

## SC gives 4 weeks time to Speaker of Manipur Legislative Assembly to decide on disqualification of Forest Minister Shyamkumar

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At a time when the BJP's N. Biren Singh led coalition government is having toughest time to decide on whom to be replaced among his cabinet ministers, which is expected to happen during last week this month, Forest Minister Th. Shyamkumar is landing in trouble, after Supreme Court today directed the Speaker of Manipur Legislative Assembly to decide on the disqualification filed by congress MLAs K. Meghachandra and Fajur Rahim as petitioners.

The three members bench of the Supreme Court headed by Justice R F Nariman while announcing the verdict asked the Parliament to ponder over the power of the Speaker in deciding petitions seeking disqualification of lawmakers, observing that he also belong to a political party.

The suggestion for devising an independent mechanism to deal with disqualification pleas against lawmakers came in a judgment by which the top court asked the Manipur

Assembly Speaker to decide within four weeks the plea of a Congress leader seeking disqualification of BJP lawmaker and Manipur Forest Minister Th Shyamkumar. On failure to comply with the directives of the Supreme Court by the Speaker of the Supreme Court in taking a decision regarding the disqualification of Forest Minister Th. Shyamkumar, the SC bench headed by Justice R F Nariman granted liberty to Congress MLA K. Meghachandra and Fajur Rahim to approach regarding this matter to the same court.

In July, 2019, the Manipur high court came down heavily to the Speaker of the Manipur Legislative Assembly for not disqualifying a Congress MLA, Th. Shyamkumar Singh, for the last two-and-a-half years. Shymakumar jumped to the BJP and became a minister in the N. Biren Singh-led Manipur government in March 2017, without resigning from the party or seeking a re-election, thus violating the tenth schedule of the

Constitution.

On July 23, Justice Kh. Nobin Singh disposed two petitions filed by Congress MLAs T.N. Haokip and Md. Fajur Rahim against the turncoat minister, the speaker and the assembly secretary, citing jurisdiction issue. But it made a lengthy observation about the "inaction and indecision" of the speaker - BJP MLA from Singjamei constituency Yumnam Khemchand Singh - in the matter.

Shyamkumar is the minister for municipality and administration, housing and urban development (MAHUD), town planning, forest and environment, horticulture and soil conservation.

Now, a decision taken against Forest Minister Th. Shyamkumar in response to the Supreme Court verdict will also be a deciding factor to the fate of the 7 other Congress MLAs who had defected their parent party which they won election, as the Supreme Court cannot make two different ruling of a similar case.

## Differences between Manipur's CSOs and NSCN-IM likely to end soon



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The aged old relationship between the NSCN-IM and the CSOs of Manipur sees sign of ending in the coming days, as the collective leadership of the NSCN-IM seems to realize that until and unless the people of the region unite and fight for the same

cause, there seems no way out to achieve the goal of either the NSCN-IM or other group of the region.

Source with the Imphal Times said that the supremo of the NSCN-IM TH. Muivah, popularly known to the people as 'Avakarar' had invited civil society leaders from the state of Manipur and held a meeting to discuss the

various issues face by the people of the North East states. Details of the meeting could not be known but source said that the aged old misunderstanding between NSCN-IM and the civil society of Manipur have been discussed in depth.

Source from Hebron said that this is the second meeting between the NSCN-IM

Collective leaderships and the Civil Society organisation leaders of Manipur.

Among those Civil Society leaders who met the NSCN-IM Supremo are UCM President Sunil Karam, AMUCO President Nando Luwang, HERICOUN President Longiam Ratan, Secy. Org of UCM Ng Deva, Rajen among others.

## Manipur Celebrates Statehood Day

IT News  
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Manipur celebrated the 49<sup>th</sup> Statehood Day today. The colourful State-level function was held with the participation of 20 march past contingents at the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Manipur Rifles Parade Ground, Imphal.

Speaking at the celebration as the chief guest, Shri N. Biren Singh announced that the State Cabinet had approved an amount of Rs. 46 (forty-six) crores for setting up of a Heritage Park at Keibul Lamjao in Bishnupur District. The Park would have traditional huts of all the recognised tribes of the state, he said and added that once the Park is ready, the main venue of Manipur Sangai

Festival might be shifted to the original birth place of Sangai although important stalls are opened in Imphal.

The Chief Minister also announced that the Government would distribute boots and belts for VDF and Home Guards personnel as well soon. Some corporate houses have shown willingness to provide funds for it under its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programme, he added. He asserted no security personnel should misbehave with any common people because it may tarnish the image of the whole Police Department.

In his speech, N. Biren also mentioned about Government's efforts to make Manipur a self reliant State in food production.

He said that the State Government has been focussing on sectors like agriculture, horticulture, fishery etc. As a result, the Chief Minister said, the State could receive the Krishi Karmam Award 2017-18 for the best performing State in the total food grain production Category-III. At the same time, fish production had also witnessed considerable rise in the past few years, he added.

Stating that education is another priority sector of the State Government, N. Biren Singh said that 60 schools (one each in every Assembly Constituency) had been selected as model schools under Shree Jagatthans Mission. Free education would be

provided from Pre-Nursery to Class X or XII in most of these schools, he added.

Earlier, two progressive farmers namely, Yengkhom Bishworjit Singh of Kakching Panji Leikai and Thingbajam Johnny Chanu of Lamboikhal Awang Leikai, who had recently received Union Agriculture Minister's Krishi Karmam Award were again rewarded a cash prize of Rs. One Lakh each by the State Government at the function.

Presentation of a colourful march past comprising contingents of Manipur Rifles, Civil Police, Home Guards, VDF, Traffic Police, CID Technical (Bomb Squad) and Dog Squad was the main attraction of the celebration.

