

Editorial

Imphal, Wednesday, November 4, 2015

The 'talk' matters; but be careful Mr. Ravi

If it is all about recognising the 'history' than there is nothing to worry about the outcome of the 'Frame work' agreement signed between the government of India and NSCN-IM. The sixty years of bloodshed could have been avoided had the then ruler of the free India have equal respect for all communities of the country. Over thousands had been killed, many are maimed and many women still survive a shameful life after the fellow soldiers in the name of suppressing the secessionist movement in this part of the country. It is a fake that Nagaland, Meghalaya and Arunachal Pradesh were never a separate state as these states are curved out from Assam. However, Manipur and Tripura were recognized as kingdoms by the then British government who had ruled the country for over 200 years. It is easily presumable the kind of forces or factors that had made the alien rulers keeping the vast land as their colony. After the then British conquered Manipur in 1891 the politics of Manipur was directly supervised by the British, and this is known to every one of us.

Adoption of Hinduism by Manipuri and its failure to penetrate to the Hills of Manipur is perhaps a best opportunity for the alien ruler. And the chieftainship culture of various communities both in Hills and plain area of the state make them easy to divide them and ruled without much headache. After the alien ruler left by keeping all the princely states and country as one country called India, the most unfortunate part is that the so call leaders of the free India adopted the similar policy that the alien ruler had adopted to suppress the people. Now it is about the conflict of North East India, which comprises of seven states now eight including Sikkim. First the armed movement had its root at Manipur and then Nagaland and the magnitude of the movement now spread almost all over the entire north east India excluding Mizoram and Sikkim. Meghalaya, the once insurgency free state is now having over 4 rebel groups fighting for recognition of the people residing there. In Nagaland the two Major insurgent group had grown so strong that the India government was left with no choice but to signed peace pact. The same is with the state of Manipur, over 30 rebel groups operated in the region some allegedly established by state actors to utilize as counter force to the activities of the insurgence group. The government succeeded in taking control of the NSCN-IM and some of the Kuki rebels in the name of peace talk or suspension of operation, but it still has not taken any step ahead to deal with other rebel groups.

Effort to wipe out the separatist movement from the soil of NE region using different policy that the British government had once adopted has now put the entire NE region into a hot bed.

The concept of the India government at which they assumed solution of NSCN-IM is the only solution is going to pour fuel to the region soon. When the leaders of the country Prime Minister Narendra Modi said that the Framework agreement signed between the NSCN-IM and GOI is the first step to solved the issue of NSCN-IM, he failed to remind that the kind of proposal that the NSCN-IM is putting up may be another headache for the country. If the outfit demanded separate election, flag and separate currency and besides separate land, what will the government response. And if these major demands are not put up then the NSCN-IM will not be accepted by even its own cadres. Then what will be the government response if in case such demands are put up.

Mr. Ravi is here in Imphal to talk with CSOs of the state and they had consulted over the matter. One thing that the people need to closely watch the Indian interlocutor is that whether he is visiting the state to collect the opinion of the people of Manipur or is the Indian peacemaker here to see the possible opposition that may happen in the state if in case the demand of the NSCN-IM is fulfilled.

What would Indira Gandhi ask Narendra Modi today?

Contd. from yesterday

By: Ningombam Bupendra Meitei

On children

Indira Gandhi, on children, would ask, "Mr. Prime Minister, my father (Jawaharlal Nehru) considered all children his own. Do not you consider that all children in our country are your own that any pain to any child is indeed a pain to you also? How can you, the Prime Minister who promotes taking a photo selfie with daughter, sleep peacefully in Delhi when children are kidnapped, abducted, molested, raped, murdered, beaten up, burnt to death and trafficked not only in Delhi and its surrounding regions but also in many remote parts of our country? Where is your love for the children in the metro cities of India like Delhi where children are being exposed to daily hazardous pollution? Why should not you act against any form of violence that results to the death of any child?"

