

Editorial

Imphal, Wednesday, April 20, 2016

Pampering with promises

The practiced élan with which the heads of state government presented various plans and promises would make even the most hardened skeptics doubt themselves, even if for a fleeting moment. It would not be an exaggeration to state that some of these seasoned career politicians and polished administrators have even managed to elevate the very act of dishing out hopes and promises to a form of art. The dismayingly believable farce still continues without any signs of abating or letting up, in all probability because of the utter lack of alternative, or more disturbingly, because these hopes are the only thing left with the public which have for so long been deprived of their prerogative to experience progress and better life. During the course of our lives, we have been promised every single thing that these dream merchants could possibly think of, without anything to show for it, and yet we still linger tantalizingly on their progress, or the lack of it, for that matter, all the while clutching on to our hopes and dreams, like the proverbial drowning man desperately clutching on to a straw as the last resort. The ground reality could not have been any more different. We have been witnessing and experiencing the jolts of shocks of annoyingly erratic spurts of what one can only be termed as pathetic attempts at projecting efforts towards development and progress. This continuing mismatched efforts and haphazard attempts have undeniably revealed a disconcerted and disconnected system of administration and governance which is further dragging down the state and holding back from the increasingly competitive global race towards development and technological advancements. The most disturbing part, however, is that the long suffering public, inspite of its inherent wish to embrace development and progress, seemed to have subconsciously resigned to the fact that such progress and development that have been made possible in other parts of the country will forever remain tantalizingly out of reach for the common public. The widening chasm between the influential and the powerful on the one hand, and the general public without the privilege of connections and contacts on the other, bears testimony to the growing social fracture. Nothing can wish away the stark reality being faced by the common public when it comes to carrying out basic daily chores which should be just that-routine daily chore, but has now been made into an unceasing struggle. The only way to pull the society out of the rut is to adopt radical ways of thinking and doing things. For this to happen, the collective mindset, especially of those who have been sworn to govern and administer the state must synch with that of the public. Coming clean on all issues, building trust, maintaining transparency and practicing impartiality will go a long way in bringing about that much needed positive turnaround. Tuning down on unrealistic promises and putting a halt on the proven and much effective practice of pampering with false hopes would be the most appropriate first step towards the right direction.

ADMIT CARD LOST

I have lost my Admit Card of Class-XI, Roll no.20983 of 2016 issued by Council of Higher Secondary School Education Manipur on the way between Yairipok to Thoubal Kshetri,Leikai on 14th April,2016.

Finders are requested kindly handover the same to the undersigned.

SD/-
GITA KHANGEMBAM
D/O- K.SHYAM
of Yairipok Kekru
Mobile no. 8415032282

Pass book lost

I, the undersigned have lost my pass book of SBI Porompat branch bearing account no. 30811669841 on the way between Khyathong to B.T Road Imphal on 18/04/2016.

Finders are requested to kindly hand over it to the undersigned.

Sd/-
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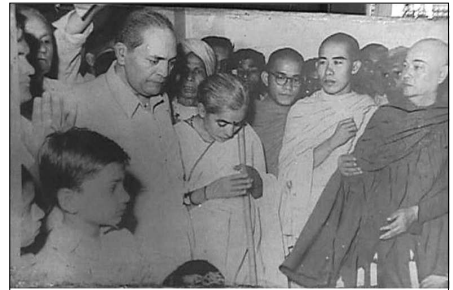
Did Ambedkar choose logic over Buddhism?

By-Ningambam Bupenda Meitei

Celebrating 125th birthday of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar by Jawaharlal Nehru National Youth Centre, New Delhi, a talk – “The life and thought of Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar” – by Professor Ashok Vohra, who retired as the head of the Department of Philosophy at University of Delhi, was organised today. Chairing the talk, the Centre’s Founder President, N. D. Tiwari, the former Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand, also gave an inaugural speech remembering Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar.

I, being an old student of the speaker – Prof. Vohra, was invited for the talk. While listening to his talk and subsequent arguments, opinions and questions from the audience, I became inquisitive to question whether it was “logic” that motivated Ambedkar the more or “Buddhism” that inspired him the most. Which one was of most interestingly significant in his choosing of his life’s principles – logic or Buddhism? Whether Ambedkar’s mind was influenced internally and deeply by “logic” and displayed explicitly and externally by embracing “Buddhism”? Was his mind internalized by “Buddhist

logic” or “Logic” of the Greeks? Was he anti-Hindu because of logic or because he wanted to embrace Buddhism? Was he also not equally anti – “not- Buddhism” religion, in the domain of religions? Was he accepting Buddhism or the logic, not based on belief systems, of Buddha? Was he in search of “logic” or “religion”? Can any religion be a product of logic? Were the arguments and philosophical debates of Buddha to be treated as the basis on which the foundation of a religion – Buddhism – was formed? Did Buddha really make an attempt to invent his religion or the religion, which we and Ambedkar call as “Buddhism”? Is “Buddhism” also the religion of “Buddha” himself or the religion developed and evolved by the followers of Buddha and his recorded discourse? Did Ambedkar embrace Buddha, the logical man, or Buddhism, the religion established by the followers of Buddha based, primarily, on the teachings of Buddha? Did Ambedkar embrace Buddhism by looking at Buddha or the religion “Buddhism”? The classical contradiction, today, in terms of political principal ideology of the school of the Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who



