

Editorial

Imphal, Friday, June 3, 2016

Playing with fire

If one failed to dance to the tune of the drum beat, he/she could neither be called a good dancer. The Manipuri saying still stands true and many across the world consider it one among the best proverb as success is brought to the act on perfect timing. Napoleon could have conquered United Kingdom had the United Kingdom waited for an appropriate time to strike back. Hitler could have been the empire of the world had not the Russian waiter for winter to hit back at them or hadn't the American strike deadly atom bomb at Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japanese imperialism would have spread all over Asia and history would have been different. The leader who know where and when to act is called a successful leader. On the other hand a person who failed to utilize time properly and doesn't do homework well on where and when to act is a fool felled by destiny if in case he remains success. JCILPS convenor, Kh. Ratan, who is the main person spearheading the peoples' movement for introduction of the ILPS is the state has been declared wanted with a reward of Rs. 5,00,000. The announcement was made within 24 hours after a Kolkata based journalist reported in one newspaper called 'Indian expressed' about the JCILPS leader taking oath with an underground leader which is now in NIA custody for over 6 years. To the way the Indian Express reported, it is cleared that the photo was taken some times back, may be years and state investigating agency as well as the Indian IB had knowledge of Ratan being a member of the UG outfit. Newspapers and journalists including columnist had expressed the views and probable agenda of why the news is being carried out purportedly when the political party are all set to pursue the central government leadership. (See Imphal Times, June 2, 2016 issue) In our yesterday edition it was the Modi government that we pointed fingers for playing with the peoples' movement.

If, the Indian Express journalist received all the sources from IB then assumption about the BJP government playing with the peoples' movement is crystal clear. But the announcement of Rs. 5,00,000 rewards was declared by the state home department framing vigorous charges against the person who is spearheading the ILP movement to save the indigenous people of the state. This write up is a reminder to the Okram Iboi Singh led congress Ministry that, the government, the legislators and the state Assembly has been made a mockery many a time for passing Bills hastily without going on to the details many a time. Bill passed by the state assembly has been again withdrawn by the same government in the history of Indian parliament. Privilege motion taken up against a human rights activist has been defeated. The immaturity of the legislators has been shown many times. And the people had witnessed the things happen. This is being recalled because the announcement of reward to Kh. Ratan may have some purpose for Chief Minister Okram Iboi as he is all set to meet the prime Minister with other representatives of the political party to apprise the central government for getting approval of the 3 Bills passed by the state legislative Assembly last year (Aug 31). May be the announcement of Ratan as an outlawed, is considered a precautionary measure for Mr. Okram Iboi Singh and if in case the prime Minister Modi grill him to give clarification on why the Bills demanded under the leadership of an UG cadre be passed by the state legislative Assembly. If this is the case - the thinking is completely wrong and will make another mockery of the state assembly as well as the government headed by him. We never expect that Indian Express news report is all that is required to charge a person guilty or not without conducting a government inquiry to find out how true is the report by a government committee. Don't let the people sour with the Indian democracy by your untimely hasty decision Mr. Chief Minister.

Quake of 4.4 magnitude jolts Nepal's Sindhupalchok district

AN Kathmandu, June 3: A light tremor of local magnitude 4.4 struck Nepal's Sindhupalchok district on Friday morning. According to the National Seismological Centre, Lalnchar, it has been listed as an aftershock of the Gorkha earthquake that rattled Nepal on April 25 last year. The tremor was recorded at 5:10 a.m. local time and the epicentre was close to Motang of the district, reports the Himalayan Times. It is the first significant aftershock that the National Seismological Centre has recorded after a week.

Marksheet Lost

I have lost my B.A.(Hons) III year exam 2009 marksheet bearing Roll No 630792 issued by Manipur University on way between MU to Lamlong Bazar on 25th May 2016. Finders are requested to handover the same to the undersigned.

Sd/-
Bidyalakshmi Laishram
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“All the University and College teachers across the country are angry with the UGC notification on API dated 4.5.2016” - AMCTA

On May 4, UGC notified significant amendments in its 2010 regulations, including altering teachers' workload requirements by redefining "direct teaching hours". Teachers from several universities, besides the All India Federation of University & College Teachers' Organisations (AIFUCTO), have issued statements in protest, and the Delhi University Teachers' Association (DUTA) has gone a step further — some 8,000 DU teachers have been boycotting evaluation of answer scripts of all subjects for roughly 1.3 lakh undergraduate students since May 24.

