

## Editorial

Imphal, Thursday, December 17, 2015

### Harnessing the entrepreneurial spirit

The state of Manipur, or more precisely, the enterprising people of the state are slowly but surely beginning to make their presence felt, not only in the myriad spheres of trade and commerce in the state, but also outside of Manipur. That we have seen a spurt in entrepreneurial activities encompassing almost every facet of commercial venture would be an understatement. This positive development in an otherwise bleak environment, made worse by the callous and indifferent financial support system in the state, should be made to catch on in a big way for the aspiring youths to start taking entrepreneurial activities seriously and consider an alternative means of earning rather than vying for the very limited Government jobs. But that can prove easier said than done. Even when a handful of success stories have shown that entrepreneurship can be a successful alternative to the beaten track of running after white and blue collar jobs, yet their paths are still fraught with danger and uncertainty with every step. Promises made by various heads of state have been noted for a long time now, yet precious little have been done till date to ease or reduce the innumerable hurdles-financial, logistics, support or legal, let alone encourage their risky ventures with deeds. The challenges of turning an idea, most of which are yet unproven, into a profitable venture is the driving force behind every beginning, while the sheer pleasure of seeing the transformation of a dream is what keeps an entrepreneur going, despite every possible hardship one may encounter. The state now has enough brilliant minds who have seen the world and are informed enough to make diligent decisions. The government should now embark on a proactive mission to develop an atmosphere conducive to the development of entrepreneurial minds and spirit. Providing financial assistance, though a very vital ingredient of development of an enterprise, should not be the only focus of the government. Making assistance available in the form of mentors and incubation centres where an idea can be polished and refined further until it becomes a financially viable proposition should be the main concern. The various aspects or components of a business model should be made to be understood by the aspiring entrepreneurs as well as the risks and inherent uncertainties involved in any venture. A dedicated incubation centre with adequate facilities will be of immense help in providing an impetus to the increasing entrepreneurial activities in the state, given the dismal state of facilities being made available at present, from the erratic power supply, considered the most vital resource of any commercial setup, to the uncertain supply of water and the pathetic conditions of roads and limited transportation facilities which is compounded by regular blockades and bandhs which target transport vehicles carrying economic resources, often leading to delays and destruction. The numerous entrepreneurship awareness programs, being generic in nature, needs to be backed up with a more comprehensive and hands on assistance of promising entrepreneurs for a successful transition to a profitable venture. A sustainable and viable financial assistance plan that can ensure smooth and swift delivery of funds in time will boost the morale and prevent delay in implementation of business plans. A robust support system for exploring markets of the products and promotion of the uniqueness of these products will help in expanding the market, thus ensuring progress and prosperity in the state.

### Wanted Sub-Editor

Imphal Times is looking for an experience sub editor with excellent writing skill in English who can read Bengali written script, Working hours is 12 noon till 3 pm. Honorarium is Rs. 3000 p/m. Preference will be given to candidate who had already work in English daily as desk editor. Age no bar, and Imphal Times have no problem with those candidates working in other newspaper at night shift.

### WHENEVER YOU SEE CONSTRUCTION AND MINING EQUIPMENTS, JUST THINK OF US

A SOLUTION FOR EVERY CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT



Automobile Engineering Works-1  
**BEML WORKSHOP**  
 New Checkson Road, Purana Rajbari  
 Imphal East.  
 Manipur - 795 001

Authorised dealer **BEML Limited**  
 (A Government of India Mini Ratna Company under Ministry of Defence)

Letters, Feedback and Suggestions to 'Imphal Times' can be sent to our e-mail: [imphaltimes@gmail.com](mailto:imphaltimes@gmail.com). For advertisement kindly contact: - 0385-2452159 (O)

## “Rain water Harvesting – The need of the hour”

Mother earths most precious resource – ‘water’.

Of the five basic elements viz Earth, water, fire, air and sky.

Water is one of the most important elements and can't imagine any creature to survive without it. Despite having a great regard for water we seem to have failed to care for it seriously.

