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KSU wants Khasi, Garo as official languages

By Our Reporter

SHILLONG, Oct 18: The KSU on Wednesday endorsed the demand of the Khasi Authors' Society (KAS) to declare Khasi as one of the official languages of the state. The union went a step further and said Garo should also be named along with English and Khasi as the official language of Meghalaya.

"It is the duty of the government to start from the state itself. How can the state expect the central government to recognise Khasi and Garo languages if the state itself does not consider them as official languages," KSU president Lambokstar Mangar said.

He stated that the KAS demand is legitimate and now the ball is in the state government's court.

Deficit teachers demand pension

By Our Reporter

SHILLONG, Oct 18: The state government will examine the demand for providing pension to retired deficit school teachers.

President of Retired Deficit School Teachers' Association, ED Nongsiang said they met Chief Minister Conrad K Sangma on Wednesday to remind him of their long-pending demand.

"Till date the government has done nothing. We submitted a free petition to the CM," Nongsiang said, pointing out that there are around 2,000 retired deficit school teachers in the state.

Govt to bail out broke MePDCL

By Our Reporter

SHILLONG, Oct 18: The state government is trying to bail out the Meghalaya Power Distribution Corporation Limited (MePDCL) from a financial crisis once again. The corporation has run up dues worth more than Rs 565 crore which the state government has committed to pay through instalments.

Since signing a power purchase agreement with the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) in 2007, the dues of the MePDCL accumulated to almost Rs 488 crore.

The government later paid 50% of the dues to NTPC through the Atmanirbar loan but felt that the central PSU was charging quite high.

The government moved the court after the NTPC declined to reduce the charges, but the judgement was favourable.

Power Minister AT Mondal said the remaining amount of Rs 244 crore along with fixed charges, late payment and penalties accumulated to about Rs 665 crore.

"Had the situation continued, the dues would have touched Rs 1,000 crore and it would have become a big burden on the MePDCL and the government. Hence, we began negotiating with the NTPC," he said.

The corporation has to clear dues of Rs 565 crore to the NTPC

After negotiations, the NTPC agreed to reduce the due amount to Rs 565 crore and asked the government to clear it in 20 instalments.

The MePDCL, already caught in a financial crisis, approached the state government for a solution to the funding problem. The government decided to allocate the funds for the Rs 565-crore payment.

"We will discuss with the NTPC the possibility of more relaxations such as clearing the dues in 30 instalments," Mondal said.

Illegal collection

KHADCC chief asks UDP to seek evidence from ex-CEM

By Our Reporter

SHILLONG, Oct 18: A day after the UDP derailed KHADCC CEM, Pyniaid Sing Syiem to provide the names of its supporters along with evidence substantiating their involvement in the alleged collection of illegal taxes from check gates, the latter advised the party to collect the details from former CEM, Tioosstarwell Chyne.

"I am sure the ex-CEM would be able to provide his party with all the evidence since he knows as to what was going on," Syiem said.

He went on to claim that many UDP leaders were unhappy over this development since it has exposed the party.

PB Blaze: Neighbours shifted to RK Mission

By Our Reporter

SHILLONG, Oct 18: Families living close to the Singhania (Janata Furniture) building at Jail Road in Shillong, which was gutted in a major fire recently, have been moved to the premises of Ramakrishna Mission by the district administration.

The police visited the houses of the residents late Tuesday night and asked them to vacate the place. This precautionary measure was taken as the building became weak following the incident.

While the residents were willing to vacate the place for their own safety, they were, however, unhappy with the timing of evacuation notice.

"The police came late night and told us to leave. They should have given a notice at least 24 hours before as we have our families, including ladies and children who were also required to be shifted," a resident said, adding that people manning some guest houses nearby, which had tourists, were also asked to vacate.

"We understand the danger and we are cooperating with the administration but we should have been given ample time to vacate," another resident said.

East Khasi Hills Deputy Commissioner, RM Kurbah said 22 males and one female were shifted to Ramakrishna Mission.

Stating that the number of people taking shelter at the place must have increased, she added that many families have gone to the houses of their relatives. (Contd on P-10)

JAC to 'shield' NEHU from 'autocratic' VC

By Our Reporter

SHILLONG, Oct 18: A Joint Action Committee (JAC) comprising the NEHU Teachers' Association (NEHUTA) and NEHU Non-Teaching Employees' Association (NEHUNSA) has been formed to 'protect the university from the irregular acts' of vice-chancellor, Prabha Shankar Shukla.

The JAC has decided to initiate immediate action on issues such as the convening of a requisitioned academic council meeting to discuss FYUP in colleges affiliated with the NEHU.

