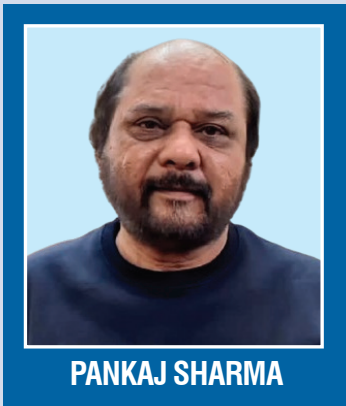


Global India

INTER-LINKING INDIAN DIASPORA INVESTIGATOR

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Is it really so difficult to know the real intent behind American President Donald Trump’s open attempt to humiliate President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelenskyy? It was more than the politics. It was for personally pleasing Russian President Vladimir Putin. Now Trump is openly showing his preference to Putin, but he has years old history of secret understanding with Putin. During his first term as the President from 2017 to 2021, when he has been formally positioning USA in a face-to-face confrontations situation with Russia, Trump was personally having a hand in gloves relationship with Putin.

A trove of 13.4 million records exposed in 2017 revealed the strong ties between Russia and Trump’s billionaire commerce

secretary. The documents had disclosed the secret dealings of the chief fundraiser for Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and the offshore interests of the queen of England and more than 120 other politicians around the world.

The leaked documents, dubbed the Paradise Papers, had shown how deeply the offshore financial system is entangled with the overlapping worlds of political players, private wealth and corporate giants, including Apple, Nike, Uber and other global companies that avoid taxes through increasingly imaginative book-keeping manoeuvres.

One offshore web led to Trump’s commerce secretary, private equity tycoon Wilbur Ross, who had a stake in a shipping company that has received more than \$68 million in revenue from a Russian energy company co-owned by the son-in-law of Putin. In all, the offshore ties of more than a dozen Trump advisers, Cabinet members and major donors appeared that time in the leaked data.

The new files came from two offshore services firms as well as from 19 corporate registries maintained by governments in jurisdictions that serve as way-

Secret World of Trump and Putin

Trump’s very close colleague received millions of dollars from the company co-owned by Putin’s son-in-law.

stations in the global shadow economy. The leaks were obtained by German newspaper Süddeutsche Zeitung and shared with the International Consor-

tium of Investigative Journalists and a network of more than 380 journalists in 67 countries.

The leaked cache of documents also included more than half a

million files from Asiaciti Trust, a family-run offshore specialist that is headquartered in Singapore and has satellite offices from Samoa in the South Pacific to Nevis in the Caribbean.

The leaked files also contained documents from government business registries in some of the world’s most secretive corporate havens in the Caribbean, the Pacific and Europe, such as Antigua and Barbuda, the Cook Islands and Malta. One-fifth of the world’s busiest secrecy jurisdictions are represented in these databases.

Taken as a whole, the leaks had revealed offshore traces of spy planes purchased by the United Arab Emirates, the Barbados explosives company of a Canadian engineer who tried to build a “super gun” for Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein and the Bermuda company of the late Marcial Maciel Degollado, the influential Mexican priest who founded the Catholic religious order the Legionaries of Christ and whose legacy was marred by allegations of child sexual abuse.

The documents gave out the details of how Queen Elizabeth II had invested millions of dollars in medical and consumer loan

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USA.....US\$ 5
Canada.....CA\$ 6
European Countries.....Euro 5
Australia.....AU\$ 6
Russian Federation.....RUB 250

China.....CNY 30
Hong Kong.....HK\$ 35
South Africa.....ZAR 60
West Africa.....CAF 3000
Mauritius.....MUR 150

Fiji.....FJ\$ 10
Suriname.....SR\$ 15
Trinidad & Tobago.....TT\$ 30
UAE and Gulf.....AED 20
Saudi Arab.....SAR 20

Japan.....JPY 575
Malaysia.....MYR 18
Singapore.....SG\$ 7
Thailand.....THB 60
Sri Lanka.....LKR 625

