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'Fast-track probe against arrested NEHU official'

By Our Reporter

SHILLONG, Nov 21: The NEHU Teachers' Association (NEHUTA) on Tuesday demanded fast-tracking the probe against arrested assistant sports director of NEHU, Nantu Das.

Das, currently in police custody, was arrested for allegedly molesting a woman football referee.

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NEHUTA president, Lakhon Kma said such "predators" cannot return to service and spoil the environment further.

"If due process is not followed as demanded by a large number of conscientious bodies and social groups, the Vice Chancellor (Prof Prabha

Varsity's assistant sports director in police custody for alleged improper advances at a woman football referee

Shankar Shukla) will be considered as playing truant to support the wrongdoer," Kma said.

"In a matter that concerns the safety of a large number of students, especially women students, teachers and members of society who deal with NEHU, any slack approach shall have massive backlash impinging upon the very name of the Vice Chancellor," Kma said.

He said they are dismayed by the act of Das, whose "criminal act of molestation, abuse and attempted rape only brings sheer consternation and condemnation for the perpetrator."

NEHUTA felt Das is a serial offender, as testimony from some other women participants revealed a pattern in his sexual misdemeanour as he took the opportunity of women's sporting events as the ground for his "predatory" activity.

"It is deeply disconcerting to note that victims are often blamed and silenced under the regressive and unfriendly atmosphere of misogynist work and sport-

ing environment even in a Central University like NEHU. Ensconced in a matrilineal setting, various Departments/Centres and functionalities of the university have seen repeated violation of women's dignity and modesty by individuals who represented a fringe of NEHU community engaged in various kinds of abuse of the other gender. NEHU cannot afford to show antipathy towards gender sensitivity and equality," Kma said.

(Contd on P-4)



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Fast-track probe against arrested...

(Contd from P-1) He stressed on a concerted programme for gender sensitisation, prevention of sexual violence and misconduct. Characters like Das thrive in an atmosphere of lack of stringent punishment or deterrence to the perpetrators and consequent acquisition of traits like gender abuse in their public disposition, he said.

The NEHUTA president also said that several such incidents of "abuse thrown at women students" allegedly by the accused predestined a build-up of a "maniac who only can plan

such a dereliction of all morality and gender norms to satisfy his instincts."

"We are worried that the University failed to prevent such predatory activity time and again and this time, by the security-in-charge himself and (it) puts a question mark on the wellbeing of women in a university where women occupy more than half the sky in terms of enrolment and participation in various programmes and activities," Kma said.

He said since the era of Prof SK Srivastava, a gloom of "predatoriness by fringe elements", who abuse their official powers to perpetrate explicit and implicit sexual/gender offences, have been on the rise and the "present dispensation has put its act together to perform better than the previous regime in terms of women security in the campuses."

"We urge the VC to bring to book a sexual offender who cannot go unpunished and unaccounted. Before things go awry, it is the duty of all concerned and more so of the Vice Chancellor to keep the university campuses safe from such predators..." Kma said.

Meanwhile, NEHUSU said it has received numerous complaints of sexual offence against

Das.

NEHUSU finance secretary, Mandor Diengdoh Swer said upon examination of the complaints, NEHUSU found that the accused indulged in multiple instances of sexual misconduct where the victims have been struck with fear in disclosing their identity to the public eye.

He said after the latest incident, reports were received from students, especially research

scholars, who alleged their guides are indulging in "such shameful acts."

Further, Swer said these "appalling conditions" are a proof that moral policing mechanisms like hostel curfew, evening security patrolling etc have proven to be ineffective as the same led to further desertion of university streets in the evening which makes it unsafe for students to stroll.

He also said that there is an urgent need for gender sensitisation in the campus of students,

faculty members and staff.

According to him, other cases of sexual misconduct are bound to come up in the public domain in the coming days as the students are becoming more and more empowered due to the support and solidarity shown to them by the student community and the Union.

