

Editorial

Imphal, Tuesday, December 22, 2015

Selection blues

The process of selecting the best for a particular task has been an inherent process of nature itself, from which man, with the passage of time polished and refined it to become what is known as a formal selection process. At present, the process has been divided into stages in order to test and evaluate every aspect of a candidate, the objective being to choose the best available person who can handle a particular task. The process therefore has become a universally adopted method of separating those with potentials from the rest - the wheat from the chaff. Right from the time a child is sought admission in a school to those instances when only the extraordinary minds and skills are sought for extraordinary tasks, various methods are being applied as per the level of expertise required. The result, as expected, is one which gives the best possible candidate or candidates. However, selection processes in Manipur for various posts and positions has always been mired in controversies. There have been uncountable unfortunate incidents, perhaps more than anyone would care to remember, where such selection processes, instead of providing opportunities to deserving candidates, have turned out to be an act which have destroyed their careers and futures. Legal wrangles, allegations of misdeeds by authorities, inexplicable delays in announcement of results and even cancellations of the entire selection processes has been seen as an intrinsic part of the process and is becoming an increasingly frequent phenomena in the state. As a result, numerous important and vital posts and positions in public administration have been remaining vacant, some for almost a decade without the hope of having them filled by competent individuals. Delays in dispensing of public work, unnecessary over looping of tasks and authorities, break in the chain of procedures and resulting repetition of frustrating procedures are some of the everyday hazards faced by the public when dealing with any government department or agency. Such a custom have been so deeply ingrained in the workings of public administration that it has come to be institutionalized in the system. And while the public, incidentally for whom these selection processes are being carried out are left to fend for themselves against the onslaught of red-tapism and bureaucratic hurdles, there still is no sign of the government waking up to the reality on the ground. Its' handling of public agitations and protests regarding the issue over the years have raised more questions than answers. What keeps the authorities conducting these selection tests from announcing the results within a reasonable and acceptable time-frame as announced? Why is the government not taking stringent actions against those incompetent heads of departments who are incapable of performing their duties? Despite the slips and reported loopholes in numerous selection procedures, why are such controversies still rampant? Is the state government incapable or merely uninterested in finding ways to conduct a fair and transparent selection procedure given the advancement in technology? The only way out of this administrative quagmire is to find answers to these vexing questions by the government itself.

6 dead, 3 wounded after Taliban suicide bomber attacks US troops in Kabul

Kabul, Dec. 22: A motorcycle-riding Taliban suicide bomber killed six US soldiers near Kabul Monday, in a brazen attack as the resurgent militant group battled to seize a key southern district in Afghanistan's opium-growing heartland. The bombing during a joint patrol with Afghan forces near Bagram, the largest US military base in Afghanistan, marks one of the deadliest attacks on foreign troops in the country this year.

The Taliban claimed responsibility for the assault, which underscores a worsening security situation a year after Nato formally ended its combat operations in Afghanistan. "It is with deep regret that I learned today that six US service members died in Afghanistan Monday," US Defense Secretary Ashton Carter said in a statement, adding that three others were wounded, including an American contractor.

WHENEVER YOU SEE CONSTRUCTION AND MINING EQUIPMENTS, JUST THINK OF US
A SOLUTION FOR EVERY CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT



Automobile Engineering Works-1
B K WORKSHOP
New Checkdon 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.
For advertisement kindly contact : -
0385-2452159 (O)

The Cave Born Tribes of Manipur and Tangkhul Literature

*O, tui hi laniijilo
Li hi tunijilo,
Aydningkathemvayoi!
O, sakazako,
Itholpeidaphokralo
(C. Chiphang)*

Free Translation in English
*O, say word is song,
O say song is word (History).
O Western educated girl!
O sing merrily,
Continue to sing till the end of the world.*

The Tangkhuls live mainly in Ukhrul district. They also scatter in the neighbouring districts like Senapati, Thoubal, Chandel in Manipur and Somra tract in Myanmar. Geographical area of Ukhrul district is about 4544 sq.km. which is bounded by Myanmar on the east, Nagaland on the north and Chandel district of Manipur on the south. According to T. Luikham (1961, reprint 2013: 41-42), the Tangkhuls were originally living in Mongolia and migrated to Hsawngshup (now Thangdut) or Samsok and came to the present land. There are a number of folk songs relating the migration of the Tangkhuls from Samsok to their present habitat. A folk song, Miwula (song of Origin) runs thus:

*O khilitunglo...?
O Ava Samsokitungthuiya
O Makanganaliphungshok,
O Makanganaliphungshang,
O Naganangavafanghmyia
O mala mangmigiaga
O ili rai phamuya
YaNgachangchihi
O rom ungapehi
O Shokvaolunghoyam
O unganloinaoshang
O Meizailungli O meingayay
O HunghunAvakhararvo
O LongpiKajupavRonravo...
O Thisom (Tusom) raravapetya
O MaremKalhang
(Sung by C. Sano, T. Luikham,
R. Luikham and others)*

