

Manipur High Court quashes petition challenging appointment order of Chairperson MCPCR

IT News
Imphal, Feb 5

The Manipur High Court has quashed a writ petition challenging the validity of the appointment order of the Chairperson for Manipur Commission for Protection of Child Right (MCPCR) yesterday but directed the Social Welfare Department of the Government of Manipur to initiate the process of selection for appointment of a new Chairperson, in accordance with law, by giving wide publicity to the general public.

An order issued by the Deputy Secretary (SW), Government of Manipur dated 29-09-2017 appointed Sumatibala Ningthoujam as the Chairperson of MCPCR. Petitioner Sanoujam Shyamcharan Singh challenges the validity of the appointment order on the ground that it was not

made public and no advertisement of the post has been published at any of the media.

What is more interestingly noted by the judgment and order by the court of Justice Kh. Nobin Singh is that the petitioner Sanoujam Shyamcharan Singh who challenged the govt. order for appointment of Sumatibala Ningthoujam as Chairperson of the MCPCR happened to be a candidate who had applied for the post.

In judgment and order, as per affidavit filed by the counsel of the Principal Secretary/Commissioner of the Social Welfare Department which is also a respondent to the writ petition, Justice Kh Nobin Singh observed that the petitioner has concealed material facts.

"Although the petitioner submitted his application for appointment to the post

of Chairperson of the State Commission, he concealed it and therefore, the writ petition deserves to be dismissed", the judge noted the affidavit filed by the state government.

Regarding the validity for the selection process, the judgment order observed that in exercise of the power conferred by the Child Rights Act, 2005, the State Government framed the rule called "The Manipur Commission for Protection of Child Rights Rules, 2011" wherein there is no provision of Rule 6(A). It is nowhere provided in the said rules for selection of the Chairperson or its members of the State Commission, the State Government ought to make an advertisement or wide publicity for submission of application. In other words, it is not mandatory for the State Government to make advertisement or wide

publicity for the selection of the Chairperson or member of the State Commission. Rule 6(A) referred by the petitioner concerns about the selection and appointment of Chairperson or member of the National Commission and not with the selection and appointment of Chairperson of the State Commission.

The judgment orders Sumatibala Ningthoujam to continue as Chairperson of the MCPCR till the completion of the term of three years and not beyond that. The court also directed the state government to initiate the process of selection for appointment of a new Chairperson within six months prior to the expiry of three years from 29-09-2017, and the selection process be done in accordance with the law, by giving wide publicity to the general public.

Mention may be made that in February 2014 the Court of India in its ruling had stayed the appointment of members for the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) over failure in following proper guidelines. The Supreme Court bench led by Justice T S Thakur prohibited the government from issuing notification for appointment of members for the NCPCR, after noting there were no norms and guidelines in place for selecting such members, who were being paid out of the public money. The court underlined neither any advertisement had been issued for inviting applications from people at large nor any criteria with respect to a candidates' eligibility and suitability was laid down.

Gun license lost

I, the undersigned, Nongthombam Joychandra aged about 39 yrs s/o N. Raghumani Singh of Luwangsangbam Makha Leikai IE, Manipur have lost my gun license bearing No. 4310/DM/IE issued on 16/06/2019 has been lost on the way between my residence and Babupara in Imphal on 27/01/2020. Finders are requested to kindly hand over it to the undersigned.

Sd/-

Nongthombam Joychandra
Luwangsangbam Makha Leikai

Court sets 7-day deadline for Delhi gang rape convicts to file petitions against execution

Agency
New Delhi Feb.5

The four 2012 gang rape convicts sentenced to death should exercise their legal remedies within the next seven days after which the authorities should act in accordance with the law, Justice Suresh Kumar Kait of the Delhi High Court ruled on Wednesday.

Justice Kait, however, rejected the Centre's appeal against the trial court's order that put off their execution on February 1 and the request to hang two of them - Mukesh Singh and Vinay Sharma - because they had exhausted their legal options.

Tushar Mehta, the Centre's senior-most senior law officer had argued that the court had misinterpreted the Tihar prison rules that requires the court to defer execution of death row convicts if an appeal or an application is made on behalf of any one of them.

Mehta, who had been critical of the effort by the convicts to delay their execution, had sought to convince the high court that a mercy petition could not be counted as an appeal or application.