Such issue comes after the UGC has made the changes in API scoring system. The definition of "direct teaching hours" has been changed. It included lectures, practicals, project supervision and tutorials, all of which were treated at par. Tutorials have now been removed, and the definition narrowed to "Lectures/Practicals/Project(s)". The number of teaching hours was increased. An Assistant Professor was required to teach 16 hours weekly; Associate Professors and

Professors 14 hours — including time spent on tutorials and practical. This was changed to 18+6 hours per week for Assistant Professors, 16+6 for Associate Professors, and 14+6 for Professors. The "six hours per week include... hours spent on tutorials, remedial classes, seminars, administrative responsibilities, innovation and updating of course contents". No reason was given for the changes. It causes the problems mainly: 1) They will drastically increase teaching hours (including tutorials), and make it difficult to focus on research and administrative responsibilities; 2) The API (Academic Performance Indicators) target — on which teachers are promoted — set by the notification, especially for Assistant Professors, will make promotions impossible; and 3) With the reformulation of the workload, thousands of ad hoc teachers and Assistant Professors will lose their jobs. The changes hit the promotions of teachers - Because the maximum points that can be got for teaching are 60 per

year, but the points will be determined by dividing the "actual hours spent per academic year divided by 10". It means that any teacher who is interested in 60 points will have to teach 600 hours per year or 300 points per semester. In a semester of 15 weeks, this works out to 20 hours a week — a target that will be impossible to meet even if a teacher takes no leave at all, does not fall ill, does not enroll himself in Refresher Courses or do Research Projects." So, 20 hours per week is just four hours per day with two weekly offs, and most people work at least double that! Teachers insist it doesn't work that way. These four hours are just teaching hours, and doesn't count for all the other work teachers have to do. "Lecturing for 18 hours and tutoring or conducting practicals for an additional 6 hours is madness. Teachers will not get the time to prepare for lectures and tutorials. "Usually, each hourly lecture takes at least 4 hours of preparation." Such move will increase their workload by 50%. It may be noted that "At any top international

university, teaching hours are not more than 6-7 hours per week". A MHRD Ministry directive issued on May 26 said "the direct teaching-learning hours to be devoted by Assistant Professors (16 hours) and Associate Professors/Professors (14 hours) will remain unchanged", but did not address the complaints about the definition of direct teaching hours and calculation of workloads. It was a trick used by the government for suppression of the teachers' voices. One day after a protest march by teachers at Jantar Mantar on May 30, the UGC issued a press note reiterating the MHRD directive. The UGC has called a stakeholders' consultation meet on June 6 to "discuss Academic Performance Indicator (API) scheme and workload of teachers". The UGC has invited AIFUCTO for the discussion. The General Secretary, AIFUCTO has also issued an urgent communication to all the affiliates from across the country to rush the UGC, New Delhi on 6th June, 2016. Expected thousands of teachers may gather at the spot to show the solidarity of AIFUCTO.

National & International News

Congress expresses shock, disbelief over NIA 'clean chit' to Pak

AN New Delhi, June 3: Following the National Investigation Agency's alleged claim that there was no evidence indicating that Pakistan was directly complicit in the Pathankot terror attack, the Congress on Friday expressed shock and disbelief over the 'clean chit' and branded the entire development as a major setback to India. "It is shocking & unbelievable that NIA has given a give clean chit to Pakistan. Never heard of such a thing before! This is a big setback." Congress leader Shakeel Ahmed tweeted.

The reaction comes in the wake of Director General of NIA Sharad Kumar's interview to an English news channel where he said, "No evidence to show that Pakistani government or Pakistani government agency was helping Jaish-e-Mohammed or Masood Azhar or his aides carry out Pathankot attack." However, reports have emerged of the NIA chief rubbishing the entire interview asserting that he never gave a clean chit to Pakistan. Earlier, the NIA had said that it has still not received any response from Pakistan on

Supplementary Letters Rogatory sent to the neighbouring nation in connection with the probe on the Pathankot air force base attack. The Interpol had earlier issued a fresh Red Corner notice against JeM chief Maulana Masood Azhar and his brother Abdul Rauf for their alleged involvement in the Pathankot attack. According to NIA sources, JeM suspect Shahid Latif is the main handler in the Pathankot attack and that his location at the moment should probably be in Pakistan.

Latif was first arrested in 1994, convicted in 1995 and his jail term was over in 2010. He deported to Pakistan after that through the Atari Border. Masood Azhar, his brother Abdul Rauf and Latif are being touted as the main culprits into the deadly attack on the Indian Air Force base. Four terrorists were killed when they carried out a suicide attack on the strategic Indian Air Force base in Pathankot during the intervening night of January 1-2. Seven security personnel were also killed during the 80-hour-long gun battle.