The JAC demanded within a week the removal of Rohit Prasad, "arbitrarily appointed by Prof Shukla by violating all the rules" to allegedly grant him a high financial package and other undue benefits and relieving of the section officer from the VC's office.

It also said the teachers and staff should not be used at all for administrative works that are not attached to their substantive posts.

JAC chairman, Lakshon Kma on Wednesday said the two organisations under the banner of the JAC would jointly take up issues affecting the university, especially the career of lakhs of students who would be affected in view of the unapproved Four-Year Undergraduate Programme (FYUP).

He said the JAC has been constituted according to the constitutions of both the statutory associations of teachers and non-teaching employees in a meeting held recently. All issues of common concern have been brought under its purview.

Prof Kma said the JAC is open to all stakeholders who share the same concerns about the (Contd on P-10)

Cabinet okay Draft Stays Vendors Scheme

By Our Reporter

SHILLONG, Oct 18: The state Cabinet on Thursday approved the Draft Meghalaya Street Vendors (Protection of Livelihood and Regulation of Street Vending) Scheme, 2023 with some amendments to regulate street vending and protect the rights of vendors.

The Central government had come up with the Street Vendors (Protection of Livelihood and Regulation of Street Vending) Act, 2014 and its rules were to be framed by the state government. Towards this perspective, the Draft Meghalaya Street Vendors (Protection of Livelihood and Regulation of Street Vending) Scheme, 2023 was conceived.

Cabinet minister and government spokesperson Paul Lyngdoh told reporters that through this scheme, the government envisaged to strike a balance between providing livelihood to street vendors and looking after issues such as law and order, decongestion and safety of pedestrians.

Under the scheme, a Town Vending Committee will be constituted and it will be eligible to identify legal vendors based on criteria like possession of EPIC card, certificate of residence of at least three years in Meghalaya. The other criteria are that the persons are vending in a particular spot for at least six months and that they possess trade licence in areas that are outside three normal areas under the control of the Shillong (Contd on P-10)

MCTA to continue stir against NEP

By Our Reporter

SHILLONG, Oct 18: The Meghalaya College Teachers' Association (MCTA) on Wednesday made it clear that even if the colleges carry on with the implementation of the National Education Policy, 2020, they would remain steadfast in their opposition to its hasty implementation.

"Even if everyone agrees to implement NEP in the state it does not turn the wrong into right," MCTA general secretary Airpeace W Rani said.

He blamed NEHU for the wrong decision and said people should not blame the MCTA for the ongoing mess. He reiterated that the MCTA will continue with their non-cooperation movement.



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JAC to 'shield' NEHU from...

(Contd from P-1) future of NEHU and the students of Meghalaya, the northeastern region and beyond who are studying in NEHU and its affiliated colleges.

He said it is expected that stakeholders such as METTA-NEHU, MCTA, NEHUSU and other student, social, and cultural bodies would join its ranks to mitigate serious irregularities committed by the incumbent VC to protect the future of NEHU.

"We want to ensure that the university is not sacrificed at the irregular and un-statutory acts of by violating all established procedures, norms, and ideals that have evolved in NEHU in the last 50 years," Prof Kma, who is also the president of NEHUTA said.

He said the JAC in its extended meeting discussed issues such as the gross violation of the NEHU Act, 1973, on too many occasions and correlated accumulated systematic violations of statutes, ordinances, rules, and regulations by throwing to the winds the rule-based framework within which NEHU is required to function.

According to him, the primary motive for being autocratic, arrogant, and abrasive on the part of the VC lies in not adhering to the collective wisdom of elected statutory bodies only to serve his ego by flouting all norms in the university.

"Like the misrule of his predecessor, SK Srivastava, the current VC started flouting the norms, resulting in serious violations of the administrative and academic affairs of the university," Prof Kma said.

He said the JAC kept this in mind to flag issues such as statutory violations, infringement of the Academic Council, non-adherence to democratic and well-established procedures of the university, non-functioning of the university facilities such as the health centre and labs, delays in the appointment of the registrar, finance officer, university engineer, director of the College Development Council, and others.

He further said the JAC would raise the urgent demand of filling up all vacant non-teaching positions so that the current stalemate in the university's functioning is removed, and the corrupt officials from the last regime and the current one are replaced.

"Arbitrary and unilateral functioning of the incumbent VC has damaged the very institutional functioning of the university. Inordinate delays in the clearance of files, bills, non-delegation of powers, and many such issues were raised as big concerns by the JAC in its meeting. It was decided that the JAC shall pursue resolution of every such issue that stands in the way of the right course of functioning of the university," Prof Kma said.