Justice Kait wasn't convinced.

"I am of the opinion that all their death warrants have to be executed together," the judge ruled.

Justice Kait, who had held a special hearing on Sunday at the Centre's request, said the convicts were taking shelter of Article 21 which provides protection to them till their last breath.

But he pulled up the authorities who the court felt had woken up late in the day. "I have no hesitation to say that nobody bothered to execute the death warrants as long as Mukesh did not file his review plea in the Supreme Court after 186 days," the judge said.

Senior advocate Rebecca John and advocate Vrinda Grover had countered the narrative that the four convicts were trying to delay their execution, underlying that they were just using the remedies that they are entitled to under the Constitution.

Even death row convicts, who are guilty of heinous crimes, have rights, they argued. They had reasoned that the Delhi government didn't seek a death warrant for several years and "the Centre had woken up yesterday and they are questioning me for the delay".

5 days district level Expo 2019-2020 begins today at Bishnupur

IT News
Imphal, Feb 5

5 days district level Expo organised by Manipur Apex Handloom Weavers & Handicrafts Artisans C.C. Ltd begins today at Kha Potsangbam in Bishnupur district.

Chief guest of the inaugural function

Govindas Konthoujam, who is also a former Minister, Commerce and Industry, Manipur while speaking on the occasion expressed his happiness in joining such a function. "I am always very happy to be with the weavers at all times and I have associating with the weavers while serving as

Minister of Commerce and Industry inclusive of Handlooms and Handicrafts. He said that he had done many development activities for development of the state's Handlooms and Handicrafts. During his time a separate directorate of Handlooms and Textiles was opened in 2016,

Manipur State Textiles Policy 2016 was formulated and three fabrics of the state namely Sapphire Lanpheh, Moirang Phijin and WangkheibPhi were able to get Geographical Indication registration and more than 100 Handloom clusters were brought to the state but no new Handloom clusters are seen

implemented during the present government. H.K. Baro Deputy Director, Weavers Device Center spoke about the importance of weavers' getting India Handloom Brand and using of the Handloom mark and he added that WSC will extend all possible assistance to the state's weavers.

NAME CHANGE

Due to bonafide mistake my and my wife name has been wrongly recorded in some of my documents "Hem Kumar Chhetri" instead of Hem kumar Luitel Chhetri "and my wife name "Durga Devi Chhetri" instead of "Durga Devi Sharma Luitel as such I desire to make correction of my and my wife name as above. So as to avoid any complicity in future which was recorded in affidavit No.02AA 847120 taken before the oath commission Imphal West Manipur.

Sd/-

Hem Kumar Luitel Chhetri
Happy Valley Shilong
East Khasi Hill
PS-Allo Godam
Meghalaya -793007

Cabinet Secretary holds high level meeting to review actions and preparedness on Novel Coronavirus New Visa advisory for travellers from China issued

PIB
New Delhi, Feb. 5

Cabinet Secretary held a high level meeting to review the actions taken for management of Novel Coronavirus and preparedness of States for the same with Secretaries of Health and Family Welfare, External Affairs, Civil Aviation, Pharma, Dept of Health Research, Member Secretary (NDMA), and other officials

from Home Ministry, Commerce, Army and Defence, here today. In view of the evolving scenario related with 2019-nCoV, the following revised Travel Advisory is issued:

- Existing visas (including eVisa already issued) are no longer valid for any foreign national travelling from China.
- People have already been advised to refrain from travel to China through an earlier

advisory. People traveling to China henceforth will be quarantined on return.

- Intending visitors may contact Embassy in Beijing (visa.beijing@mea.gov.in) or the Consulates in Shanghai (Cons.shanghai@mea.gov.in) and Guangzhou (Visa.guangzhou@mea.gov.in) to apply afresh for an Indian visa.
- The Indian Embassy in China continues to remain contactable

24x7 on two hotline numbers +8618610952903 & +8618612083629 and the dedicated email - helpdesk.beijing@mea.gov.in. Indian nationals in need of any assistance may get in touch with the Embassy on these hotlines and email.

- For any queries related to health, may contact on Ministry of Health & Family Welfare 24*7 helpline number +91-11-23978046 or email at ncov2019@gmail.

