

Manipur University in dire straits –Part -4

49 contract staffs appointed at MU during Administrator Jarnail Singh's era; MU community's silence over its legitimacy

IT News
Imphal, Jan 27

Can an Administrator appointed by Court to look after a University on interim basis can exercise the power and function of a full time qualified Vice Chancellor of that University is a question being asked by every citizen. However, in case of Manipur University, where the Manipur High Court made an arrangement to end the long impasse at Manipur University by appointing an 'Administrator' on interim basis, who is also not even qualified for the post is exercising the full power conferred to a regular full time Vice Chancellor. What is shocking to the present trend happening in the Manipur University is that all of the

University Community, even after knowing that, the ongoing practice in the University may bring an end to the functioning of the Highest Learning Institute of the entire state remains quiet. This is the fourth story that the Imphal Times is exposing on how the Manipur University is going to face serious financial crisis as per the finding by Imphal Times Special Investigation team. October 11, 2018, Jarnail Singh, an IAS officer (Retd.), who had year long experience in the administration of Manipur, was appointed as "Administrator" on interim basis by putting VC AP Pandey on suspension, by a division bench of Manipur High Court which comprises of Justice N. Kotiswar and Justice Kh. Nobin.

Soon after Jarnail Singh took charge as Administrator, he appointed 49 (forty nine) contractual staffs in between October 17, 2018 to June 6, 2019. With this appointment total contract staffs reached 270 numbers as per record on June, 2019. Among the 49 contract staffs stated above, one RK Abena, appointed as Project Officer on contract basis on October 17, 2018 was first paid a sum of Rs. 25,000/- per month at the time of appointment, but her remuneration increased to Rs. 30,000/- per month. The project officer is a post newly created by the MU Administrator appointed by Manipur High Court as interim arrangement. Remuneration of the two other post appointed during his short period are H. Nelia (Assistant Project

Officer) and Ashikho Ashuli (Progress Assistant). On appointment H. Neliana was paid Rs. 15,000/- but increased to Rs. 18,000/- by an order of the Administrator at the capacity of VC on April 1, 2019, while Ashikho Ashuli whose initial remuneration was 13,000/- was increased to Rs. 15,600/-. Remuneration of the contract faculties, guest teachers are also paid well so as to silence any possible complaints. Sad portion is that there were no advertisements called for many of the 49 contract staffs at any of the electronic or print media. Manipur University after conversion as Central University on 13/10/2005 is being run directly under the grant from the Central Government and UGC. On September 19, 2019, the

University Grants Commission (UGC) in a notification sent to the Registrar of all Central Universities clearly stated that the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) of the Government of India had instructed that all expenditure of Contractual/ Guest Faculty and daily wage / outsourced non-teaching staff is to be incurred from recurring head. The MHRD instruction to Central Universities also said that incurring of expenditure for the said contract staffs mentioned above under salary head will be treated as an unapproved expenditure while finalizing the utilization certificate at the end of the year. So, the expenditure of the 270 contract employees of Manipur University will have to be done from the recurring head.

As per University's regulations expenditure for procuring of stationery articles required for class room purposed and other computers and machineries including chemicals and science equipments were usually procured from the recurring head. In 2017-18, a total of Rs. 31,43,465/- (Rupees Thirty one lakh forty-three thousand four hundred and sixty five) was procured for academic propose. (This purchase too has been made from a single firm without resorting to Codal formalities). These stationery items are requisite of academic affairs in all the department of the University and need to be purchased at the time of needs. If this expenditure for contractual staffs is being paid

from the recurring head that means it is likely that class rooms of almost all departments may have no fund left for purchasing stationeries and other required materials. Manipur University today continues to face dark times, with no regular and qualified Vice Chancellor. Meanwhile, AP Pandey still is the Vice Chancellor of Manipur University and is enjoying all facilities that a VC enjoys during suspension period. It is not clear on how the salary or remuneration of the Administrator, Jarnail Singh is being paid as he himself cannot be treated as a regular VC. Silence of the Manipur University community at these dark times may someday lead to extinction of Manipur University.

