

Editorial

Tuesday, May 29, 2018

Double, double toil the trouble Erendro's arrest is not a wise decision

There was hectic debate among the journalists of the state on whether to publish press statement of organisations announcing bandh or blockade. The debate over whether or not to publish press statement which content calling of bandh or blockade began last four five years after mushrooming organisations in the state started releasing press statement of calling bandh or general strike for demands which are sometimes for the interest of some clique of persons but which disturbed majority of the people. The debate continues till today and many a times the journalist fraternity particularly the editors of media houses faced life threats for not publishing bandh called if it happened to be from armed underground groups.

An interim decision made by the journalists fraternity over the issue of whether or not bandh called be published was that if such announcement is made either by the UGs or the CSOs it's our right to inform the public that some group A, B or C etc. had called bandh or general strike on this or that day as per the present situation of the state. In a conflict torn region like Manipur where there exist a tendency to spark any form of violence between various group of community, we being the messenger need to inform such called to prevent crisis or misunderstandings. After all people of the state had witness certain such thing due to immediate bandh called which created lots of inconveniences to the general public.

When media houses published news items which called bandh or general strike in the state, it definitely does not mean that those in the media are supporting the bandh or general strike. But it is rather for the safety of the general public. To make the people taking up more preventive measures from causing harm while in case they have to travel out of necessities.

Well a video threatening to kill Manipuri people make by some group of people started spreading through social networking site whatsapp. The video finally spreads at other social networking site 'Facebook'. Coincidentally the video (which called themselves Biharis) started spreading in the aftermath of high tension between Biharis of Telipati area and some Meitei people over the issue of Khurai Ahongpung ritual site in Imphal East district.

The hate video was started sharing by many people who are in facebook and the intention of almost all those sharing the video was mostly condemnation of such barbaric act. Some question about the delay in arresting those who are featuring in the video while sharing the video.

Knowing the potential of spreading enmity between two communities, the police soon acted by arresting 6 people which they claimed to have been those spreading the video. Another politician Erendro Leichomba who had also shared the video asking the state authority on why it takes days to arrest those when it took just 24 hour who threatened to kill the son of the chief minister.

Except for one person, who masked his face with a piece of clothes, all the other 5 person seen in the video, can be easily recognised. The background setting at which the criminals shot the video can be also a big clue for those in the police department to find out the location. The video carries strong message which could give opportunity of criminals at other states of the region to commit any form of crime against our brothers and sisters who are residing at other parts of the country. (Police still fails to reveal on whether those arrested includes any person seen on the hate video)

Watching the video can also be good information for all those Manipuri staying outside the state as they will take more precautionary measures while staying at the place far from home. Even among the good Biharis who have been friends of the Manipuris for quite a long time, the video could be helpful in controlling any spread of violence.

Now, it is again the wisdom of the present government headed by N. Biren Singh. He was the son of the soil and has every knowledge about the courage of young bloods of the state. He knows Meiteis of the Manipur never put their anger to any specific community for any reason but the blame was over the failure of the authority in acting on time.

It is better that the present govt. remember how the privilege committee of the last state assembly remained helpless in considering on what action shall be taken up against Human Rights Activist Babloo Loitongbam after he refused to tender apology over his statement given to a local TV at which he criticised the timidity of the elected MLAs of that time. The final decision taken by the privilege committee was "ignore it for some times". The issue ended there.

Erendro, arrest and detention is not a sign of mature and wise governance. His staying in Sajiwa jail may become another hot issue as he is no fool and may utilised every means to expose what is really happening in the jail. This was a lesson learnt from the Chief Minister N. Biren Singh. He had exposed series of irregularities of Sajiwa Jail when he was arrested along with late Pabung Iboiyima in charge of seditious remark to the then government when he was the editor of a reputed local daily paper.

After all the son of the CM is also in the same prison .

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Over 60% Indian women compromise with routine activities during periods

everteen®, one of the partners of the global Menstrual Hygiene Day, has released the findings of its everteen® Menstrual Hygiene Survey 2018, which assessed the impact of periods on a woman's lifestyle and work, and had participation from 2128 women from 85 Indian cities. Nearly 65% of the women were in the 19 to 35 years age while 26% women were aged 36 to 50 years. Initiated in 2013, Menstrual Hygiene Day (MH Day) is a global platform supported by organizations like UNICEF and USAID to raise awareness of the challenges faced by women and girls worldwide due to menstruation and highlights solutions to address such challenges. The theme for MH Day 2018 is empowering women and girls through MHM.