Neither an Expert nor an activities I am, but citing a few lines for mine. The most alarming concerns are above the predicted increasing imbalance between supply of water and the minimum need that have to be from water. It is estimated that the global water use may soon outstrip supply by 2050.

Perhaps water is one of the most basic needs of our daily life. Due to global warming, industrialisation, urbanisation water becomes scarce and polluted yet a sufficient, clean drinking water supply is essential for life.

Every community has a water problem. One-fourth of the population is troubled with shortage or poor water or both and the prospects are even more difficult in the future.

It is already a scarce commodity and in terms of its requirement it is destined to become more and more scarce in the years to come. Water requirement for drinking and sanitary purposes may be large but it is extremely important from health, convenience and efficiency point of view. Estimation per UN standard prescribes that the requirement of 20 liters of water (cooking and domestic uses) per person per day in India. Above of all Agriculture being the main occupation of our place, water is an essential commodity.

The minimal amount of drinking water at the global level annually is about 5 million cubic litre. Drinking water supplies are mostly available in urban areas however, million living in rural areas do not have drinking water supplies of standard quality.

Looking the scenario of Manipur, the whole population

faces water woes during summer & winter season, water scarcity is evident all taps seem to run dry, what we suffer for is to buy water from water tanker, almost all the season, don't know how far it is potable-whether it is treated or not , God knows!

My view here is “Rain – Natures Blessing Why not we harvest”

A leaf stretch out from its branch, catches a drop rain channelling towards the ground as its base, for millions of years, this simple rain water collection has fuelled life in many years reaches of this planet (New man).

Rain water harvesting – the need of the hour.

Rainwater harvesting is one of the viable solution for Manipur's severe water problem as the state is blessed with Rain. The annual precipitation of the western region is 2194mm to 4516mm and 2943mm in southern region and 1785mm in central region, from reliable source and the average rainydays is 75 and more days, from reliable source.

As we all know Rain water

harvesting, a technique for collecting storing and using rain water for landscape irrigation and other uses collection from various surfaces such as roof tops, and other types of man-made above ground hard surfaces where the practice is growing popularity recently, but out there in Coimbatore in the year 2005 ,rainwater harvesting was opted in almost half the population.

In the state of Tamil Nadu, rain water harvesting was made compulsory for every building to avoid ground water depletion, and proved excellent within five years, and every state look it as role model. Since its implementation, Chennai saw 50% rise in water level from a reliable source.

As the water crisis continues to become severe, there is a dire need of reform in water management system and revival of traditional systems It is the need of the hour, to make people aware of the rainwater harvesting techniques and support them to set up innovative harvesting with indigenous materials. If the state government could offer financial

Nandita. Maimnam  
 Assoc.-Professor  
 Biramangol college,  
[nanditaries1@gmail.com](mailto:nanditaries1@gmail.com)

support and guidance from the experts, in the form of subsidies than only we can overcome the water crisis.

And I feel, my mother land Manipur being blessed with rain can harvest rain water effectively provided that public is made aware of the method.

Thus, if human being could not save and water and its sources inspite of its availability in abundance, the irresponsible attitude resulted in deterioration with respect to quantity and quality both. Now the situation has arrived when even a single drop of water matters. Better late than never. Let us harvest rainwater.

Rain is precious – Rain brings inner happiness to the farmers, each and every one Earth. It rejuvenate the plants and every creature on earth bringing smile to everyone.. Thus, lets harvest rainwater in one way or the other.

### National & International News

## Parliament adjourned till 2pm over Arunachal crisis, other issues

**ANI New Delhi, Dec.17:** The Lok Sabha continued to witness frequent disruptions during Question Hour on Thursday, as Congress members rushed to the well of the house to register their protest on several issues, including political developments in Arunachal Pradesh.

The Rajya Sabha too witnessed frequent adjournments over several issues, including Arunachal Pradesh. Congress lawmakers trooped into the Well and shouted slogans like “stop the murder of the Constitution in Arunachal Pradesh and dismiss Arunachal Governor.” As the House met for the day, Lok

Sabha speaker Sumitra Mahajan rejected several adjournment motions moved by Congress , TMC, AAP, and others on different issues.

