

Editorial

Imphal, Tuesday, April 26, 2016

The grand opera continues

The ardent appeal by the chief minister to all concern authorities to implement the Food Security Act in the state in an efficient and transparent manner rings so true and earnest. As always, the verbiage is one which raise hopes and paints a picture of fairness and positivity, especially at a time when the state is reeling under the vagaries of nature, with many of the places battling the storms, hails and the lightning strikes, not to mention the barely suppressed loathsome anticipation of a possible tremor as predicted by the experts. The Act, like so many before, should be hailed as a remarkable turn of events for the millions of citizens surviving at a subsistence level, with neither the means nor the hope of any improvement in their lives as their immediate and sole concern is the next meal. It is nothing short of a force multiplier for a state where a majority of the residents are still engaged in farming and allied agricultural activities in that the efforts and precious resources including the increasingly limited available arable land which was utilized for cultivation of paddy until now can henceforth be used for cultivation of more profitable cash crops thus opening up opportunities and avenues for financial and social improvement. The act, if delivered as promised, will also embolden the people of the state to attempt newer and innovative ideas of earning thus promoting the growth of entrepreneurship and innovative thinking. There still is, despite the ruckus and brouhaha over the implementation of the much anticipated act, a lingering doubt on the minds of the public over the proper implementation of such a beneficial and empowering act. For one, the public have not been able to repose their trust and confidence on the state government till now, for obvious reasons, and some more of the not-so obvious ones as well. The most recent incident reinforcing the hesitation of the public towards the much touted activities and achievements of the state government is the crumbling plaque at the Khongjom war memorial complex which depict the historic and memorable event just three days after inauguration by none other than the President of the country. While the irony is not lost on anybody, the state government, instead of moving heaven and earth to find the one or ones responsible as the case may be and handing out due punitive measures, chose to go one up by ignoring the crass negligence and trying to divert attention on the launching function of the Food Security Act. That the launching of the very act is subtly yet distinctly portrayed as an achievement in itself speaks volumes of the practiced theatrics and polished deception honed over the last three terms of governance and administration. While the chief minister and his deputy might very well be earnestly striving for progress and development of the state through the various beneficial schemes and acts, the undeniable fact remains that almost all of these have turned out to be a farce for the implementing authorities and officials for the highest personal cut, rendering such schemes and acts an exercise in futility for the common man. In all probability, a stricter and consistent monitoring of the methods of implementation would ensure desired results.

At least four policemen killed in Afghanistan

AN **Kabul, April 26:** At least four policemen were killed and four others were injured in a Taliban attack in Afghanistan's southern Helmand province. TOLONews has reported that the attack took place on Monday in Gereskh district of the province after the Taliban attacked a police

outpost and engaged in clashes. This was confirmed later by District Governor Salim Rodi. There is no exact information on Taliban casualties, Rodi was quoted, as saying. This latest incident comes as security forces are currently embroiled in 15 military operations in seven provinces.

Certificate lost

I, the undersigned have lost my original certificate for Graduation (B.A. General) issued by the Manipur University bearing Roll No. 642004 of 2008 (registration No. 2042/2002) on the way between Singjamei to Manipur University on April 20, 2016.

Finders are requested to hand over it to the undersigned.
Sd/-
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Gender comes next

- You are a Founder and a Visionary

Sipping a cup of tea on a breezy afternoon, I was waiting for a phone call from an interviewer who had to clarify some questions with me. I hardly prepared for this interview as I didn't know what to expect and spontaneity is anyway better to me any day!

At the launch of our website (www.gojilove.com) we really worked hard on the business plan and then execution was interesting, yet harder in the existing market as people or in that matter, vendor were hard to be explained on how we wanted to tie up or do business with them.

Some are encouraging, some are so disappointing and few of them didn't take me seriously enough. Some gets flirty and sent messages, maybe it's not their fault or maybe they have not seen women doing business like I have since my childhood within my family and community in my hometown, Imphal.

Cutting short to the interview: How do you feel to be a WOMEN ENTREPRENEUR?