Free Translation in English
*O where are you from (originally)?
O we originated from Burma Samsok
O Makanga carried me on the back
O Makanga supported me by the hand
O Nagananga handled the Hound
O leading the way as an archer
O guarding me in front*

*Reached the Manipur valley
O opened the packed rice (and shared)
O shouted at Shokvao
O cross the ocean my son Ashang
O distributed fire at Meizailung
O HunphunPatriach
O you LongpiKajui and Ronra...
O Marem and Kalhang (villages)
O reaching ThisomTusomrara.*

From the above Tangkhul folksong when the Tangkhuls passed through the Manipur valley, they did not come across any human settlement in it. The migration wave theory according to M. K. Shimray (1967:6-8), Shokvao-Hunghun-Meizailung Group (*trans. mine*) "... reached Marem, but as land was too small for the large group, some group went towards the south and moved towards Luithar and assembled at Khambiching. Again since land was too limited for the big populace, the chief of the group called the clansmen and told them that they had to search for more lands. Those who excelled in arrow shooting went towards the south and those went towards the south were the Marings and Anals. It is said that to mark that they reached the north and made U-turn they performed Kapkhayang ritual, observing the omens whether good or bad from the splits of bamboo and Harkhokhang observing the position of the feet a cock or a hen, they performed the ritual on the left hand.

Another group who went towards the north reached Makhel, the Maos and Marams settled there but the Tangkhuls went towards the east and settled at Phungcham and dispersed from there. The Kabuis were divided into two: those who went towards the south were called Rongmei and towards the north Liangmei. And the Kabui who went towards the east with Tangkhuls were called Kambiron who once settled near the present Sirrangkhong village but after some years they moved again to join their group and settled near the Liangmeis in the present Tamenglong area.

In the tales and songs of the Nambashivillage it is said that they were originally living in Mongolia. When coming out of Mongolia they were a large group of people, so they divided themselves into groups and moved group by group and passed through Thailand. The first group/

groups left some signs for the next groups, but many went to some other direction and the groups could not come together in one place. So the phrase 'Dardouy Lam-mong' (Dardouy losing track), the first known track of the Dardouy was reaching Burma and came to KulkungKuirel and Inching valley (Ningthi river) then reached Angkoching and then reached Samsok, then crossing Kontang country and from here to Mongsa valley and then finally came to Phungrei hills, Manipur. Crossing the Tuyungbi river and Tarelok the Dardouy chief buried an axe on the 'Hailokthil' the crossing road of the present Khunthak village and Tarong village as his boundary and moved towards the north to see if they could find a better place, and reached Imphal valley. Here is a tale which claims that the Nambashi people were once living at KomKeithel near the present Nungou thong (Samumakhong), the king and the elephant's statue, they erected a stone there (they claim the stone on the southern side of the present Johnstone Hr. Sec. School and in front of the State Museum). When the king constructed the bridge, the god of the river asked for a Hungyo (Luwang in Meitei clan) man. The king invited the Hungyo chief in the foundation laying ceremony and tricked him to retrieve a smoking pipe from the pit which was dug for the main pillar. When the innocent Hungyo chief tried to do as he was told, he was pushed inside the pit and became a sacrificial animal. Then the wife of the Hungyo chief called her clansmen and people and told them that they could not any longer live there as it was also infested by mosquitoes and wild animals and pleaded that they should go up to the hills. And one day the Nambashis went to the river for fishing, the wife who lost her husband found a stone, Shumpan which can be used for pounding rice. If a basket of paddy was pounded on the stone Shumpan, the wife would get the wife would get double. Thereafter the people went up to the hills and established a village at Leishi. Since land was too limited for the big populace, the chief of the group called the clansmen and told them that they had to search for more lands. Those who excelled in arrow shooting went southwards and who were good at spear throwing went towards the north. The stone Shumpan which was found at Nungou thong was left at Leishi village. (This group is better known as Kham-Lunghapho Khambi village which include the Tangkhuls living in the south and the Maring, Moyon, Monsang, Lamkang, Anal, Aimol, etc. of Chandel District which have the Kham element of calling their first born son as Moba, second son as Koba, third Thamba, fourth Miba, fifth Tiba and sixth Yomba. And the eldest daughter as Tinnu, second Tonn so and so forth. The Kham-Lungha group called themselves as MoTi people. The legend has it that

By: Dr. H. Shimrengam
Asst. Professor, Dept. of English
William Pettigrew College, Ukhrul

Poreiton journeyed along the southern Tangkhul, Maring and Anal areas as they were his kinsmen.) The people who moved out of this place lovingly murmured Leishi, Leishi (meaning love in Tangkhul), so the village was called Leishi. They reclaimed the Nambashi hill ranges which they marked during their journey from Samsok up to the Imphal valley by crossing the Tuyungbiriver. Today old Maring folk songs which they themselves could not understand the meaning are clearly understood by the Nambashi people. The Meitei king called the Dardouy people as Leimashel but when the British camped at Leimashel village, the name of the village was changed to Nambashi village. The Imphuc community of Zeiianrong group and the Nambashi village of Ukhrul District have close cultural affinity.

