

CBI raids ex CM Ibobi Singh's residence in connection with multi crore MDS scam

IT News
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Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) today raided the residence of former Chief Minister Okram Ibobi Singh at Thoubal Athokpam Makha leikai and his official quarter at Babupara today morning in connection with the multi crore Manipur Development Society (MDS) scam. The CBI team also reportedly raided the residence of former Chief Secretary P C Lawmkunga at Aizawl in Mizoram, former Chief Secretary O Nabakishore Singh at Babupara and the residence of MDS office at Secure Building Imphal. Source said, the CBI obtained permission for conducting of raid at different locations including the former Chief Minister on Wednesday, November 20. Soon after the BJP led government replaced the Okram Ibobi Singh led Congress government in the state in March 2017, Chief Minister N. Biren Singh has announced that the case for alleged misappropriation of Rs 186.79-crore in Manipur Development Society (MDS) would be recommended for CBI enquiry. The CBI reportedly took the MDS case and sought permission of the State Government to investigate former Chief Minister O Ibobi Singh, former Project Director of MDS Y Ningthem Singh, former Chief Secretaries DS Poonia, PC Lawmkunga, O Nabakishore Singh and Administrative Officer S Ranjit Singh on October 18 this year. The permission was granted only on Wednesday when the former Chief Minister is busy



campaigning against the introduction of Citizenship Amendment Bill (CAB) and for disclosure of the content of final settlement of Naga issue at New Delhi. Our reporter at Thoubal, said that 6 officers of the CBI including a woman officer conducted the raid at Okram Ibobi Singh's Thoubal Athokpam Makha Leikai residence. The raid was conducted till the filling of this story (3 p.m). The raid at the Babupara quarters of the former CM started at around 7.30 am, and continue till late in the evening. Earlier before the case has been handed over to the CBI, Manipur Police had raided the residence of former MDS project director Y Ningthem for three times in September 2017. Various documents were seized during the search. The scam is related to alleged misappropriation of funds allotted to MDS for development of infrastructure for water sports in the Loktak lake. Before that, the then acting Chief Justice of Manipur High Court N Kotishwar passed an interim order granting relief to Ibobi Singh on an anticipatory bail plea.

The FIR was lodged on September by the Joint Secretary Th Munindro, Planning, Government of Manipur on the basis of an inquiry report submitted by the Vigilance department. The vigilance report said the former chief minister "is required to be examined and record his statement as he was the chairman of MDS from July 1, 2013 to August 31, 2014". In November, 2016, the Planning Department of the state government had approached the Vigilance department to conduct an enquiry into the alleged financial irregularities in MDS. It was alleged that "officials and staffs of MDS had not observed prescribed procedures, establishments norms and extant rules" including "measurement books, detailed project reports and utilisation certification". The FIR accused Ibobi Singh, three former chief secretaries and two former chairmen of MDS of cheating, criminal conspiracy, breach of trust and misconduct by a public servant. Those named were former chief secretaries Y Ningthem

I will cooperate to the investigation by any agency in connection with the MDS multi crore scam – O. Ibobi

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Talking over Phone to reporters former Chief Minister Okram Ibobi Singh, who is presently at Delhi campaigning for disclosure of the Naga peace deal and protesting the attempt to pass the Citizenship Amendment Bill, 2019 at New Delhi, said that he will cooperate to any agency either it may be National Investigating Agency (NIA) or the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI). However, Congress MLAs have termed the raid conducted amidst the present situation as "political vendetta".

Singh, P C Lawmkunga and O Nabakishore Singh. Also named in the FIR were former project director of MDS D S Poonia and its administrative officer Ranjit Singh, the officer said.

Where is Meghen? – Information sought by RTI activist

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RTI Activist, Wahengbam Joykumar has sought information regarding the whereabouts of RK Meghen @ Sanayaima, the former chairman of rebel group UNLF, who was released from Guwahati jail on November 9 after completing his jail term, to the CPIO of the Ministry of Home Affairs Government of India. The RTI activist sought information from the CPIO MHA to disclose the whereabouts of RK Meghen @ Sanayaima and also about his health condition. He also sought information on the ground at which RK Meghen, his son Chinglen and lawyer Gunadhor have been kept.

Whether the three have been arrested and detained has not been let known to the public and the RTI activist sought information in the connection. Earlier, yesterday evening, during a discussion at local TV Channel, Human Rights Activist Babloo Loitongbam had term the whisking of RK Meghen, his son and lawyer as arbitrary detention. He said that by the allowing a person who had completed jail term to return at his home, the government of India has committed a gross violation of Human Rights. The matter should be taken with extreme seriousness by the government of Manipur as people may uprise another movement for search of the missing persons. In the same discussion RK

Bobichand also caution of serious consequences for not respecting the human rights of a citizen. He said that it is no different from the way that the then King of Manipur Maharaj Bodhachandra was detained at Shillong forcing him to sign the controversial merger agreement. Advocate Maibam Rakesh who also participated the discussion however said that as of now as it is not known whether RK Meghen had some understanding with the MHA official and he cannot term it as arbitrary detention. Earlier on the day various Human Rights organisations have file a petition to the Manipur Human Rights Commission for disclosure of the whereabouts of RK Meghen.