FEGOCTA's representatives meet Education Minister

IT News
Imphal, Feb 4

Representatives of the Federation of Government College Teachers' Associations, Manipur (FEGOCTA) which has been undergoing class boycott agitation held meeting with the Education Minister, Commissioner and Director of Higher Education today. The FEGOCTA members were invited by the Minister. As per

source from the members of the FEGOCTA the meeting had detailed and productive discussion on the terms of the implementation of 7th UGC Pay and Regulations 2018. The meeting agreed to speed up of final decision on 7th UGC Pay and Regulations 2018 at the earliest.

The College teachers' body have been demanding implementation of 7th UGC Pay and Regulations, 2018.

Women urge PM to reign in BJP leaders indulging in provocative speeches

By Raju Vernekar
Mumbai Feb 5

Over 160 organisations, women and men, across various fields of profession and activism - have written an open letter urging Prime Minister Narendra Modi to take note of his constitutional duty to protect all citizens, especially in the light of the charged rhetoric that BJP leaders have been employing against anti-Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) protesters. Drawing attention to the fact that most of the protesters are women and that BJP has gone about campaigning for the Delhi assembly election with speeches

that call for violence on women protesters, the signatories have requested Modi for his intervention.

Prominent among the signatories are economist Devaki Jain, DASTKAR chairperson Laila Tyabji, former diplomats Madhu Bhaduri and Navreka Sharma, historian and filmmaker Uma Chakravarti and former member of the National Commission for Minorities, Zoya Hasan.

The text of the letter says "We speak to you as women of this country and the women of Delhi - Hindu, Muslim, Christian, Sikh, Adivasi and Dalit - who are horrified at the atmosphere of violence against women that

members of your party have created merely to try and win an election".

"Union Minister Anurag Thakur, says 'Desh Ke Gaddaronko', exhorts a crowd to yell 'Goli Maaron Saalon Ko'. Please remember that in this case the 'saalon' is lakhs of peacefully protesting women, sitting in parks and maidans across the city, with young children on their laps".

"Another campaigner for your party, chief minister of Uttar Pradesh Ajay Singh Bisht aka 'Yogi Adityanath' kicked off his campaign in Delhi by saying 'Boli se nahi to goli se maanenge'".

"When the Union Home Minister Amit Shah asks people to push

the EVM button on February 8 with such force 'that protesters feel the current'. Is he wishing to electrocute the women?"

"BJP MP Parvesh Verma, said, 'lakhs of people gather there (at Shaheen Bagh). People of Delhi will have to think and take a decision. They'll enter your houses, rape your sisters and daughters, kill them.'"

"Is the BJP openly endangering the lives of India's women and children? This is what history will record and India will not forgive. The nation saw the direct result of this violent atmosphere created by members of your party, which inspired a young man to open

fire at 'innocent' students in Jamia Millia Islamia on January 30, and another terrorist weaponised by the hate being spread by your party, fired at the women of Shaheen Bagh on February 1".

"Your government may disagree with the reasons for this nation-wide uprising against the NPR-NRC-CAA. But peaceful protest is our constitutional right. Lakhs of Delhi's women are not just part of this movement, they are leading it. Empowered women are on the frontlines. We will not be silent when women are labelled terrorists and traitors, when all that they are doing is to

fight to protect and preserve the Constitution of our country".

"Mr Prime Minister, you may belong to BJP, but you are the PM of the country and have a Constitutional obligation to protect the rights of all citizens. When members of your party exhort mobs to use violence and bullets and you remain silent or support them, remember it is you who is responsible".

"You need to speak out against such targeted violence and hate speech and take immediate action, under all relevant provisions of IPC, against these violence mongering members of your party. You need to fight the Delhi election in a manner that upholds

the dignity of our Constitution and ensures the security of India's women".

The organisations who have signed the letter to PM include: Saheli Women's Resource Centre, Pinjra Tod, Women against Sexual Violence and State Repression, All India Democratic Women's Association, All India Progressive Women's Association, National Federation of Indian Women, All India Queer Association, Centre for Struggling Women Mahila Kisan Adhikar Manch, Makaan-Mahila Kisan Adhikar Manch, Aman Biradari, Delhi, Jamia Queer Collective and Karwan-e-Mohabbat.