

Editorial

Imphal, Saturday, October 31, 2015

'Transparency' only means to success Act East Policy

The erstwhile kingdom of Manipur with 2000 years of unique history and tradition, known to the rest of the country as the Jewel of India finally deserve the title with the coming of the country's look east policy and now converted into Act East Policy by Narendra Modi. The border state has now been boon with the Trans Asia High way which will connect the nation's capital with the rest of the South East Asian Countries. The nation's vision to get in touch with the South East Asian Countries under such initiative has added the real meaning of the term 'Jewel of India' at which the first Prime Minister of the country Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru slipped from his tongue when he first landed on the soil. The opening of the new policy on the other hand stands as a big challenge to the people of the state. Many multinational companies of the world will target the soil for setting up of their companies and trade centers as the state will possess tremendous potentials for development in the field. It may be simply the east meet west zone but the impact is horrible unless the state prepares to face all challenges. Even though Manipur stood in third in term of literacy rate people of the state don't seem to have understood well about the probable impact which might come as a result of the India's look east policy. This perhaps is due to lack of proper awareness from the side of the state government or some sort of interference to hinder the developmental process which is in midway. For decades the people of the state inhabiting at both side of the National High Way has been utilizing the high way for their immediate desires and goal. Bandh, Blockade and picketing has been a common phenomenon undergoing in the two high ways. Local people instead of looking ahead of development of the road condition have been creating hindrance to the developmental works at the influence of few vested interested persons. Since time immemorial, transportation stood as the main factor for success of the trade and commercial purposes. The state government has been taking up various projects and scheme under its department of commerce and industries. The already existed free trade between the Country the neighboring country Myanmar has already boosted the economy of the state. Even though minor problems of misunderstanding or perhaps put halt to the existing trade. The main result for the failure and the probabilities of putting into the pool of miseries on the arrival of India's Look East Policy now Act East Policy is or will be the lack of proper awareness of the developmental works. The various schemes of the Industries department being taken up at many district head quarters especially the Moreh (the Indian Border Town which connect the neighbouring country Myanmar) need to be highlighted to the people for mass awareness. Transparency is the only means to create awareness and for that a documentary based on the developmental works of the Government department in relation to the development of Commerce and Industries is believed to be the need of the hour.

What would Indira Gandhi ask Narendra Modi today?

Contd. from yesterday
On tackling communalism and maintaining peace

Indira Gandhi, on tackling communalism and maintaining peace, would ask, "We, as a nation, thought that the martyrdom of Gandhi ji had eliminated the poison of communalism, but today in 2015, there is a celebration of that poison of communalism. Why do you, Mr. Prime Minister Modi, keep quiet on the celebration of Mahatma Gandhi's assassination? How can you remain silent when the martyrdom of Mahatma is being ridiculed in a country which is under your Prime Ministership? Can you, as the Prime Minister of the nation of Mahatma, stop the celebration of ridiculing the Father of the Nation in India itself? If you do not stop, then for whom are you waiting to stop it? Are you waiting for the President of India to express his statement on it and say, "Kindly follow what our Rashtrapati ji has said," by standing on his shadow? I know you are a bold man, but I also want to see you as a bold Prime Minister of our nation. Mr. Prime Minister Modi, you keep talking about peace and development and it is also said that you were born in a weaker section, the Other Backward Classes, of society, but why do you not give special attention to the weaker sections of our country when they get killed, murdered, raped, beaten up, burnt, mocked at, humiliated and discriminated by intolerance in our own country? Where are your heart and soul of being with the weakest section of our society? Do you believe that your first duty is not to bring peace in the country by protecting them because you may have believed that the peace in our country is possible when only there is a development all over the country? How can you develop India without peace? How can you maintain peace without protecting the weakest of the country? How can you protect the weakest when you are silent on the intolerance which can never be