Contrary to popular belief, the everteen® Menstrual Hygiene Survey 2018 reveals that **price is no longer the primary determining factor for women in India** while choosing a sanitary product. More than 95% women said that comfort, quality and health mattered the most to them. Ironically, while comfort emerged as the primary concern (52.1%), most of the women have not been actively on the lookout for new sanitary products that can make their periods more comfortable. Almost **83% women said they have not even tried to search for new sanitary products** in over a year. Nearly 52% women have not changed sanitary product in 2 or more years.

As many as **46% of the women respondents said they did not know which product was used most often by women in developed countries** such as the U.S. and U.K., highlighting that even urban, digital-savvy women are not fully aware of the new sanitary options available today, because of which they have to suffer a larger impact of periods in their career, social and personal life. Nearly **58% women claimed menstrual periods directly impacted their productivity**, with more than 49% women not being able to focus on work during periods. More than 8.4% women even said that they were criticized for not performing their tasks properly during periods. **46% working women had to take a leave from work due to periods**, out of which nearly 40% took leaves more than 3 times in the year.

Menstrual periods also have a significant impact on a woman's personal life and confidence. **60% of the physically active women said they are not able to pursue outdoor activities** such as swimming, yoga, gym, exercise and dancing during periods. One-third of the women who attend social and personal engagements such as family functions, parties and dates said they are not free to do so during menstrual periods. A high **79% of the women said periods impacted their choice of clothes and the way they dress**.

Says Hariom Tyagi, CEO of Wet & Dry Personal Care, "The need of the hour is complete feminine intimate hygiene with nearly 49% of the women reporting of vaginal infection and discomfort during periods more than once in the last one year and over 42% women suffering from it more than three times."

While sanitary pads continue to be the product of choice (92%), more modern methods of menstrual hygiene continue to gain ground where about **7% of Indian urban women have switched to tampons and menstrual cups**. However, with a majority relying on traditional methods, periods still manage to steal the peace of mind for more than 70% of Indian women. Out of

these, 22% women claimed they worry a lot about staining or spotting on clothes. 66% women said they felt irritated or depressed during menstrual periods.

This is the third Menstrual Hygiene Survey conducted by everteen® as part of its commitment to create accurate awareness on good menstrual hygiene. Its 2017 survey with Women's Health Organization revealed that at least 43% of women did not have ready access to sanitary essentials at the beginning of their periods. As many as 67% women have had to borrow a sanitary essential from a friend, colleague or family member. More than 45% women felt that menstruation was still considered a taboo in the Indian society and 36% felt uncomfortable while buying sanitary essentials from a chemist shop in the presence of other customers. The 2014 everteen® Menstrual Hygiene Survey revealed that 70% of the married women aged 25-35 years suffered from abnormal discharge at least once in a year, but only 50% women were comfortable discussing intimate problems even with their partners. Only 30% women said they consulted a gynecologist upon symptoms.

Earlier this year, everteen® donated sanitary products for 50 underprivileged girl performers at



The World Menstrual Hygiene Day is celebrated on May 28th every year to educate women across the world about the need and importance of menstrual hygiene. Menstrual hygiene is probably the one thing no woman should ignore at any cost.

a cultural event on women empowerment sponsored by India's Ministry of Culture. Trusted by customers from around the globe, everteen® offers India's largest range of quality feminine hygiene products including feminine

intimate wipes, feminine hygiene wash, applicator tampons, menstrual cups, sanitary pads, daily pantyliners, bikini hair remover crème and natural vaginal tightening and revitalizing gel. everteen® products have been used by customers in more than 150 countries.

About Wet & Dry Group: Established in 2013, Wet & Dry Personal Care is a privately-held fast growing healthcare and wellness company headquartered in New Delhi, India. The company is born out of a passion for creating innovative products and solutions for the evolving consumer needs. Backed by almost 50 years of cumulative experience of a highly qualified and professional team specializing in healthcare, research, beauty, fitness, wellness and communications, W&D believes that mankind has an enormous untapped potential that can be realized through optimum functionality of their self. W&D offers ethical, relevant, rational and scientific solutions that help elevate performance. W&D products are sold across India and internationally through leading online stores. All W&D products adhere to stringent safety and quality standards and are manufactured at government-approved facilities in India and USFDA and CE approved facilities abroad. For more information, please visit: <http://www.w-d.co.in/>



Picture courtesy - Wet & Dry Group

- Lack of awareness magnifies impact of periods even among urban digital-savvy women in India despite advancements and product innovation.
- 46% women not aware of most commonly used sanitary product in developed countries; 83% women have not searched for new options in over a year.
- More than 74% women feel uncomfortable in changing sanitary product at common toilets in public places including cinemas, offices and malls; 58% experienced direct impact on productivity