi Kesarwani, Secretary (Tourism), Government of Manipur. The Government of Manipur initiated this tournament and the final match on Manipur's Statehood Day is a tribute to the women polo players of Manipur. The event has grown in scale and participation since its inception in 2016 and now draws tourists from all over the world to Manipur as a polo tourism destination of India," she added. Manipur Tourism presents the unique heritage of this exotic, far-flung state in

North East India. The polo players and equestrian enthusiasts coming to the tournament will watch the games played at MapalKangjeibung, the world's oldest extant polo field. During their stay, they will also explore major tourist destinations in the state such as Loktak Lake; KeibulLamjao National Park—the only floating wildlife sanctuary in the world; WW II cemeteries to pay homage to the fallen soldiers from India, UK, and Japan in the Battle of Imphal; visit the age old Kangla Fort of the erstwhile kingdom of Manipur; and shop for Manipur's celebrated handloom at Sana Keithel (NupiKeithel/Ena Market) or Royal Market, arguably the largest women's only market in the world.

Assam Rifles Conducts Friendly Volleyball Match



IT News
Imphal, Jan 8,

Mantripukhri Battalion of 9 Sector Assam Rifles under the aegis of HQ IGAR (South) conducted a friendly volleyball match at Hanuman Top

Company Operating Base. The match was played between the team of Nongren Village and troops of Assam Rifles. The teams played with great zeal and enthusiasm and displayed great sportsmanship during

the course of the match. The villagers appreciated the effort shown by Assam Rifles towards creating a healthy environment and developing friendly relations with local populace.