tolerated by the weakest? How can you remain so deeply tolerant on intolerance till now? Why do you not follow a zero tolerance towards intolerance in our country?" ["The poison of communalism has been there in our society for many years. We had thought that the martyrdom of Gandhi ji had eliminated this poison but we see how easily it bursts out again. You know that from my childhood I have been taught that special attention should be given to the weaker sections in our country - whether they are weak because of their numbers or because of poverty and backwardness. Our first duty is to protect them, help them and to raise them up, because only then can there be peace in our society." (At a turning point, from free rendering of the Independence Day speech of Indira Gandhi delivered in Hindi from the Red Fort, Delhi, August 15, 1980)] Indira Gandhi would further ask, "The circumstances of Gandhi ji's assassination led us to imagine that communalism would receive a death blow. But, in 1983, attempts were made to make political and economic capital from those things. But, today in 2015, why do you not act against the celebration of Mahatma Gandhi ji's assassination and glorification of the Bapu's assasin today under your Prime Ministership?" ["The circumstances of Gandhi's assassination led us to imagine that communalism would receive a death blow. But we see today that attempts are being made to make political and economic capital from these things." (Symbol of National Unity, from Indira Gandhi's inaugural address at the UrdU Conference on National Integration, New Delhi, September 6, 1983)] **On national integration and food habits** Indira Gandhi, on national integration and food habits, would ask, "Mr. Prime Minister Modi, you take pride in saying that you are from Sardar Vallabhai Patel's Gujarat, but do you only take pride in Sardar ji only or also in his

philosophy? Do not you think that for national integration to be alive and strengthened, there is a need for you, as the Prime Minister, to fight against the communal virus that destroys the climate of peace and harmony and creates fear and suspicion to our brothers and sisters of minorities? Why do you not you act against those who not only create communal tension by spewing communal venom but also claim that those minorities who have different kind of food habits must leave India and go to some other country? Have food habits of some minorities or sections of our own Indians become so intolerant even in your own Council of Ministers that your own silence, by not removing those who are so intolerant of some minorities' food habit from your own Council of Ministers, cannot justify that you, as the Prime Minister, stand with the entire population, irrespective of any food habit?" ["National integration has three major aspects. First, the removal of all vestiges of disabilities from the lives of the Scheduled Castes, Tribes and Backward Classes. Secondly, the fight against the communal virus and the creation of a climate in which minorities do not have fear or suspicion and can live in peace and harmony. And, thirdly, the total eradication of casteism or provincialism." (Ayyankali: Symbol of urge for equality, from Indira Gandhi's speech at the unveiling of a statue of the Harijan leader, Shri Ayyankali, Trivandrum, November 10, 1980)] Indira Gandhi, on national integration, would further ask, "If we can be and we are good Indians while being good Hindus or Muslims or Christians or Sikhs or members of any other religion, then why do not you, Mr. Prime Minister Modi, act against those who preach that all Indians are Hindus only? Do you reject that non-Hindu Indians are impossible? Is not the national integration an internal defence of our country?"

Do not you accept that the humankind's greatest enemy is violence? Do not you consider that any incidence of violence in anywhere in India brings a bad name to the nation as a whole? Why do not you act and speak strongly against any form of violence because violence only yields to more intolerance and it in turn becomes a source of intolerance further? Why do not you act swiftly when the basic values and ideals are being attacked by intolerance today in our society?" ["National integration is the internal defence of the country - the domestic and civilian counterpart of the work the defence services do to safeguard the territorial integrity of the nation. We can be and we are good Indians while being good Hindus or Muslims or Christians or Sikhs or members of any other religion. Violence is humankind's greatest enemy. The incidence of violence brings a bad name to the country as a whole... What is even more urgent and vital is that violence and the other tendencies which I have mentioned weakened the very fabric of the nation. Our problem is to take the message to others, to the doubters, to the fanatics, and most of all, to those who pay lip-service to national integration but do not accept it in their hearts. Sometimes we do not answer questions adequately because it is so much easier to be polite, it is so much easier to take the softer option. When basic issues are concerned, when basic values and ideals are being attacked, when people are being used, perhaps unwittingly, to weaken us, then is the time when every citizen must take the responsibility. Every citizen must feel that the future of his descendants is at stake. He must speak out in India and outside." (India's internal defence, from Indira Gandhi's inaugural address at the All-India National Integration Conference, New Delhi, January 12, 1984)] (To be contd.....)