["You said in the beginning that he (Jawaharlal Nehru) loved all children, more than he loved me. But my impression is that he regarded everyone as equal. I was there, but he did not consider me his own more than he did others. He considered all children his own. (Childhood reminiscences, from English rendering of an interview of Indira Gandhi in Hindi with Ms. Uma Chakrabarti, New Delhi,

November 14, 1983)]

On winning the hearts of the people

Indira Gandhi, on winning the hearts of the people, would ask, "Mr. Prime Minister Modi, do you know that, according to Emperor Asoka, winning the Battle of Kalinga had no value as the real importance comes only by winning the hearts of the people? Have you forgotten that Asoka enunciated a new policy of India based on friendship, non-violence and generosity?"

Do you think that merely winning 2014 election in Lok Sabha is a living testimony of winning the hearts of the 1.2 billion people of India? Do not you believe that the silence towards intolerance and any form of violence leads to the hurting of many hearts of the people?"

When you speak, you always speak representing 1.2 billion population of India but have you, as the Prime Minister of India, ever spoken on behalf of the intellectuals of our country? If you have spoken, which is what I presume, then why do not you also listen to the voices of the entire different kinds of all the intellectuals of our own country?"

Do not you consider that the nation's top priority must be its unity and integrity? Do you gain something for the short term silence towards intolerance in

our society today as such intolerance will become worthless as it weakens the fabric of our country tomorrow?" ["I am talking of Emperor Asoka. He won the battle here in this State, but the victory, he confessed, had no importance, no value. He must win the hearts of the people. By killing people or by hurting them, one does not really win. From that day onwards, he enunciated a new policy, not only in respect of Kalinga, but also for the whole of India. This policy was of friendship, non-violence, of generosity which is being followed in India now for many years. When I talk of unity, I talk about the unity of the people of India. I do not want to remove anybody. We are speaking here on behalf of the people of India, on behalf of the weaker sections of India, on behalf of women of India, on behalf of the intellectuals of India and, above all, on behalf of the young generation of India, for the future belongs to them. I am here today, I may not be here tomorrow. But the responsibility to look after national interest is on the shoulder of every citizen of India. I do not care whether I live or die. I have lived a long life in the service of my people. I shall continue to serve until my last breath and when I die, I can say, that every drop of my blood

will invigorate India and strengthen it. I shall repeat that you must give top priority to the unity and integrity of the country. Everything else is secondary. If we gain something for the short term and if it weakens us tomorrow or day after, then it is not a thing worth pursuing." (The Last Speech, from free rendering of the public speech of Indira Gandhi in Hindi, Bhubaneswar, October 30, 1984)]

After her last speech, The Last Speech, in Bhubaneswar, Indira Gandhi, the 4th Prime Minister of India, was assassinated on 31 October, 1984 at the Prime Minister's residence at No. 1, Safdarjung Road, New Delhi. Today, the Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's residence has become Indira Gandhi Memorial Museum at No. 1, Safdarjung Road, New Delhi.

Concluding line

The writer here concludes with the line from the former Prime Minister of India Indira Gandhi. "Your problems are known to me and I view them not only as a Prime Minister but also as a woman and a mother." (Call for unity, discipline and hard work, free rendering of the Independence Day speech of Indira Gandhi delivered in Hindi from the Red Fort, Delhi, August 15, 1981)

(Concluded)

Contd. from page 1

KHUKYO appeals UNC to lift eco-blocked in view

In the meanwhile, Naga People's Organization (NPO) which will be spearheading the blockade has made known its strategies on imposing the blockade in the district. NPO sources said that its volunteers will not allow any movement of commercial goods carriers, tankers, trucks and interstate buses to carry commodities

during the blockade. The apex body of the district informed that following the directives of the UNC, volunteers will be deployed in different locations along the National Highway-2 to enforce the blockade effectively. "Any violation of the economic blockade by any vehicle or attempting to do so will be doing

on their own risk, for which any consequences will not be the responsibility of Naga civil bodies or tribe hohos" said NPO sources. The NPO's decision came after UNC issued another statement ahead of the blockade instructing all Naga bodies to strictly observe the bandh. The UNC had earlier issued a directive to all civil bodies

in hill districts and tribe hohos to impose the 10-day economic blockade. However, as per the UNC's decision, life saving items will be exempted from the purview of the blockade. The UNC on October 30 had announced imposition of the economic blockade and the banning of all national and international projects in Manipur.