CRPF celebrates 71ST Republic Day

IT News
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Group Centre CRPF, Langing Imphal, celebrated 71st Republic Day with cheers and enthusiasm. On the auspicious occasion, GC CRPF, Langing Imphal organized various programmes. First of all Chief guest Sh. Anshuman Yadav, IPS, IGP M&N Sector took guard of honour there after he hoisted the National flag, Sh. D.K. Tripathi, DIGP, M&N Sector Hqr, Sh. Suresh Sharma, DIGP, M&N Sector Hqr, Sh. L. Lokendra Singh, DIGP, GC CRPF, Shri P.K. Singh DIGP, Range Imphal and other officers saluted the National Flag and sang National Anthem along with the Chief Guest, Sh. Anshuman Yadav, IPS, IGP M&N Sector addressed all officers, SOs and other ranks and brought out about the importance of Republic Day and remembered the CRPF personnel who have sacrificed their lives for the save of country. After that the Chief Guest read out the name of CRPF bravehearts who have been awarded, Gallantry Medals, Distinguished and Meritorious Service Medal and congratulated them. The Chief Guest also conveys his best wishes to all officers SOs, other ranks and their families on the occasion of 71st Republic Day. Lastly he distributed sweets to the officers, SOs and other ranks.

State Celebrates 71st Republic Day Of India



IT News
Imphal, Jan. 27

Manipur joined the rest of the country in celebrating the 71st Republic Day of India yesterday. The colourful State level function was held at the historic Kangla Fort with Governor Dr. Najma Heptulla as the Chief Guest. The celebration began with the Governor unfurling the National flag and inspecting the guard of honour. She then took salute from 118 different march past contingents including uniformed services, schools, colleges and bands platoons, 17 cultural troupes

and 16 tableaux of different Government Departments. On the occasion the Governor handed out President's Police Medal for Distinguished Service to Jemadar Md. Ghiyasuddin of 7th IRB. On the other hand, Police Medal for Meritorious Service was given to Dy. CO of 1st MR Suresh Thapa, Shri S. Sarat Chandra Singh of 3rd IRB, ASI of MPOT Devisheer, Head Constable K. Brojen Singh of Imphal West District, Head Constable Khualthianthang Vaiphei of Churachandpur District and Havildar Bhomen Sharma of 7th IRB. (Contd on page 2)

NEDF urges PM to withdraw Assam Rifles and to repeal AFSPA

IT News
Imphal, Jan 27

North East Dialogue Forum (NEDF) has urged the Prime Minister of India to withdraw Assam Rifle from Manipur immediately and repeal AFSPA, 1958 to save democracy and Constitution of India for rule of law. A memorandum in the

connection has been submitted to the Prime Minister, Minister of Home Affairs, Minister of State of Home Affairs and Minister of Women and Child Development by the Forum. The memorandum also urged the to investigate against the Assam Rifles for committing violence against women and civilians in Manipur. The forum also urged the

Union Republic of India to oblige Article 14 (that guarantees equality before law for all), 15 (no person shall be discriminated on the basis of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth), 21 (no person shall be deprived of his life or personal liberty), in relation to the members of the Manipuris in its territory, take all measures within its power to prevent the commission of all acts within the scope of above mentioned Article of the constitution of India, in particular.

It also urged Government of India is further urged that India shall, in relation to the members of Manipuri in its territory, ensure that our military, as well as any irregular armed units which may be directed or suspected by it and organizations and persons which may be subject to its control, direction or influence, do not commit any acts described in point (1) above, or of conspiracy to commit such kind act of grave human right violation (rape, killing, torture, intimidation, harassment etc), of direct and

public incitement to commit rape, sexual harassment, killing, torture etc, of attempt commit such human right violation, or of complicity in human right violation. The Forum said that the Communication was made with regard to the recent matter which occurred on the 18th of November, 2019 wherein the 12th Assam Rifle Sexually Assaulted one woman at Khudengthabi, Tengnoupal District of Manipur. And also to draw the kind attention with regard to the Sexual Assaulted to a Lady IPS Officer of Yairpok on the 19th of January, 2020.