More State news

Imo and Prithiviraj briefed Rahul Gandhi on major issues of Manipur

ITNews
Imphal, Oct 31: Two young legislators from the Congress Party were called upon for a meeting by Shri Rahul Gandhi, Vice President, AICC at his residence at 12, Tughlak Lane in New Delhi on October 28 (Wednesday). Shri Rajkumar Imo Singh, Honble MLA Sagolband AC and Shri M.Prithiviraj Singh, Honble MLA Moirang AC were personally invited for a closed door discussion with the congress Vice

President along with representatives from other states like Jharkhand, West Bengal. Though the topic of discussion varied from various national issues to state issues, the two young legislators spoke about various issues related to the state of Manipur and steps required to be taken up to strengthen the Congress Party in the run up to the next Assembly Election in 2017. During the meeting which lasted almost an hour, Shri RK Imo Singh on being asked to speak first, spoke on the development in recent months regarding the NSCN IM framework agreement signed with the GOL. He said that the Central leadership should be taking more leadership to put up this issue in the national level despite Shri Rahul Gandhi himself intervening in the Parliament. It is an issue which is so delicate that any agreement which could hurt the interest of Manipur would not be welcome in any manner. He requested Shri Rahul Gandhi to push the central government for the declaration of the said framework agreement to the general public in Manipur. Regarding the ILP issue, RK Imo Singh further stated that it is an issue which is very important to the people of Manipur where the state leadership along with the central leadership of the Congress Party should pursue the matter to the NDA government for the required assent as the State Assembly has already passed the Bill sometime back. The Chuachandpur issue was also discussed in depth where many lives were lost. The meeting also discussed the role of youth in the party for the forthcoming assembly election and the need for better understanding between the Block Unit of the Congress and the PCC for better understanding as this is the nodal point which is the foundation for the Congress Party.

Ngamthang Haokip opens the 10th Edition of District Level Football

Source: Herald Today
Senapati, Oct 31: The 10th Edition of District Level Football Tournament, 2015, organised by the Tumuyon Khullen Youth Club (TKYC) at Big R.S. Sirohi Ground, Tumuyon Khullen was opened by Ngamthang Haokip, Minister, IFCD, Printing and Stationary as the chief guest of the inaugural function on Thursday. Formerly called as Brig. Sirohi Trophy which was started way back in the year, 1985, the trophy was played under the sponsorship of the Indian Army for the youth clubs residing nearby and neighbouring villages up to the 8th edition. The 9th edition of the sports was turned into the district level and had organised last year after a gap of 5 years, said the President of the youth club. At present, the tournament is organised by the Tumuyon Khullen Youth Club with aids from the Assam Rifles, NYK, Senapati and the DYSO, Senapati by providing sports materials like balls, goal nets, materials for making tents beside the ground for players, etc. James Kelly, President of the TKYC asserted that the tournament was aimed to bring peace, love and mutual understanding among a neighbour who is living together with different communities of the region and that was how, the former trophy was turned to a district level tournament. The President also

pleaded the whole players to put their best in the play and come to know one another for better relationship among different communities of the region. Speaking as the chief guest of the program, Minister Ngamthang Haokip called the players as people who are fit and who could dare to do so many great things in life. Calling them as the most important and lucky persons, the minister said that a good player is always admired by both young and old. Moreover, they easily earn money as well as getting job privilege is easy for them whoever is good in sports and asked them to bring more laurels to the district with their different abilities. Education alone does not make a person perfect, the minister said and stressed on the importance of sports who should pursue to become a better sportsman with an earnest prayer to God. The minister also appreciated the organisers where people of different communities are brought together as one for better understanding as well as for better relationship that would bring peace to the people living in the region and asked the organisers to plan for even bigger tournament in future too. Feeling the need to promote and encourage the activities that would bring peace and development in the region, the minister said that he would plan to

set up a standard size ground within the Mayangkhang area where youth of the region could organise games involving different communities of the region from time to time. Later, the minister also distributed some red blankets to the headmen/chief of the Mayangkhang region. 18 teams including 1 from Thoubal district would play during the tournament till November 7. The first round is reported to play a league game for 3 rounds and would go the knock out in the quarter final. The program organisers said that teams coming Mao up to Kalapahar used to come and participate at the tournament whenever the games are conducted. **PREPAK nabbed**
ITNews
Imphal, Oct 31: Based on specific intelligence regarding movement of an OGW, troops of the 45 Assam Rifles of 9 Sector AR under the aegis of HQ IGAR (South) established a vehicle check post in general area Koirengei and apprehended an over ground worker of PREPAK on 29 Oct 2015. The apprehendee was identified as Moiranthem Sanajoiba Meitei, aged 27 years, S/o Late M Ranjit Meitei, resident of Khongman Atom Leirak, PO - Singamei, PS - Irilbung, Imphal East district. The apprehendee was handed over to the Heingang Police Station.

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