## PM greets people of Meghalaya, Manipur, Tripura

New Delhi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi extended his greetings on Tuesday to the people of Tripura, Meghalaya and Manipur on their Statehood Day. "New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi extended his greetings on Tuesday to the people of Tripura, Meghalaya and Manipur on their Statehood Day." In a tweet, the Prime Minister said: "We are proud of Tripura's exemplary traditions and contribution to national development. It's people are known for their industrious nature. I pray for the continued prosperity and well-being of Tripura's citizens." "Extending his wishes to the people of Meghalaya, Modi said: "The people of Meghalaya are known for their kind and compassionate nature. From sports, music to conservation of nature, there is much to learn from them. Praying for Meghalaya's development in the coming years." "He also greeted the people of Manipur on the occasion of its Statehood Day, calling it "wonderful state". He tweeted: "Manipur is known for its vibrant culture. People from Manipur have made a mark in various fields. May the state keep progressing in the years ahead."

## Rebel group ASUK, UNLF lambast MP Dr. RK Ranjan terming his Kangabok speech as irresponsible

IT News  
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Lok Sabha MP Dr. R.K. Ranjan's remark regarding the responsibility of parents in stopping their children from indulging in agitation as well as culminating of drug use habit receives severe criticism from various proscribed groups waging war against the government of India for restoration of the sovereignty of this region.

A day after proscribed United National Liberation Front (UNLF) and PREPAK (Pro) lambasted the MP terming his speech as irresponsible, another conglomerate of armed rebel group Alliance for Socialist Unity, Kangleipak (ASUK) called Dr. RK Ranjan as a headless leader.

The proscribed United National Liberation Front (UNLF) has vehemently condemned MP Ranjan for allegedly slandering underground groups during a public speech at a function in Khangabok Assembly Constituency on Sunday. A statement by M. Sak-hen Director, department of publicity of UNLF had stated that Dr. RK Ranjan's words show his ignorance of the deep seated issues in the state, history and identity of the

people of this region. It is proven by his action that the MP is a lapdog of the Delhi overlords, it added.

UNLF reminded the MP on the fact that Manipur-India conflict is a political conflict has been admitted by the Indian government itself.

"If RK Ranjan chooses to pretend of not knowing the facts about the forceful merger of Manipur to India and its endless ramifications endured by the public, then UNLF will take appropriate measure to ensure that the MP is awakened to the truth, the UNLF statement said.

ASUK, a joint body of KYKL and KCP in a statement called RK Ranjan as a headless leader or a leader who thought that he will get blessing from his masters. While appealing the teachers to take responsibility in grooming the students RK Ranjan seems to have forgotten the responsibility of the politician who are in the government in shaping the future of the students.

Regarding the agitation by the students and joining the rebel bodies and voicing against the government by coming out in the street, Ranjan's blame to the parents is illogical, as these are social and political issue

## Anti-CAA protest in Yairipok: Police stop the protesters



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The concerned citizens of Manipur came together to again stage another Anti-CAA protest while silence prevailed in the whole of Manipur. They gathered at the ground of Laimanai Multipurpose Hall, Yairipok, and met up with the locals. From there, the concerned citizens along with various artists started performing the protest song 'Hougatlo Hougatlo' they composed to make people wake up and stand up against the Citizenship Amendment Act. Joined by the locals, the group proceeded singing songs like 'We shall overcome', chanting 'No to CAA', 'Down Down CAA',

and holding placards that read 'No to Settler Colonialism, No to CAA'. 'Long Live Indigenous People of Northeast, and with banners reading 'Meeyancha gi Khundalam Natte, Yelhounmee gi Leibakni', and 'Respect Indigenous Existence or Expect Indigenous Resistance'. They also showed solidarity to the indigenous people of Assam and Tripura, holding placards that read 'Assam-Tripura gi yelhounmee na yaifare' and 'Release Akhil Gogoi'. However, a large number of police personnel stopped them on the way from moving forward. After negotiating for a while, the protesters had to turn and march in another direction.

## Right time for Assam Rifles to Go Back from Manipur

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Youth's Forum for Protection of Human Rights (YFPHR) has alleged Assam Rifles of committing atrocities to the people in Manipur for the last many decades and expressed strong condemnation to the recent incident of harassment and molestation which led to outraging and modesty of woman namely **Ms. Anupam (IPS), SDPO Yairipok** by the 12<sup>th</sup> Assam Rifle posted at Khudengthabi.

A statement of the forum alleged the Assam Rifles of committing Rape and Murder, Rape, Extrajudicial Execution, Torture, Involved in Drug smuggling etc. It said that kind of atrocities and to IPS officer Anupam clearly proved that if such attitude could have been committed to a respected officer of the state what would have been the situation towards the civilians by the Assam Rifles. One cannot deny the fact the Assam Rifle commits sexual violence as in

- YFPHR

the recent past there has been a case reported on the 18<sup>th</sup> of November, 2019 wherein one lady was sexually assaulted by the Assam Rifles personnel at Khudengthabi, it added.

The Youth Forum said that there has been several cases of brutality committed towards the Media Persons, Sick people, Woman traders, Truck drivers, MLAs, Villagers etc by the Assam Rifles posted along the Imphal Moreh Road, Imphal Jiribam Road and wherever, they are posted.

"If the Assam Rifles fails to respect the rule of law than it is high time for the Assam Rifles to Go Back from Manipur", the YFPR said and urged the Chief Minister to kindly make an urgent intervention to deport the Assam Rifles from Manipur and further appeal the MHRC to take up sue motto and necessary action be taken at the earliest against the Assam Rifle.