Nepal.....NPR 500
Maldives.....MVR 75
Bangladesh.....TK 375
India.....INR 300

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www.globalindiainvestigator.com
globalindiainvestigator@gmail.com
editor.globalindia@gmail.comVAST CACHE OF LOOTED ARMS
STILL WITH MANIPUR MILITANTS

by GII Bureau

It is now 22 months after ethnic violence erupted in Manipur, but a vast cache of looted arms and ammunition remain in the hands of militant groups. Only a small portion of weapons has been surrendered under pressure from the state government, much of the sophisticated arsenal remains unaccounted for.

On February 20, Manipur Governor Ajay Bhalla issued a public appeal urging residents to return stolen and illegally held weapons, calling it a "powerful gesture toward ensuring peace." However, as the February 27 deadline approached, little had moved in the direction. The deadline was then extended to March 6, warning of severe consequences for non-compliance.

On February 25, 2025, members of the Imphal-based militant group Arambai Tenggol met with the Governor to discuss ways to restore peace in the state. Arambai Tenggol is a Meitei radical group, known for its involvement in the ongoing ethnic conflict and its role in mobilising armed youth during the violence.

Following their meeting, on February 27, the final day of the

first deadline, Arambai Tenggol surrendered 246 weapons at the 1st Manipur Rifles (MR) complex in Imphal West. An additional 61 weapons were handed over in various hill and valley areas, bringing the total count to 307.

Since May 3, 2023, militant factions in Imphal have amassed a vast array of stolen arms, including INSAS rifles, AK-47s, Mortars, Carbines, Light machine guns, MP5 rifles, Bulletproof jackets, Hand grenades, Bombs, SLRs, Pistols, GF rifles, .303 rifles, Medium Machine Guns (MMGs), AK assault rifles, M-16s and hundreds of Manipur Police uniforms.

Despite government efforts, only a fraction of these weapons has been recovered – primarily basic firearms. Not a single bulletproof jacket has been returned by Arambai Tenggol. A total of 6,000 arms were looted in Manipur over different periods since May 3, 2023 by "the Meitei militia".

By the evening of 6th March 1,044 arms and 14,779 rounds of ammunition were surrendered to security forces. Only 246 weapons were surrendered by

Arambai Tenggol, while the rest were surrendered by the general public across various districts of Manipur.

Arambai Tenggol has been named in multiple FIRs filed by the Kuki-Zo community, linking the group to incidents of violence and killings. Since ethnic clashes erupted on May 3, 2023, over 6,500 FIRs have been registered in Manipur, documenting widespread destruction and the use of looted weapons in attacks.

In June 2023, an Intelligence Bureau report revealed that a group had arranged for 500 Manipur Police uniforms, commissioning a tailor in Bishnupur district to stitch them.

In September 2023, Arambai Tenggol militants, dressed in police commando uniforms, attempted to break through security checkpoints and move toward Pallel. The confrontation left 45 people injured, and several Kuki-Zo-owned shops were set on fire. A report on The Caravan also indicated that Manipur Police personnel were seen safeguarding Arambai Tenggol members in Pallel.

With the March 6 deadline for surrendering weapons passed, it

remains unclear whether Manipur's armed groups will comply or whether another extension will follow. This is not the first-time authorities in Manipur have urged people to surrender weapons. Similar appeals have been made in the past, but with limited success.

Former chief minister N. Biren Singh made at least two official requests for the surrender of arms. Local MLAs set up drop boxes in different areas to encourage voluntary surrender. Union home minister Amit Shah also issued a public appeal for people to lay down arms.

Despite these repeated efforts, only a small number of weapons were surrendered, raising concerns about ongoing militarisation and security challenges in the state.

Since the violence erupted in Manipur, more than 250 people have been killed, and over 60,000 have been displaced. The state remains deeply divided, with physical and social barriers separating communities – members of the Kuki-Zo community are unable to enter the capital, Imphal, while Meiteis cannot travel to hill districts.

