

Editorial

Imphal, Thursday, July 7, 2016

Slipping through the fingers

The ninth edition of the state level Pineapple cum Youth Festival was inaugurated with much fanfare and the usual declarations of ambitious projections and plans. Going by the enthusiastic response of the public and the tall claims of the state departments, the production, processing and marketing of these products should have been improved by leaps and bounds. The case applies not only to Pineapple, but for all other products like Sirakthong Chilly, Kachai Lemon, Orange, Watermelon etc. The bitter truth, however is a far cry from the trumpeted declarations and coloured projections. In a strife-torn State like Manipur where every basic facility is found wanting - either due to lack of infrastructure or efficient implementation of available resources, the news of the inability to utilize even 10 percent of the annual plan budget till now comes as a rather ironic and unsavoury information for the much suffered people of the State, despite the abundance of resources and potentials that has been going waste for want of a proper system of utilization or processing opportunities. The inexplicable excuses of unfavourable climatic conditions in implementation of the works does not find any buyers, nor will the argument of disruptions and disturbances by unruly elements in the implementations of various development works and plans elicit any sympathy. The bottomline is that the departments and the officials running these departments which are entrusted with drawing up plans for development of the State are clueless about the task at hand. Their area of expertise has been shifted from forming progressive plans and suggestions to effective negotiations for their cuts from the amount sanctioned to the farmers, cultivators, contractors and builders through their departments. Problem of non-release of funds and payments after completion of works till their respective percentages have been allocated further leads to the deterioration in the efficient work culture and has gone down to such an extent at present that whatever development works or schemes are being carried out will not withstand any test of quality. It would be a huge relief and a cause for congratulation if the Government could come out with a plausible explanation as to the cause for such an acute difficulty for the departments in coming up with any development plans in a state which is lagging behind in every sphere of development. Has the ruling party become so self-assured about their political dominance in the State and the country that public welfare and efficient governance has been given a miss, development and progressive works taken for granted and the aspirations of the people relegated to insignificance? Is there such an acute lack of honest and capable officers who can tackle the problems in our society that they could not take full use of the resources made available to them, in spite of the challenges everyone of us are trying to overcome on a daily basis, be it a minister or a moron? To a common man who is hoping against hope for a glimpse of real and sustainable development in the society, the whole issue stinks of inefficiency, pathetic work culture and a culmination of the bidding system of recruiting employees rather than a systematic and tested form of selecting the deserving ones.

Manipur Legislative Assembly Secretariat NOTIFICATION

Imphal, the 5th July, 2016.

No.1/13(6)/2014-LA (E)/Rett.: It is hereby informed to all the candidates who have applied for the following posts for direct recruitment in the Manipur Legislative Assembly Secretariat that the viva-voce for the same will be held on the date and time as shown below:

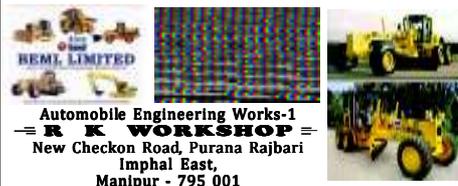
Sl.No.	Name of post	Date	Time
1	Store Assistant	11-07-2016	11:00 a.m.
2	Farrash	12-07-2016	11:00 a.m.
3	Cook	13-07-2016	11:00 a.m.

All the candidates are, therefore, intimated to collect their admit-cards on or before the date of viva-voce scheduled above and also to appear for the respective viva-voce along with their original testimonials etc. without fail.

Sd/-
(G. Tapankumar Sharma)
Deputy Secretary (Admn)
Manipur Legislative Assembly

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Thailand-Myanmar Business Gateway to Manipur

By Chingakham Dina, Arambam Karamjit, Khwairakpam Sunita
Manipur's international business has been left without much progress in this global economy era. Things will change quickly when Manipur is connected to ASEAN nations but we will not get much if our government doesn't take up proactive action plan. We have historical connection of border business with Myanmar. This border business of Manipur is minor thing when we compared with the border trades between the neighboring countries in ASEAN countries. But in the near future, business is going to move fast in Myanmar. Dawei Deep Sea Port and Special Economic Zone in Myanmar is under construction currently. This port is going to be the biggest in the whole Southeast Asia. Seeing the business opportunities, Thailand and Japan invest huge amount of money in Myanmar for the construction of Dawei Deep Sea Port.

