

## Fate of Manipur University in dire straits; More irregularities found (Part -1)

IT News  
Imphal, Jan 22

Imphal Times special team, conducted a thorough investigation on what has been happening in the Manipur University after the suspension of VC AP Pandey. The team found more financial misappropriation and irregularity being underway in the University administrative affairs.

Today, Imphal Times reveals on how the Bullet Proof vehicle of AP Pandey was bought and where is that vehicle at present. According to a news report appeared in a newspaper the University authority was quoted as suspended Vice Chancellor Prof AP Pandey purchased a bullet-proof car at the cost of Rs 59 lakh. And said that no amount has been sanctioned for the purchase of the bullet proof vehicle. This according to the findings of the Imphal Times is a blatant lie.

According to official document with the Imphal Times, procured by our special investigation team, the Bullet Proof vehicle was purchased from the money sanctioned by the University Grant Commission under the General Development Assistance Scheme during (GDA) XII plan. The financial assistance was provided for improvement of infrastructures and basic facilities of the University. As per the scheme guidelines, the financial assistance could



only be utilized for improvement of Infrastructures, students' amenities, health Centre, Central Library, Campus development, Equipment, Innovative Research Activities, non-teaching and teaching staffs and New Extension Activities and Outreach programme. Imphal Times special team found that the University incurred an expenditure of Rs. 20,86,560/- on payment of 90% of the total bill of Rs. 23,18,400/- for bullet proof armoured of Toyota Fortuner vehicle. The expenditure was met from financial assistance under the General Development Assistance Scheme, which is not admissible. What is more interesting is that the Bullet proof vehicle is still lying unused at the quarter of Prof. AP Pandey at Officer Colony Sangenthong in Imphal East.

It is almost one year and 3 months now, that the Manipur

University does not have a regular Vice Chancellor after Prof. AP Pandey has been put under suspension for alleged misappropriation of University fund. Jarnail Singh, IAS, who had year long experience in administration in Manipur, who has been appointed as Administrator of the Manipur University and to deliver his service as in-charge Vice Chancellor continue to hold the office for over 1 year and 3 months. October 11, 2018, Jarnail Singh took charge of the Administrator and render his service as Vice Chancellor of the University as an interim arrangement until the Ministry of Human Resource Department restored Prof. AP Pandey as VC or appoint a new one based on the report of the two member inquiry committee investigating the financial misappropriation alleged by the Manipur University

community. The findings of the two member independent enquiry committee headed by former acting Chief Justice of Meghalaya High Court, T Nandakumar (chairman) and MK Choudhary, former vice-chancellor of Tezpur University (member) had already submitted their findings to the MHRD, but reason best known to the report has not been made public and neither the MHRD acted the needful as per the finding.

After suspension AP Pandey still continue to enjoy the designation of Vice Chancellor Manipur University and as per government rules he is enjoying all benefit including financial till today. Rumours are talking around that AP Pandey is likely to come back as the VC before superannuation in 2021. He will then recover all the due during his suspension period is what has been believing by many.

Interpretation of the ruling of the Manipur High Court in appointing Administrator to look and act as Vice Chancellor was appreciated. Saying so, whether an unqualified person for the post of VC, which was arranged on interim can exercise the power of a full-fledged Vice Chancellor is a big question. This is being asked as there has been many post appointed in the Manipur University during his tenure.

## Discrepancies and signs of nepotism in Veterinary Department promotions

IT News  
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Irregularities and discrepancies in promotions have marred the veterinary department of Manipur according to a complaint letter submitted to the Chief Minister, Veterinary Minister, Chief Secretary, Commissioner and Secretary of MPSC.

Veterinary Department's promotion rules were changed in 2012 and were published in gazette notification dated 18/11/2013. However, the change in the rules took place without any notification inviting claims, suggestions or objections from the officers working in the department. Without consulting the officials of the department, government changed the qualification essential for the post of deputy director of the department and amended the service rules. In February 2014, a DPC was conducted to fill the vacant grade III post of the department.