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companies. The records showed that as of 2007, the queen's private estate invested in a Cayman Islands fund that in turn invested in a private equity company that controlled BrightHouse, a U.K. rent-to-own firm criticized by consumer watchdogs and members of Parliament for selling household goods to cash-strapped Britons on payment plans with interest rates as high as 99.9 percent.

Other royals and politicians with newly disclosed offshore ties included Queen Noor of Jordan, who was listed as the beneficiary of two trusts on the island of Jersey, including one that held her sprawling British estate; Sam Kutesa, Uganda's foreign minister and a former U.N. General Assembly president, who set up an offshore trust in the Seychelles to manage his personal wealth; Brazil's finance minister, Henrique de Campos Meirelles, who created a foundation in Bermuda "for charitable purposes"; and Antanas Guoga, a Lithuanian member of the European Parliament and professional poker player, who held a stake in an Isle of Man company whose other shareholders included a gambling mogul who settled a fraud lawsuit in the United States.

The documents exposed that Wesley Clark, a one-time Democratic presidential hopeful and a retired four-star U.S. Army general who served as NATO's supreme commander in Europe, was a director of an online gambling company with offshore subsidiaries.

In addition to disclosures about politicians and corporations, the files had revealed de-

tails about the financial lives of the rich and famous – and the unknown. They include Microsoft co-founder Paul Allen's yacht and submarines, eBay founder Pierre Omidyar's Cayman Island investment vehicle, and music star Madonna's shares in a medical supplies company. Pop singer and social justice activist Bono – listed under his full name, Paul Hewson – owned shares in a company

registered in Malta that invested in shopping centre in Lithuania. Other clients listed their occupations as dog groomer, plumber and wakeboard instructor. The files had revealed that Stephen Bronfman, Canadian Prime Minister Trudeau's adviser and close friend, teamed up with Liberal Party stalwart Leo Kolber and Kolber's son to quietly move millions of dollars to a Cayman

and corporate clients included in Appleby's records were U.S. citizens or have U.S. addresses, more than from any other country. Appleby also counted clients from the United Kingdom, China and Canada among its biggest sources of business.

Nearly 7 million records from Appleby and affiliates covered the period from 1950 to 2016 and include emails, billion-dollar loan agreements and bank statements involving at least 25,000 entities connected to people in 180 countries. Appleby is a member of the "Offshore Magic Circle," an informal clique of the planet's leading offshore law practices. The firm was founded in Bermuda and has offices in Hong Kong, Shanghai, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands and other offshore centres.

Appleby has a well-guarded 100-year reputation and has avoided public scrapes through a mixture of discretion and expensive client monitoring. But in contrast to Appleby's public image, the files exposed it as a company that has provided services to risky clients from Iran, Russia and Libya, failed government audits that identified gaps in anti-money-laundering procedures and been fined in secret by the Bermuda financial regulator.

A retired four-star U.S. Army general, who served as NATO's supreme commander in Europe, was a director of an online gambling company with many subsidiaries.

trust. The offshore manoeuvres may have avoided taxes in Canada, the United States and Israel.

The most detailed revelations emerged in decades of corporate records from the white-shoe offshore law firm Appleby and corporate services provider Estera, two businesses that operated together under the Appleby name until Estera became independent in 2016.

At least 31,000 of the individu-

ADVT RATE

LAST COVER

HKD 20,000

USD 2,750

INR 2,00,000

FIRST INNER

HKD 17,500

USD 2,250

INR 1,50,000

LAST INNER

HKD 17,500

USD 2,250

INR 1,50,000

CENTRE SPREAD

HKD 40,000

USD 5,500

INR 4,00,000

FULL PAGE

HKD 15,000

USD 1,950

INR 1,25,000

HALF PAGE

HKD 10,000

USD 1,300

INR 75,000

CLASSIFIED

HKD 5,000

USD 650

INR 50,000