Cross-border business in ASEAN countries

From Thailand, there is a road link through a Thai-Myanmar friendship bridge constructed in 1997 across Moei River in Mae Sot district of Tak province in Thailand and Myawadi in Burma side. This connecting bridge is on transnational Asian Highway AH1, which will link to Manipur. Seeing the potential benefits of business, Thailand invests huge amount of money in Dawei project and also a new second Thai-Myanmar friendship bridge has started construction work across the same river- Moei River, to be finished in 2017. The construction cost is taken care by Thai government for the bridge and road construction. There is large volume of business items carrying through cross border between Thailand-Burma, Thailand-Laos, Thailand-Cambodia, Thailand-Malaysia, Cambodia-Vietnam etc. Comparing the magnitude of business volume across borders of ASEAN countries, the business between Manipur-Myanmar at Moreh town is at tiny scale.

Opportunities for Manipur

Generally speaking Manipuri people are not good at business. Business is not our traditional profession like

Marwari or Punjabi. However, modern younger generation who have learned about export-import business should take chances without missing this golden opportunities. Local business will benefit from opening eastern corridor. Without well prepared, we will not be able to take the potential benefits. There are many outsiders waiting to take that opportunities. Other Asian nationalities are coming to our border for business. As our general people are not quite ready as well as not good at business area, we need awareness and preparation. We need to take opportunities in another area such as supplying human resource.

Human resource

Myanmar is just at our front door. But we don't know what is going on in the cities of Myanmar and what opportunities are in that country. Filipino teachers already reached there to teach with handsome salary of \$3000 US per month in international schools. All the information and recruitment services are carried out and handled from Thailand with local people in collaboration with western educators. Thailand has signed memorandum of understanding (MoU) to allow their citizens to work on both sides. With common economic platform opens up among ASEAN nations, people from southeast Asian countries can access easily to Myanmar from Thailand by road and flight. We have educated youths, potential candidates to be employed and to run business there. Without signing memorandum of understanding, you cannot access the opportunity and the potential candidates cannot be employed in spite of human resources are available and we cannot do any business. Without legal papers, you are going direct to prison, so our government needs to workout in this area. Otherwise the silver lining of Look East policy will be nothing to Manipur.

Tourism

People are waiting for the time that road link opens up. Only the the problem of road link is from Manipur to Myanmar. Once crossing Myanmar, almost all the ASEAN countries are connected by land.

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There are many foreign tourists expecting for road trip to India by car or bus once the road is opened up properly. (To be contd.....)

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Unrest in Northeast India.....

The authors states that post British India is engulfed in perpetual war of state on its own public of republic as a design of governance to preserve power formation that functions on the principles of presenting falsehood as the gospel truth and continue unhindered economic exploitation. In Manipur, 1528 cases of fake encounters, and another hundred more are missing from the Police and Army custody. Authors warned that the biggest threat to the lives and liberty of people of post British India comes from the work culture of police, paramilitary and military, with lives being devoured with impunity. These victims depend on "Judiciary", the last hope of those, who believe to live within frame work of rule of law. The authors advocates that the only direct and indirect beneficiaries of spiraling crime and corruption, turned to be Police and Judiciary - thus flourishes the mutual relationship between crime and "Pillars of Falsehood". The book is a firsthand account and analysis of tragic events of the role played by police and armed forces, functioning of which provokes conflict, and prepares fertile ground for terrorism and insurgency to prosper and vicious cycle of violence through retributive justice continues, with a heavy price being paid by common man with his life and liberty in peril. The authors blames that "Executive" pillar of democracy, manned by dumb babus of IAS/IPS without any domain expertise, devoid of problem solving aptitude and devoid of organizing

abilities. Ironically, most of the babus posted in the Northeast states don't know the geographical and political history of the region. The author has worked as a front line operation officer of BSF and posted in the towns and villages of North, Northeast and Western India. This book represents the eyewitness account of the grotesque scenes of violence as a fall out of ill trained criminalized militia. The author also suggest to liberate citizens from the shackles of colonial laws and institutions and redefine citizen's relationship with the state, that of a sovereign, the independent, to whom every state actor is directly accountable. In the book, a chapter titled, "The Freedom of 1947- Plot, Traitors and treacheries" exposed everything which needs to be informed to the youths of Nation. Masses that had played foot soldiers with huge sacrifices were overnight transformed from Colonial slaves to petitioners at the mercy of autocratic power formation assumed by Nehru. This book highlighted the pitfalls and tales of existing Indian institutions in general and armed forces and their role in particular, in provoking the ongoing political crisis into full blown insurgent violence in the country. This is an honest effort to inform the common man "why it is happening" and to prepare public opinion as a sequel to the campaign for much needed radical but democratic structural changes India has been longing for! The Writer may be contacted at mohennaorem@gmail.com