He said the JAC wants Prof Shukla to correct the wrongs and bring the university back on the right course according to the NEHU Act, statutes, ordinances, regulations, and rules.

"We shall impress upon all the stakeholders to pursue a line of democratic action to make the incumbent VC listen to the voices in Meghalaya and attend immediately to the call of accountability, the purpose for which he was appointed as the VC. We would also implore everyone for justice and academic peace in the best interest of the NEHU and all its stakeholders at the state and national levels," Prof Kma said.

PB blaze: Neighbours shifted...

(Contd from P-1) Meanwhile, experts from the National Institute of Technology (NIT), Meghalaya conducted a safety assessment of the damaged building on Wednesday.

"The district administration is still awaiting the report of NIT experts. We have asked them to make it available as soon as possible," Kurbah said.

Chief Minister Conrad K Sangma has already ordered a probe into the incident. Accompanied by Chief Secretary DP Wahlang, DGP LR Bishnoi and other senior officials, he inspected the site and held a review meeting on Monday. He asked them to submit a report, conduct all safety audits of the building and find out the cause of the fire.

It was one of the most devastating fires in the history of Shillong. It could be doused after an effort of more than 40 hours by the Fire and Emergency Services department, district administration, Army, Indian Air Force, Border Security Force, among others.

One person was killed in the inferno. The total extent of damage is yet to be ascertained.

Traffic jams in city alarming...

(Contd from P-1) In a related development, the Meghalaya State Planning Board (MSPB) on Wednesday dwelt at the length on the traffic congestion in the city.

The MSPB urged the Home, Transport and Urban Affairs departments to prepare detailed presentations on the possible solutions to ease the problem.

MSPB Chairman, Metbah Lyngdoh said they have decided to ask the Power department to come up with a presentation on the power scenario in the state.

na Laitumkhrach
h ia u nongmudui
a la ai da ka sorkar
mih ia ki buit bad
kali ha nongbah.

Proh ki
ba die ia ki dawai
Drugs katkum ka
tics Act, 1940 ban
ne ha bar dukan.
tan die dawai ban
lyngba kine ki kor
g ka tnat District
e Police Officer ha

die dawai ne phar-
na ka liang ki tnat
nitom.

ki kynhun
diang na u Partha
ka MHMSDPC,
niam jong ka All
u Swami Divya
Mission, Shillong.
ah Paul Lyngdoh
bad kum u Myntri
ngeit ki don ha ki
pher hynrei baroh
la ong ba u ngeit
hun niam bapher
ka ban dang don

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ban shimkhia bad
at ki jingjia bad ki
khamtam ha kaba
rok hapoh ka jylla
jylla namar ba ka
ban iakhun ia u
n don jingmyntoi
ba bun lada ngim

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baroh ki iingmane
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nyngkong eh ka

hibun bah ki kyn-
bad ki kynhun
kajuh, ngi lah ban
taba skhem, kaba
ta bapher bapher
ngsgewthuh lang
Most Rev. Purely
ka jingrwai na ka
not jong ka DPC

U Mondal u la ong ba namarba ka dor jong ka bording
ilektrik ka la kham rem ha ieuw, kan long ka jingmyntoi lada
shim bording na ka NTPC mynta khamtam namarba ka
Jylla kam don kino kino lad pynmih bording lait na kaba
den ia ka um ha ki wah.

Da ka JAC thaw ki 2 kynhun ban pyllait

ka NEHU haba iadei bad ka jingkyrpad na bynta ka hok
bad ka jingbym noh shiliang, la thaw ia ka JAC katkum ka
Riti Synshar jong baroh ar kynhun - ki nonghikai bad ki
nongtrei (ki bym hikai) ha ka jingialang kaba la long dang
shen, bad baroh ki mat kiba don kajuh ka jingsngewkhia la
pynhap hapoh ka jingkhmih jong ka komiti.

"La khmih lynti ba kiwei-kiwei kiba don ka
jingsngewkhia kum ka McTTA-NEHU, MCTA,
NEHUSU lem bad kiwei-kiwei ki kynhun seng samla,
imlang-sahlang bad ki kynhun ba iadei bad ka lariti kin
pyniasoh ban pynduna ia ki jingbym biang kiba la leh da u
VC khnang ba ka lawei jong ka skulbah kan ym shah ktah
na ka jingbym biang bad ki kam be-aiñ jong u VC da kaba
pynkheñ ia baroh ki rukom, kyndon bad nongrim kiba la
kyntiew ia ka NEHU ha kine ki 50 snem ba la dep," la ong
ki nongialam ka komiti.

