

ECHO OF ARUNACHAL

Protestors stage sit-in against CAA, NRC & JNU violence



RONO HILLS, Jan 8: The Rajiv Gandhi University Students' Union (RGUSU) organized a sit-in here at the union's office today to protest against the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA), National Register of Citizens (NRC) and the recent attack on students and teachers of Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi. RGUSU president Dopum Sonam said the protest was also staged in support of the nation-wide strike, called by central trade unions against the "anti-people" policies. Sonam said the RGUSU extends its full solidarity with the students and teachers protesting at JNU. We don't enjoy protesting but we are left with no other option. We condemn JNU administration for the lackadaisical attitude of treating JNUSU's demands, he added. On CAA and NRC, he said these are "totally unwanted" and that the university students have always opposed it and that they will continue to do so. Sonam also dared Lok Sabha MPs Kiren Rijju and Tapir Gao for an open debate on the "rising atrocities" including CAA. He informed that the union will also organize a cultural protest at Tennis court, IG Park in the coming days wherein he challenged the MPs to speak before the public or else resign from their posts. RGU Research Scholars' Forum (RGURSF) general secretary Prem Taba said "We are extremely anguished by the brutal violence at JNU. It is terrifying and a potential threat to the country's students." On Home Minister Amit Shah's "understand the chronology" remark over the NRC and CAA, he said: "The BJP govt has lack of interest and vision for the indigenous minorities of Arunachal and North East." "Understand the chronology... First, they will take all your money through demonetization. Then they will ask you to pay tax through GST. Then they will dump refugees into your land through CAA. Then they will ask you to prove your citizenship through NRC," Taba said. Ex-RGUSU GS Vikash Dada and RGURSF AGS Babu Jyoti Ghosh also spoke. During the protest, the students also burnt the effigies of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, HM Amit Shah, NRC and CAA. Students of NERIST also took out a protest rally in its campus to observe the Bharat Bandh.

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