While the DPC of 41 posts was

going on, a promotion order bearing no. 44/99-VET (Pt 1) dated 18/02/2014 was issued for 40 posts. The promotion order was given before the completion of DPC. Further, there are discrepancies in the order as there is a mismatch between the order and the recommendations made by DPC selection committee. First, DPC selection committee recommended Dr. W Tomba Singh as Specialist Medicine but in the order Dr. Rosaraj was promoted as Specialist Medicine. Second, Dr. O Debola was promoted under the new service rules of 2012 to Deputy Director Statistics. Third, four officers have been promoted in the order who were not recommended by the DPC selection committee. Given these irregularities, the vigilance department took up a case against the department bearing the case number 5/SP-V/2014.

While the vigilance department was inquiring the promotion, another order dated 28/02/2015 was released

by the Veterinary department by conducting the DPC on the same date. The said order promoted Dr. M Dilip Kumar to the post of Deputy Director. However, Dr. M Dilip Kumar retired on the afternoon of the day the DPC of his promotion was conducted. And, his promotion order was released without MPSC's concurrence letter.

Dr. T Indumati Devi was given promotion in December, 2017 from the post of Assistant Livestock Development Officer (ALDO) of the Veterinary Council to Deputy Director of Veterinary Department. However, Veterinary Department is not under the state government wholly. Veterinary Council comes under both central and state government. Given these discrepancies and irregularities, a caveat petition was filed challenging the promotion. Finally, vigilance department filed a second case, bearing number 4/PE/SP-V & AC/2018.

## Tourism not effected due to CAA or removal of Article 370:

-Prahlad Singh Pate

IT News  
New Delhi, Jan 22

Union Minister of State for culture & tourism (Independent Charge) Shri Prahlad Singh Patel released the numbers indicating that more foreigners have arrived in India in last two months of 2019 compared to the corresponding period in 2018. On the increasing tourist inflow, Shri Patel said that Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi is our brand ambassador and therefore the numbers of tourist arrivals have been increased. He said that the tourist arrival at Mamallapuram also known as Mahabalipuram, near Chennai in Tamil Nadu, increased 35 per cent after the Prime Minister hosted Chinese President Xi Jinping.

Shri Patel further said that tourist arrivals increased in 2019 despite ruckus over abrogation of Article 370 in Jammu & Kashmir, the Supreme Court's decision on Ram temple and the recently passed Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA). According to the Tourism Ministry data, the sector has seen an upward trend at the time when nine nations have issued travel advisory to their citizens.

As per the numbers shared by the Minister, compared to 10,12,569 in November 2018, 10,91,946 foreign tourists arrived in India in November 2019, a jump of 7.8%. Similarly, compared to 11,91,498 in December 2018, 12,25,672

foreign tourists visited India in December 2019. The numbers also suggest that the foreign exchange earnings increased in November and December in 2019 compared to the months in 2018. In November 2018, the earnings were Rs 16,584 crores while it was Rs 19,831 crores in 2019. Also, in December 2018, the foreign exchange earnings were Rs 19,474 crores which increased to 22,617 crores in December 2019. According to the tourism ministry data, FTAs grew by 4.3% in September 2019, a month after the abrogation of Article 370, as compared to the same period in 2018. Similarly, Forex grew by 11% during the same period.

## UPRFM calls 12 hours total shut down on Jan 26

IT News  
Imphal, Jan 22

United People's Revolutionary Front of Manipur (UPRFM) called 12 hours total shut down in the region on January 26 from 6 am to 6 pm of the day against the celebration of the 71<sup>st</sup> Republic Day Celebration. Justifying the shut down called the armed rebel group said that Manipur, the erstwhile sovereign nation which have its own constitution was forcibly annex to the Indian union and has been treating as a colony by the Indian Master. The rebel group appealed the people of the region not to take part the Republic day celebration of India.

The rebel group recounted on how India is treating the people of the region by suppressing the right of the people and committing various form of atrocities to the people.