After their rejection, the Congress members trooped into the well and started shouting slogans over Arunachal Pradesh governor issue and rise in excise duties on petroleum products.

However, the House conducted Question Hour amid noisy scenes. AAP Members showed placards in reference to Chandigarh Airport renaming as disrespect to Bhagat Singh. YSR congress MPs also displayed placards demanding special category status to Andhra

Pradesh. Parliament has been adjourned till 2 p.m.

The Winter Session of the Parliament have seen frequent disruption over several issues, even as legislations on Goods and Services Tax bill, Real Estate bill, SC/ST bill, among other important Bills are pending.

The Rajya Sabha has been the worst hit in terms of deliberations, losing several days to disruptions over union minister V K Singh's Dalit comment, the National Herald case, corruption cases like the Madhya Pradesh Vyapam scam and the alleged atrocities against Dalits in Punjab.

Contd. from previous issue

## Tourism and Job Creation

By:

1. Chingakhm Dina ([chingakhm@yahoo.com](mailto:chingakhm@yahoo.com))
2. Arambam Karamjit ([ronin9992008@gmail.com](mailto:ronin9992008@gmail.com))
3. Khwairakpam Sunita

Municipality authorities need something to do about it. In Thailand people are not allowed to throw plastic, paper, or whatever on the street. If caught, you will be fined. Let us do the same thing. Let us stop spitting of chewing petal-put on the floor, on the wall, on the street. Beauty will attract tourists. Tourism will bring income for the state, and for the local people.

**6. Foods and Drinks.** People come and enjoy for a few days as tourists. During their stay make them happy, make them free to eat and drink. Let them spend money on the food they like, have them enjoy the drinks they like. Thailand encourages local food, local brewing and drinks. They make money. Government collect tax, and the money goes to public construction work. We personally feel that our local brewing, and local whiskey can bring lots of income to government as it does in France, Japan, and Thailand or any other parts of the world. Civil society also need to re-think about it. Goa government generates huge income from local drinks in India. Let tourists taste it and have them come back again. That is our income.

**7. Stop Bandh and Strikes.** Bandh, strike, non violence movements are typical characteristic of any Indian states. We are part of it. Non violence however it harms too

much to our economy. Any civil society, any organization will come up, declares general strike, economic blockade any time, anywhere they want. Then people talk about our land, rich and beautiful. But if travel far and wide, we will see we are surrounded by different kinds of insufficiency. Bandhs and blockades bring too much harm to our economy. Have we thought how much it hurts to our economy? Nobody cares about it. People do what they like. There were colour fractional politics in Thailand in the past few years but no one disturbed tourists. They minded their business, they never crossed protest site to hurt civilians' business. They tried to minimize the damage in economy and tourism, but nobody cares how much it hurts, how much it damages by bandh and strike in Manipur. People need to change thinking. In developed countries people work and they are paid based on number of hours. We work and we are paid our salary as yearly system, not monthly. Nobody cares wasting an hour or a day. We do need working hourly system to make work efficient.

**8. Change Market Focus.** We need to change our market focus. If we can produce what people may like, we can sell it in big volume in and outside. There are many local dress makers. Just to highlight an example, as a traditional dress, how many phanek (Manipuri women's dress) can we sell or export to generate state income? we are sure we cannot export even a single piece to Thailand or Singapore or anywhere. But, how many T-shirts do we import from Thailand? Millions. They make what people might like inside as well as outside Thailand. We also can sell and export millions of T-shirts if make it, because there is more people out there who wear T-shirts. We need to change our target market as well. We are not trying to discourage our tradition and traditional dress or costume. It is true and we cannot deny the fact. We need to change our perception and thinking. Business and money speaks a lot in modern world. It is time to wake up. We cannot survive by our self praising literature-Sana Leipak, Mani-Mukda, Golden Land so on and so forth. Let us open our eyes together. (Concluded)