Ok, I pause for almost 2-3 seconds, as I never thought of this, like men or women or ENTREPRENEUR in that matter. Suddenly I felt quite lonely and started thinking about being a woman entrepreneur.

My simple logic was I had faced so many problems while starting up, like convincing my parents about leaving my job and starting up on my own or registering my website as a company and motivating my team everyday. Everyday was a make or break day but never ever thought of being so called or to be a Woman entrepreneur. I didn't have a moment to think about this or nobody make

me realize that I was a woman who was trying to do a man's role.

Nothing was wrong or is wrong with that question too:

I answered that I faced problems like every other ENTREPRENEURS must have faced, from convincing their family and other factors like vendor management, day to day operations, running around in those crowded whole-sale market for buying packaging items or talking to Brand managers/Directors/Owners or distributors for brand association and the list goes on...

Indeed only one thing crossed my mind after the interview; will investors give discounts in my traction numbers or investment calculation shown while pitching to them for funds if I am a woman?

I smile and hear myself saying, that's not fair to me who have come so far with all the hard work, zeal and passion and also for every guy who have worked their a** off to reach wherever they are now.

Let's be fair..

The fact is you are a Founder, Inspiration and Visionary to many people or the youth in India and the world. India needs more people who have amazing idea, models and new emerging BUSINESSES. India needs more men and women or new talent in small villages, towns, and cities to boost up or strengthen the economy. It's not about gender now. Rather, be a person who is passionate, willing to work out of box and go extra mile, and then diversity, gender equality will balance itself, as we all are responsible to our economic development. We are more than gender equality and we are ready to take it or roll it on.

Let's be that Spark first!!!



The writer - Ramina Haorokcham is Founder and CEO of www.gojilove.com. Graduated in Bot.Hns from Daulat Ram College (University of Delhi) Holds a PG diploma in Advertising and PR (IIMC, JNU Campus, New Delhi) MBA from HULT International Business School. She is a marketing person and loves the insights on consumer behavior and a foodie who experiments new cuisines on her free time. Manipuri food, African food and SE Asian food are her favorites.

*This is in collaboration of Imphal times with Ms Ramina Haorokcham-Entrepreneur and founder of www.gojilove.com, an initiation to encourage entrepreneurship among younger generation and share her own experiences and insights if they can help other entrepreneur and aspiring ones.

Natl. News

Museum blaze: Fire safety mechanism was 'not functioning'

PTI **New Delhi, April 26:** The fire safety mechanism of the National Museum of Natural History in FICCI building was "not functioning" which could have controlled the fire that broke out in the wee hours today, fire service officials said.

"The fire safety systems were there but they were not functioning at the time when we tried to operate them. Had they been working, the fire would have been curtailed at the earliest time," Deputy Fire Chief Rajesh Panwar said.

"Had the fire system been working it would be easier to control the fire at the earliest time because we had to depend on our resources only," he said.

The flames have been completely doused and other buildings in FICCI auditorium are safe. Only the National Museum of Natural History building has been damaged, the official said.

The fire which broke out on the top floor of the museum at around 1.45 AM, located in FICCI Building at Mandi House, where some repair work was underway and quickly spread to lower floors of the building, damaging the specimens kept there.

As many as 35 fire tenders were pressed into service. It took firefighters more than four hours to douse the blaze after which a cooling operation was launched which lasted for another few hours, a fire official said.

Six fire officials were rushed to hospital after they inhaled excessive smoke. Their condition is said to be stable, officials said.

The industry body FICCI said the cause of the fire is being investigated and thanked the Delhi Fire Service for its quick response in bringing the situation under control.

GOVERNMENT OF MANIPUR DIRECTORATE OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRIES

No. HL-276/C&I/2014(I)

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Imphal, the 19th April, 2016

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Last date and place for submission of REP : 07-5-2016 at Directorate HQ at Lamphelpat
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Sd/-
(B. John Tlangtinkhuma)
Director of Commerce & Industries,
Manipur

Bill/PR/April 26