## Cor Com and ULFA boycotts India's Republic Day

IT News  
Imphal, Jan 22

A joint statement by Co-Ordination Committee (CorCom) Manipur (Kangleipak) and the United Liberation Front Of Assam (ULFA) has called upon the people of the WESTERN SOUTH EAST ASIA (WESEA) Region to BOYCOTT the India's Republic Day Celebration on 26 January 2020.

The armed group appealed people of the (WESEA) to boycott the Indian Republic day 2020 by staying at home supporting a total shut down of activities from midnight (12 am) of January 25 to 6 PM of January 26, 2020. This restriction is not applicable to emergency service and these should by functioning normally during these hours, it added.

The statement said that Indian constitution is becoming a tool for deceiving the people of WESEA to sacrifice our future and identities for an artificial nation called India.

It further added that the ongoing movement against CAA (Citizenship Amendment Act) should be an eye opener for the people of WESEA, especially the youths. Many questions crop up at these juncture and we

need some serious introspection.

"Why do we oppose CAA? Why are we afraid of outsiders (whether foreigners or mainland Indians) overwhelming us, thereby making us minorities in our own land. If we are Indians why are we afraid of becoming pure Indians like Indians? The answer is simple; we still want to preserve our identities and becoming pure Hindustanis results in the annihilation of our existence as distinct peoples", the statement said. "Seven decades is a pretty long time for the people of WESEA to figure out what the different Indian governments have been planning all along. We would be fooling only ourselves if we believed that the special status like Scheduled Areas, Scheduled Tribe status, ILP etc. would protect us. Indian constitution can be amended again and again to suit the policies of any future government. India is keeping these special facilities for the time being because we in the WESEA have a large number of insurgents with some heavy firepower to kill the Indian soldiers many times over. What all these crafty Indian leaders have been doing is to minimize the number of these armed people through

deceptive scrappy solutions and if sometime in the future only a few of these armed insurgents are left all the special facilities would be taken back just like that of Kashmir. Because such special privileges would hamper the people of WESEA to become pure Hindustanis. India has been using carrot and stick policy to suppress WESEA people's desire for independence. By using AFSPA Indian security forces are trying to frighten us into submission and a few years down the line if we are not strong enough we would be so afraid to even speak our own languages the statement added.

The statement said that the only way to protect us is by regaining our sovereignty. The constitution of India which is just 70 years old cannot obliterate the history and the political cultures of thousands years old nations of Manipur (Kangleipak) and Assam.

The joint statement said that WESEA people's liberation movement will be victorious as our peoples standing behind us. It also added that

The picture of the handful of WESEA MPs whimpering amidst the cacophony of mainland MPs is the allegory of our bleak future in the political system of India.

## Three Days State Level Training Programme for Trade Union Activists

IT News  
Thoubal, Jan 22

A 3 day Special State Level training programme for Trade Union Activists jointly organised by Dattopant Thengadi National Board for Worker Education & Development, Ministry of Labour & Employment, Govt. of India, Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh (BMS), Manipur State and Bharatiya Kishan Sangh Manipur began today at the training hall of Rural Pioneer Services, Bishnupur.

The inaugural function was attended by Sangathan Mantri of Bharatiya Kishan Sangh (BKS) New Delhi Dinesh Kulkarni, General Secretary of

BMS Manipur State L. Sanatombi Devi and Social Workers Salam Jibon Singh as the Chief Guest, President and Guest of honour.

On the opening day, Resource Persons spoke on the topics "Problems of Agriculture Workers & Small Farmers & Solutions" and "Enhancing Income Through Horticulture". The resource persons also responded to different queries raised by the Trainer's.

The 2nd day of the training programme will be discussed the topic "Social Security Schemes of Govt.", "Enhancing Soil fertility the Organic Way",

"Making of Vermicompost" and "Organizing the Rural Workers". The resource persons will be delivered for the Closing day in the topic "Agronomy Seed Production for Better Crops", "Income Generation Through Floriculture" and "Economic Development Through Fruit Processing".

North East in Charge of Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh (BMS) N. Tomba Singh, Regional Director of Dattopant Thengadi National Board for Worker Education & Development Imphal MN Salam and Vice-President of Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh (BMS) Manipur State Ahongsangbam PK Singh attended the inaugural function.