There are tales which claim that the early Tangkhuls came out of a cave. There was a tiger at the gate of the cave and killed every man who came out. There was a brave man who killed the tiger with his arrow. After the tiger was killed all the people came out of the cave. In old books of the Tangkhuls other Naga tribes of Manipur which came out of cave include: Maring, Kabui, Mao, Aimol, Anlo, Chotche, Lamkang, Moyon, Monsang, Tarao, Thangal, Maitei (originally the Tangkhuls called Maitei for Meitei and Matei by Hungdung village meaning 'our people'), etc. According to Y.L. Shimmi (2013:5), "Three Tangkhul Naga villages namely, Khangkhui, Raashoaram and Enouram, the last two, in Hungdung village tell the legends of Mongsoor cave and the Mangva cave... The Kathur Tangkhuls have managed to identify at least cave named Mangsoor. The legend runs that Mangsoor lived on earth while his neighbour, the king of the sky world lived above his dwelling. They lived near each other. This is known as Pro-Australoid concept as South-east Asia is generally the earth where humans live. In pre-history, the Mongoloids were regarded by Proto-Australoids to be the people of the sky world. Then the legend of Mangva reveals that Mangsoor had relatives in the south. It is therefore believed that the cave named Mangsoor originated from the south and probably belonged to the Anyathian culture of the Ningthi valley in Burma. Moreover as the three villages are able to tell the legends of the two caves, it is believed that the Proto-Australoids cave men were absorbed in the local populations. The Angom clan of Meitei community traced their origin from Khangkhui cave of Ukhrul District.

Courtesy: Centre for Manipur Studies, Manipur University
(To be contd.....)

National & International News

BSF plane explodes in fireball near Delhi airport, all 10 troopers killed; probe ordered




PTI
New Delhi, Dec. 22: A Border Security Force (BSF) aircraft crashed near Dwarka in Delhi on Tuesday, killing all 10 people on board.

The plane burst into flames just outside the Indira Gandhi International Airport here shortly after take-off. Aviation sources said the accident at Bagdola village near Sector-8 Dwarka happened at around 9:50 am when the twin-engine Superking plane crashed into the airport boundary wall near a railway track and landed in a sewage treatment plant while returning back apparently due to a technical problem five minutes after it took off for Ranchi.

The aircraft lost contact with the Air Traffic Control at 9:50 am, they said. Minister of State for Civil Aviation Mahesh Sharma has ordered a probe into the incident. "It is unfortunate that all 10 people including the pilots have died in the crash," Sharma said. There were two pilots on board. "It is a matter of probe what led to the crash. We can only tell after the inquiry what were the reasons or lapses resulted in this incident," he added. After briefing Prime Minister Narendra Modi about the crash, Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh rushed to the crash site to take stock of the situation. Delhi's Lt Governor Najeib Jung also visited the site.

Traffic Control at 9:50 am, they said. Minister of State for Civil Aviation Mahesh Sharma has ordered a probe into the incident.

"It is unfortunate that all 10 people including the pilots have died in the crash," Sharma said. There were two pilots on board. "It is a matter of probe what led to the crash. We can only tell after the inquiry what were the reasons or lapses resulted in this incident," he added. After briefing Prime Minister Narendra Modi about the crash, Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh rushed to the crash site to take stock of the situation. Delhi's Lt Governor Najeib Jung also visited the site.



REGIONAL INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES, IMPHAL-795004
(An Autonomous Institute under the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of India)

NOTIFICATION
Imphal, the 21st Dec., 2015

No. B/2943/2013-RIMS (Pt-I): It is hereby notified that any member of the public having information and material evidence relating to the alleged leakage of question papers for the written examination for recruitment of Staff Nurse in RIMS, Imphal held on 12th Dec., 2015 may submit the information in writing and copies of the material evidence to the office of the undersigned during office hours on or before 23rd Dec., 2015.

This is an extension of the time frame of 48 hours set earlier in connection with the above matter,

Sd/-
(Prof. S. Rita Devi)
Director
Regional Institute of Medical Sciences
Imphal