



## Excessive Use of Power or Performing Duty?

It's the month of April in 2021, India is fighting with the lethal second wave of Covid Virus, restrictive actions have been put into effect by authorities ranging from night curfews to permanent lockdown in hotspot areas.

In the state of Tripura, Agartala is witnessing a rapid increase in the positive cases and hence, Administration has imposed night curfew in the city, also limiting the gathering in functions allowed by the authorities to 50 People/ Function.

The Office of District Magistrate receives a complaint that a wedding ceremony is being carried out in the district violating the rule of Night Curfew and Restriction on Number of Attendees as well.

The DM reaches the spot with police force, and after observing the sheer ignorance of the rules and regulations, instead of dealing with the situation through dialogue, the DM chose the aggressive route and was seen slapping the Priests as well as the Groom at the venue.

He also gave orders to arrest the guests present at the wedding for violating the rules, the venue was directed to be sealed for a year and the order for suspension of Officer-in-Charge of the respective Police Station was also directed.

The video of the DM's alleged high-handedness while trying to enforce night curfew in the state capital went viral. The incident's video set the social media on fire with a few lauding the strict action while most others sought his dismissal.

What is your take on the situation? Was the officer's approach justified?

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