Congress MLAs protest against non disclosure of FA and oassing of CAB at New Delhi



IT News
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Members of the Congress Legislature Party of Manipur today stage a sit-in-protest at Jantar Mantar New Delhi in protest against the passing of the contentious Citizenship Amendment Bill 2019 and the non disclosure of Naga Framework

Agreement. CLP leader Okram Ibobi Singh, former president of MPCC Gaikhangam, MLA K Ranjit, MLARK Ima, MLA Govindas Konthoujam, MLA TN Haokip, MLA AK Mirabai, MLA Joykishan, MLA Loken

MLA Surjakumar, MLA Nasir attended the protest demonstration by holding placards that reads "we are against CAB 2019, "Disclose the content of Frame work Agreement", "Don't Suppress the Voice of the people ect."

GOC Spear Corps visits Manipur, calls on CM



IT News
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Lieutenant General Rajeev Sirohi, General Officer Commanding Spear Corps called on the Chief Minister of Manipur N Biren Singh at his Secretariat in Imphal, Manipur on Thursday. The General Officer and the Chief Minister discussed the prevailing security situation in the state as well as on the Indo-Myanmar Border. The General Officer assured the Chief Minister that the Army and Assam Rifles will continue to provide full-fledged support for stability and peace in the state. The Chief Minister

appreciated Security Forces for their steadfast dedication, devotion to duty and complimented them for their people friendly initiatives. The GOC Spear Corps also visited Head Quarter Inspector General of Assam Rifles (South) to review the operational preparedness and other initiatives being under taken by Assam Rifles. The General Officer complimented Head Quarter Inspector General of Assam Rifles (South) for its professionalism and dedication towards duty while safeguarding the peace in the state.

Night curfew Indo-Myanmar border in Nagaland extended

Agency
Kohima, Nov 22

The Deputy Commissioner and District Magistrate of Mon Thavaseelan K has ordered for extension of the Prohibitory order of the night curfew along the Indo-Myanmar border for another three months. Official sources informed that the Prohibitory order under section 144 Cr.Pc for enforcement of night curfew from 10PM to 3 AM in the 3 km belt along the Indo-Myanmar border under Mon district has been extended for 3 month up to February 21, 2020, as per the order issued by yesterday

NEDF urge to consult stakeholders before passing of CAB

IT News
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NEDF urge to the Government of India to consult all the stakeholders like Universities, Student communities, Farmers, Women Organizations, Widows groups, Forest dwellers, Fisher communities, Labour Unions, Drivers Unions, Community leaders, Tribe Unions, Local Trade Unions etc with the Free and Fair Inform Consent of the peoples in Manipur, Assam, Tripura etc on the issue of CAB and its positive and negative impact to the Indigenous people in the North Eastern states in India. A statement said, "We are already the victims of migration (both legal and illegal) from Bangladesh during war in 1971. Further the region also suffers from huge migration of Chakmas from the Chittagong Hill Tract of Bangladesh and the migration from neighboring country like Nepal and others. NEDF is

difficult to imagine how our situation will be with another additional population from other countries happen. We acknowledge the concern of our Hon'ble Union Home Minister's empathy of the suffering of the religious minority (Hindu, Christians, Jain etc) from the majority Muslim community. "However, we also experience the serious violent conflict between Assamese and Bengali speaking community in Assam in 1980s where thousands of people lost their lives. Still people in the region are in deep fear for over taken the Indigenous population by the migrants. We do not see our future. Therefore, NEDF humbly urge to the Govt. of India to differ the passing of the CAB Bill during present parliament Session without the Free Prior Inform Consent of the People. NEDF also request the Govt. of India to respect the UN Declaration on Right of the Indigenous People (2007)".

Protests continue in Karbi Anglong against CAB

Courtesy NEN
Diphu, Nov. 22

Karbi Anglong has witnessed protests against the Citizenship Amendment Bill (CAB) and Uniform Civil Code (UCC) by social organisations and political parties alike for the last three days. On Thursday, the Karbi Anglong District Committee of AASU, All Dimas Students' Union and KSA-Simeon Rongphar faction took out a torch light procession in Diphu town. The procession started from Semson Sing Ingti Memorial Park and entered the main thoroughfares of Diphu market in the evening. The general secretary of Karbi Anglong District Committee of AASU, Shorjun Hanse, said, "Northeast is not a dumping ground for illegal Bangladeshis." "The people of Northeast do not want CAB as with the implementation of the CAB, the people of Northeast will lose their language, culture and age-old practices," said Hanse. "If the central government goes with the implementation of the

CAB, then there will be a stronger agitation in the Northeast," he added. He urged the central government not to play politics in the name of caste and religion as it is going to affect the indigenous communities. The vice president of the KSA-Simeon Rongphar faction, Bishnu Teron said, "We are against passing of the Citizenship Amendment Bill (CAB) and Uniform Civil Code (UCC) by the central government." He also said, "We also oppose the two-child policy to be adopted by BJP government in Assam and introduction of Panchayatraj in Karbi Anglong and the Schedule Tribes Amendment Bill 2019." The CAB seeks to grant citizenship to six non-Muslim communities from Bangladesh, Pakistan and Afghanistan, who had entered India due to religious persecution. The CAB, 2016 was passed on January 8, 2019 in the last Lok Sabha but it lapsed as it could not be tabled in the Rajya Sabha due to massive protests.