Contd. from previous issue

Manipur Education Policy, (A draft framework proposal)

(By : Ph. Nandakumar Sharma, Joint Secretary, Board of Secondary Education Manipur)

4. Secondary Educations:- In the secondary education the students will be introduces to the essential background of all the important fields in order to enable to choose a suitable field of studies in the higher secondary stage which will make them a profession for themselves and the nation. Here in this stage, in addition to the main scholastic subjects such as Language, Mathematics, Science, Social Sciences, the subjects like pre-vocational education, art education, sports education will be introduced in an advanced studies. Moreover, non-scholastic areas of life related activities such as discipline, self help, team work, sense of dutifleness, punctuality and dignity of labour be strictly evaluated. To meet the requirement of the eventuality of the Look East Policy and its follow up actions, our students should be equipped with the knowledge of foreign trade, Information Technology, biotechnology, microbiology, tourism and foreign languages specially the language of the neighbouring countries. It is evident that the culture and sports of Manipur are the areas which makes Manipur second to non in India and famed in the international level. However, we cannot give the credit to our education system for, these two areas are hardly covered in our school curriculum and syllabus. To make the state more advanced in the field of sports and art and culture, various items of sports and art and culture be included in the school curriculum as

credit course. For the first time, our students should carry with them the marks scored in their respective field of studies in sports or art and culture in their school leaving certificates. Manipuri script (Meitei Mayek) have been introduced phase by phase in the elementary classes and next year it will reach the secondary stage. To enable our students to read the vast treasure of PUYA, a Classical Manipuri be introduced at secondary stage for those who would like to read the PUYA and translate to modern language. 5. Higher Secondary Education:- This is the stage where students are opened to a verities of courses/ streams and allow them to select a course/stream of their choice for their future life. The education in this stage is designed to more pre-vocational and pre-professional. As the need of the society changes from time to time, the course/ streams are to be updated and new subjects be introduced. This is the age of Information Technology, Biotechnology, Foreign trade, Tourism, Science and technology and Games and Sports. As such our students are to be exposed to the world class educational technology for excelling the field of their choice. Over and above the Foundation course, the following streams be opened with most modern educational technology. 1. Science Stream 2. Arts Stream 3. Vocational Stream 4. Commerce Stream and more particularly 5. Art and Culture stream and 6. Sports Stream. This will make the state a self sustained

state in human resource to meet the need of the state, country and neighbouring countries. To meet the demand of the modern society in Science subject, the subjects like Information Technology, Biotechnology, Agriculture, Forestry, Fishery, Horticulture, Microbiology and Biochemistry be included. In the commerce stream the subjects like foreign trade, Foreign Exchange regulations be included. Special care should be taken in opening subject which are much needed in the socio-economic condition of the state. A successful implementation of the secondary education will lead the state into a self sustained economy. 6. Educational Tourism:- In this today's world of fast changing development progress, the transfer of knowledge and transfer of technology has played a key role. The vehicle in which this transfer of technology and knowledge is being done is through education. Thus education has become and agent of change in every country. The distance is not the matter and man has rushed towards the country where there is most advanced technology and knowledge. India has become the leading country in the field of development of human resource in information technology from India and abroad. India's vast investment inflow is also from the information technology transfer. Many students from foreign countries specially from the developing countries and the south Asian countries are coming to India. Manipur because

of its geographical location has become the front door of India to the South East Asian countries. As such, it may become an educational hub in India for receiving the students coming from the south east Asian nations through land route. Manipur has the ample opportunity to harvest this rare phenomenon. In order to materialize this, we are to study what are the areas in which the student from the south Asian countries does their studies in India. If Manipur develops the required infrastructure and the curriculum and syllabus of the interested areas, our state can become a little paradise on earth for education. The geographical location of the state as well as the round the year moderate climate makes the state Manipur as an ideal place for education throughout the year. This type of climatic condition is not available in any other part of the glob. Moreover, the rich cultural treasure, food habits and the art and culture are the other plus points to the educational tourism in the state. There are many enquiries from the foreign nationals asking for advance course in Manipuri dance and martial arts. The relaxation of the Protected Area Permit by the Government of India facilitates the incoming flow of foreign learners to Manipur. (To be contd.....)