2500th Buddha Jayanti celebrations at Ambedkar Bhavan, New Delhi. From left are Mr. Shankranand Shashtri, Dr. Ambedkar, Mrs. Savita Ambedkar and Buddhist monks. Dr. Ambedkar is scarcely seen without spectacles as he is here. Source: Ministry of External Affairs, India.

already has embraced Ambedkar, is that the supporter and protector of Hindu religion and its ancient religious texts has become the public proponent of celebrating Ambedkar’s ideas which were to destroy the ancient religious texts of Hindu religion and ridicule the *Rig Veda*, the *Mahabharata*, the *Ramayana*, etc. If Modi is a product of the anti – Ambedkar’s philosophy, then Modi’s embracing of Ambedkar in public is to be either read as Modi is merely playing the role of hypocrite on a stage for a vote bank politics, or, he is compelled to praise Ambedkar because he too has become the Prime Minister by taking the oath on the Constitution which was drafted by Ambedkar. Is Modi pretending, even if he really intends to do, to love Ambedkar publicly not causing a great fundamental and ideological destruction of his own school which made him to be the Prime Minister today? How can a weak school of his ensure the return of him as the next Prime Minister in 2019? Prof. Ashok Vohra wrote on ‘why

Ambedkar chose Buddhism” , published by Daily Pioneer, in which he discussed about why Ambedkar chose only Buddhism and not other religions like Islam or Christianity too. The argument, today, could further go beyond, asking why Ambedkar also not chose Sikhism, Jainism, Zoroastrianism, Taoism, etc., or animism or nature worship or agnosticism or Karl Marx. Logic, which is predominant, in Buddha was the driving force to pull him towards Buddhism. If Ambedkar accepted Buddhism because he understood that “Buddha’s dhamma” was the best and the most scientific religion was found in Buddhism, then the question is also – whether or not was Ambedkar influenced by scientism or rather, physics – the study of nature? The larger debate could be whether logic made what Ambedkar was or Buddhism makes what Ambedkar is. If Ambedkar comes back today, which one will be attend first – the lecture on logic or preaching of Buddhism?



Prof. Ashok Vohra flanked by N. D. Tiwari and Prof. Manjula Saxena

Natl. News

Train services to begin in Tripura this month

PTI Agartala, April 20: Passenger and goods train services from Tripura to rest of the country will start this month, an official said today. The Railway Ministry has already sent sanction letter for plying goods train from this month up to Jirania, near here, and the state asked the Food Corporation of India (FCI) to take steps for unloading foodgrains in the Jirania station, Tripura Transport Secretary Samarjit Bhowmick said. Besides, the Kanchanjanga Express would also be operational from here as an originating station from this month, he said. The ministry has also agreed to start passenger trains from here to Silchar from April, Bhowmick said. Tripura came to the broad gauge railway map in March this year. The first goods train reached here on a trial run on February 22 from Assam’s Badarpur town.

1 killed, 2 injured

PTI Ara, April 20: An 18-year-old boy was killed and two other members of a marriage party were injured after being hit by bullets during celebratory firing at a wedding in a village of Bihar’s Bhojpur district. The incident occurred late last night at a house in Chhauva village when one Sanjay Ram opened fire from his licensed weapon to celebrate the rituals ahead of the departure of his brother’s marriage party, District Magistrate Virendra Prasad Yadav said. The celebratory firing soon turned tragic as the bullets hit three persons who were rushed to Sadar hospital, where one of them succumbed to injuries, he said, adding the deceased has been identified as Rajkumar.

Govt. of Manipur Directorate of Youth Affairs & Sports Khuman Lampak, Imphal

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Sealed tender is invited by Directorate of Youth Affairs & Sports, Khuman Lampak, Imphal from reputed Manufacturers or Authorized distributors/suppliers for supply of mattresses with minimum annual turnover of Rs.50.00 lakhs (Rupees Fifty Lakhs during the last three preceding years duly certified by C.A and preferably having minimum three years of experience in supplying to the Government or public Sector Undertaking for award of contract for supply of mattresses to the Directorate of Youth Affairs & Sports, Khuman Imphal for a period of 1 (One) year which can be extendable up to 1 (one) more year with mutual agreement. The interested / intending parties may give their competitive rate (inclusive of all taxes like Excise, CST, VAT/ Sale Tax/Freight Charge etc; for Directorate of Youth Affairs & Sports, Govt of Manipur, Khuman Lampak, Imphal) and other relevant documents/ Information in the prescribed Tender Form

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| 2. | Last Date of Sale of Tender Documents | 02/05/2016 |
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