Road Accident

IT News
Imphal, Jan 27

A four wheeler black colour car coming towards Imphal from Chandel side turn upside down after it allegedly lose control at Kakching Lamkhai. Unconfirmed report said that 3 person who were coming together sustained serious injury.

3 houses burnt; Over Rs. 10 lakhs worth properties turn into ashes

IT News
Thoubal, Jan.27

Three houses belonging to three brothers were burnt yesterday afternoon at Wangjing Keithel in Thoubal district. First hand report said that the around Rs. 10 lakhs worth properties were destroyed in the fire. Two fire tender of the Thoubal district Fire service rushed the spot

and extinguished the fire from spreading it further. The three brothers are identified as Moirangthem Inaocha Singh (40), Moirangthem Mombi Singh (44) and Moirangthem Romen Singh (50). All the three are sons of late M. Biramani. The three brothers run work workshop and Grocery shops at the crossing Wangjing Keithel.

Coronavirus: 11 people returned from China

By Raju Vernekar
Mumbai, Jan 27

Even as over 20,000 passengers returning from mainland China and Hong Kong underwent thermal screenings for suspected "coronavirus" at the seven international airports in the country, 11 passengers have been kept under watch in Mumbai and Kerala. The eleven person include seven in Kerala, two in Mumbai and one each in Bengaluru and Hyderabad—who are among hundreds of passengers who returned from China in the recent days,

are under observation in hospitals to check for possible exposure to the deadly novel coronavirus, central and state officials said. A total of 20,844 passengers who travelled in 96 flights from China have been screened at the airports till January 24, underwent thermal screenings at the seven international airports of Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai, Bengaluru, Hyderabad and Cochin. The All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) in Delhi has set up an isolation ward and kept beds ready for providing treatment to any suspected case of the

respiratory infection. Also, on the basis of the details provided by the Indian Embassy in China, around 25 students who have returned to India recently from Wuhan are being closely monitored, the official said. During the screening at the Mumbai's Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International airport, six passengers — three from Pune and another three from Mumbai, underwent thermal screening and were admitted to hospitals. "ICMR-NIV Pune said that 4 samples (2 from Mumbai, one each from Bengaluru and Hyderabad) have tested

NEGATIVE for "Coronavirus" (nCoV). One of Mumbai patients has tested positive for "Rhinovirus", one of the routine common cold virus". Till now nearly 1,789 passengers have undergone the thermal screening for the coronavirus since January 19 in Mumbai. The passengers who returned to Mumbai from China, have been admitted to BMC run Kasturba Hospital located at Borivali in North Mumbai as a precaution. They have been kept in an isolation ward and their blood samples collected to check for the new strain of coronavirus..

"The isolation ward has been created for diagnosis and treatment of persons suspected to have the virus infection," said Dr Padmaja Keskar, executive health officer of the BMC. Two persons under observation at the hospital have mild cough and exhibited cold-related symptoms. Doctors at the airport have been asked to send travellers returning from China to the isolation ward if they show any symptoms of the novel coronavirus, she said and added that "All private doctors in the city have been asked to alert us if they

observe symptoms of coronavirus in any person who has returned from China.". Apart from Kasturba Hospital in Mumbai, quarantine facilities have also been provided at Naidu Hospital in Pune. Dr. Pradeep Awate, surveillance officer with the Maharashtra Health Department, said cases of coronavirus infection have been detected mainly in China, and a few cases have been found in other countries including South Korea, Japan, Thailand and the United States. (Contd. on Page 2)