Ka JAC ha ka jingialang kaba la long ka la iakren halor
ki mat kum ka jingpynkheñ ia ka NEHU Act, 1973 la
bunsien lem bad kiwei-kiwei ki jingpynkheñ kyndon.

"Ka jingthmu kaba hakmat ban leh donbor, kuman
bad eh dohnud na ka liang u VC ka shong ha ka bym bud
ia ka jingstad ba kyllum jong ki kynhun ba la shah jied tang
ban shakri ia ka jingsngew khraw da kaba iaid pyrshah ia
baroh ki kyndon jong ka skulbah," la ong ka komiti.

Ka la ong ruh ba ka kynhun treikam ba mynta jong u
Prof. P. S. Shukla ka dang shu sdang pynkheñ bad shen,
kumba baroh ki kam be-aiñ ki ialam, ka la lam sha ki jing-
pynkheñ kiba khraw ha ka jingpyniaid kam bad ki kam ba
iadei bad ka pule-puthi jong ka skulbah.

Da kaba buh jingmut ia kane, ka JAC ka la lum thup ia
ki mat kum ka jingpynkheñ ia ki aiñ, jingpynkheñ ia ka
bor ba dei khmih ka skulbah kum ka Academic Council,
bad kiwei-kiwei, ka jingbym bud ia ki rukom long jong ka
skulbah, ka jingbym treikam jong ki tnat treikam ka skul-
bah kum ki 'Health Centre', 'Laboratory', bad kiwei-kiwei,
ka jingpynslem ban thung kam ha ki kyrdan 'Registrar' bad
'Finance Officer' lem bad kiwei-kiwei ki ophisar kum u
'University Engineer' bad Director-College Development
Council.

Ka JAC ka dawa kyrkieh ban pyndap noh ia baroh ki
jaka bathylli jong ki nongtrei (bym hikai) khnang ba ka jin-
glong-jingman ba mynta haba iadei bad ka jingtreikam
jong ka skulbah yn lah ban weng noh kumjuh ban
shimkhia haba phai sha ki kam ba iadei bad ka bamsap.

"Ka JAC ka la rai ruh ban sdang ha ka ban leh eiei mar-
dor katkum ka jingkongsan jong ki mat kum ka jingkhoh
kyrkieh ia ka jingialang ka 'Academic Council' ban iakren
halor ka FYUP ha ki kolej ba pyniasoh sha ka NEHU, ban
weng ia u Rohit Prasad hapoh shi taiew; uba la shah thung
ha la ka mon da kaba pynkheñ ia baroh ki kyndon da une
u VC bad ka jingai ia ka song pisa kaba heh nalor kiwei-
kiwei ki jingmyntoi; ban bujli ia u Section Officer na ophis
u VC bad ban iaid shakmat bad jingdawa ba ym dei ban
pyndonkam ia ki nonghikai bad ki nongtrei (technical) na
bynta ki kam 'administrative'," la ong ki nongialam.

Namar kata, ka JAC ka kyrmen ba une u VC un pyn-
beit ia ka lynti iaid ba bakla bad ban wanrah biang ia ka
skulbah ha ka lynti kaba dei katkum ka NEHU Act.

bad pynpaw
nongtrei halor
miat jong ki r

U Myntri
uba long kum
khublei ia ka
la pynpaw ru
la synñiang sh

Ha kajuh
jong ka tnat h
khrav ha ka l
jingioh Jylla la
rah ia ka MB
shong shnong

Ha ka 'E
Examinations
lynti iaid jong
maw ruh ia k
School Educa

Ia ka ek
(HSLC) ba n
kaba 3797 ki
'pass' ka long
kiew sha ka 7
Kham ha
ka MBoSE, k
bun-bun snem
jingthang ia
'Souvenir' da
kolshor ba la
lum Garo.

Ha mada

Pyndengkirit,
Mawshynrut
isangsot haba
bad ki miej th
shong ha mac

Ia kane la
Mawshynrut
hadien ka jing
katei ka skul.

Ki nongia
katei ka jing
shong bad ki
shong ha mac
shisha.

Ki la ong
ngi (mid day
snem (2023)
kane ka pynly

Nalorkata
skul kam bian
ha ka jingial
nonghikai, ki
khynnah skul

Shuh shuh
KSU Mawshy
leit ban iakyn
Officer (SDS
ia katei ka jing

Ka KSU
iakynduh, ka
kam khnang b
ki dei ban ioh

Ha kajuh
pyniaid ka sku
khnang ba ka