Govindas Konthoujam highlights 'make in Manipur' for

He informed that the skill development under Integrated Skill Development Scheme was progress observing all the formalities and norms of Biometric attendance, online enrolment, installation of webcam, laptop, solar light, etc. A target of 7000 trainees was to complete within March next year.

He also mentioned that the State Government was implementing 51 Cluster Development Projects under NERTPS with a total sanctioned amount of Rs.30.01

crore. However, the 2nd instalment claimed in February, 2015 was not released for want of "mid-term evaluation and impact of scheme". The State Government proposed the Centre for assigning an independent agency to conduct the same. Manipur Commerce and Industry Minister informed the Conference that the State government introduced the Trio Handlooms Business Meet which interpreted as Investors-Weavers-Consumers. The State

Government had roped in with local business man for investment in handloom sector for mass production of handloom cloths. The cloths would be purchased by the Consumers, like, School and colleges as uniform, hotels and hospitals, resort and Government establishment. The Business Meet would be held on December 18 this year in Imphal wherein investors would announce their quantum of investment; and consumers will declare the

quantum of their required cloths to be purchased from handloom sector. Referring to the Textile Park under NERTPS, he pointed out that there were certain minimum criteria which the NE States like Manipur had limitation to fulfil the criteria laid down in the guidelines. He proposed to include the Textile Park in NERTPS to cater all sectors of power loom, handloom, handicrafts, garmenting, value addition units, finishing and packaging units.

National & International News

Congress blames BJP as ex-Rajasthan MLA passes away after month-long hunger strike

PII Jaipur, Nov. 4: Former Janata Dal MLA Gurcharan Chhabra, who was on a fast unto death demanding liquor ban and strengthening of Lokayukta in Rajasthan, died at a hospital in Jaipur on Tuesday.

The 65-year-old Chhabra breathed his last at 4:30 am, said Additional Superintendent of SMS Hospital, Ajit Singh. He was in a coma for the past couple of days and put on ventilator support, Singh said.

In a statement, former Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot said the anti-liquor crusader died due to the "insensitive" attitude of the Rajasthan government. "Had Rajasthan Chief Minister (Vasundhara Raje) tried to meet him and persuaded him to end fast, Chhabra

might have been saved," Gehlot said. Rajasthan Medical and Health Minister, Rajendra Rathore visited the hospital

and paid his condolences. "A medical board of doctors which was formed yesterday to take care of Chhabra had

decided to airlift him to a hospital in Gurgaon but before that, he died," Rathore said.

Strong earthquake hits eastern Indonesia; no tsunami threat

PII Indonesia, Nov. 4: A strong earthquake struck off eastern Indonesia on Wednesday, causing people to flee their homes in panic, but there were no immediate reports of injuries or damage, and authorities said there was no threat of a tsunami. The magnitude-6.3 earthquake was centered 28 kilometers (17 miles) northeast of the Alor island chain in East Nusatenggara province, according to Indonesia's Meteorology and Geophysics Agency.

The US Geological Survey, which also put the magnitude at 6.3, said the quake had a depth of 14 kilometers (9 miles).

"The earthquake shook everything for about 11 seconds, causing people to run from their houses in panic," said Marthen Daud Ndauman, a government official on Alor, the island closest to the quake's epicenter. He said a lack of telecommunication networks in remote areas were making it difficult to get an immediate report of casualties or damage. The Meteorology and Geophysics

Agency said the quake did not have the potential to trigger a tsunami. Indonesia, the world's largest archipelago, is prone to seismic upheaval due to its location on the Pacific "Ring of Fire," an arc of volcanoes and fault lines encircling the Pacific Basin.

In December 2004, a massive earthquake struck off Sumatra island and triggered a tsunami that killed more than 230,000 people in a dozen countries, including 160,000 in Indonesia's westernmost province of Aceh.

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