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SHILLONG - 22 NAIWIENG (NOVEMBER) SNGI BALANG (WEDNESDAY) 2023

Watla u Nantu Das u don ha kti ka aiñ, u VC u dei ban thung ïa ka jingtohkit : NEHUTA

Shillong, Naiwieng, 21: Ka NEHUTA kaba long ka kynhun jong ki nonghikai ka skulbah NEHU ha ka sngi Baar ka la dawa ïa u Vice Chancellor jong ka skulbah NEHU ba u dei ban thung da ka jingtohkit watla u Nantu Das uba la shah kynnoh ba u donkti ban jrong kti ïa kawei ka Referee u dang donkti mynta ha ka kti jong ki Pulit.

"Watla u Nantu Das u dang don mynta hapoh ka Judicial Custody, hynrei u Vice-Chancellor u dei ban thung ïa ka jingtohkit hapoh ka NEHU khnang ba u nongleh kam bymman un ym lah shuh ban wan phai sha ka kam bad ban pyningut ïa ka jinglong jingman hapoh ka skulbah. Lada ym bud ïa ki kyndon kumba la dawa da ki kynhun bapher bapher, yn ñiew ïa u Vice-Chancellor ba u pyrshang ban ai jingïada ïa u nongleh bymman. Na ka bynta ka jingshngaiñ jong ki samla

pule, khamtam ki samla pule kynthei, ki nonghikai bad ki dkhot jong ki kynhun kiba ïadei kam bad ka NEHU, lada mih kano kano ka jingshah kynthoh kan ktah beit beit ïa ka kyrteng jong u Vice-Chancellor."

"Namarkata, ngi kyntu ïa u Prof. P. S. Shukla ban pynshitom ïa u nongleh kam bymman. Shwa ban mih kino kino ki kynrum kynram, ka dei ka kamram jong ki bor ba dei peit bad khamtam eh u Vice Chancellor ban pynthikna ba

ka Campus jong ka skulbah ka dei ban long kaba shngaiñ na kino kino ki riewbymman."

"Ngi kyntu ïa ki paidbah nongshong

Bteng Sla 7

Thaw ka NEHUSU da ka komiti ban bishar ia ki jingshah jrongkti ki kynthei ha University

Shillong, Naiwieng, 21: Ka

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Watla u Nantu Das u don ha kti ka

shnong ka jylla Meghalaya bad ïa ki kynhun bapher bapher kiba don hapoh ka skulbah ban shimkhia bha ïa kane ka jingjia bad ban peitngor halor ki lad ki lynti ban shim da ki bor pynïaid jong ka NEHU khnang ba kan long kaba khuid kaba shai hakhmat ki paidbah," la ong ka NEHUTA.

"Ngi sngewkhia haduh katta katta ia ki jingshah thombor ka longryngieng jong kawei ka kynthei Referee ha u Asst. Sports' Director u Nantu Das, ha kaba ka jingpyrshang jong u ban leh be-jot ïa ka lanot ka la mih tang ka jingpynrem. Ha ka jingshisha, kumba ka paw, u Nantu Das u dei uba la donkti la bunsien ha kine ki jait kam, katkum ka sakhi na ki katto katne ki kynthei kiba pynpaw ba ka jingjrongkti jong u Das uba shim kabu ïa ki kynthei haba don ki jingialehkai sports," la ong ka NEHUTA ha u kyrwoh ba la phah da u President u Prof. Lakhon Kma bad u General Secretary u Dr. Marbhador M. Khymdeit sha ki lad

pathai khubr.

"Ki briew kum u Nantu Das ki dei ban ngat ha jingshah pynshitom. Bun tylli ki jingthombor ia ki samla pule kynthei la leh da une u runar uba pyrshang ban pynjaboh ia la ka kamram tang ban pynhun ia la ka jong ka jingthrew shimet," la kynnoh ka NEHUTA.

"Ka NEHUTA ka sngewkhia ba ka skulbah ka la phiel ban ïada na ki kam runar kiba ju jia na ka por sha ka por bad mynta ka kynti da u briew uba bat kum u Security-in-charge bad ka jingkylli kaba mih mynta long halor ka bha ka miat jong ki kynthei kiba kham bun kiba pule ha kane ka skulbah bad kiba ju ïashim bynta bha ha ki jingïalehkai sports bad kiwei kiwei ki kam hapoh ka skulbah," la ong u kyrwoh bad bynrap, "naduh ka por jong u Prof. S. K. Srivastava, ki don ki riewsniew kiba pyndonkam bakla ïa la ka jong ka iktiar thombor ïa ka longryngieng."