UP DGP on Mathura clashes: Cops killed in unprovoked firing by encroachers

Agencies Lucknow, June 3: UP DGP Javed Ahmed said on Friday that two policemen, including an SP, and 22 protesters have been killed in clashes between cops and encroachers that broke out in Mathura district's Jawahar Bagh area on Thursday evening. "23 policemen are in the hospital. They were attacked brutally by protesters," the UP DGP told reporters on Friday. The DGP said that so far 124 people have been arrested in the matter. "47 locally-made pistols, 6 rifles and 178 live cartridges have been seized from the site," he said. The DGP admitted that cops did not expect that they would be attacked upon when they reached the Jawahar park to evict encroachers. "Two policemen lost their lives and others were injured in unprovoked firing by encroachers," the DGP said. Ram Vriksha Yadav, one of the leaders of the group, is absconding and the National Security Act(NSA) would be invoked against him, the DGP said. The violence had erupted when police were trying to evict illegal occupants, believed to be of Swadheen Bharat Subhash Sena (SBSS), from Jawahar Bagh on Thursday on the directions of the Allahabad high court. "The activists used not only hand grenades but also opened fire from automatic weapons after taking position on tree tops," DM Rajesh Kumar had said.

The encroachers who call themselves "Satyagrahis" have dispersed and the disputed Jawahar Bagh area, spread over 280 acres, is now under police control. Over two years ago, the group had occupied hundreds of acres of land of Jawahar Bagh on the pretext of 'dharma'. Their demands included "cancellation" of election of President and Prime Minister of India, replacement of existing currency with 'Azad Hind Fauj' currency, sale of diesel at the rate of 60 litres for one rupee and petrol at the rate of 40 litres for one rupee. The high court had, acting on a PIL, directed the authorities to vacate the land. In April, Mathura district administration has issued a notice to the protesters asking them to vacate the land. The land falls under the horticultural department of the UP government, and attempts by its officials to evict the people had failed. **Setback for Akhilesh government** The incident has come as a setback for the Samajwadi Party (SP) government in the state which braces for elections early next year and is already faced with charges of lawlessness in the state. Mathura MP Hema Malini expressed shock and anguish over the incident and questioned why UP police "did not" take action in the matter during the last two years.

be made accountable for this. It is answerable. I will ask the chief minister about it and they should have looked into the matter two years back.... Why this kind of thing has happened now? I will write to the Centre as well," Hema said. Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) state spokesman Vijay Bahadur Pathak said that while the incident was very unfortunate it did not come as a shock as "in the past too, policemen have been targeted even as chief minister and his

government have been in a state of denial". "It is very sad that on one hand the people of the state are victims of lawlessness and even the police in the last four years has been targeted" he said while seeking action against the Mathura DM and SSP for intelligence failure. The Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) and Congress leaders have also slammed the state government for letting the situation spin out of control to such fatal consequences

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Cad & Wm minimizes the gap.....

The main objectives of Command Area Development & Water Management Programme is to minimize the gap between potential created and utilization through micro level infrastructure development, efficient farm water management, to optimize agricultural production and productivity from irrigated agriculture practices. The department had already implemented Command Area Development & Water Management Programme in one Major Irrigation Project- the Thoubal Multipurpose Phase-II, one Medium Irrigation Project - the Khuga Dam Multipurpose Project and 4 (four) clusters of Minor Irrigation Projects- Cluster of 8MI Schemes in Manipur, Cluster of 28 MI Schemes in Imphal East and West, Cluster of M.I Schemes in Bishnupur and Cluster of M.I Scheme in Thoubal, Ukhrul, Chandel and Churachandpur District with the total expenditure of Rs.11761.78. Apart from the completed projects,

the Department has taken up 3 (three) more CAD&WM Projects. The details of the on-going projects are as follows:- Cluster of 213 M.I Schemes in Imphal East& West, Churachandpur District with a target of 10,659 projects and achieved 3,192. Cluster of 125 M.I Schemes in Thoubal, Ukhrul and Chandel Districts have 9,043 targeted projects and had already achieved 3,069 and Cluster of 169M.I Schemes in Tamenglong, Bishnupur and Senapati District which have a target of 9,766 and in which 2,488 have already been achieved. The total expenditure of these projects is Rs.3022.33 Further, the Command Area Development & Water Management (CADWM) Programme also includes inter alia training of farmers, demonstration of field crops in different crop seasons in the commands of the project. This improves the socio-economic condition of the farmers by increasing crop production and productivity.