

Editorial

Imphal Tuesday, October 18, 2016

Clash of classes

The tenacity of the people of Manipur to cling on to concepts of normalcy while actually indulging in acts that reaps results to the contrary can only be marveled at. We profess unity while setting up and supporting ethnically intolerant groups. We demand peace while burning and inciting violence. We insist on freedom even when we are indulging in extortions and intimidations, and we ask understanding of others according to our own terms and views. We publicly donate only to claim it back in private. Perhaps the present social churning threatening to alter the social fabric of the state is an event whose time has come. Maybe we all have been contributing, albeit unwittingly, to its present condition. But all is not so dark or dismal. There are changes, unintended fallouts that promise to yank the people from the stupor and the self-deceiving delusions of superiority. There are signs of the people awakening to the realities staring them back in the face, even if that reality is not very savory or one everyone have expected or desired. We have come to participate in social discussions and debates, and have slowly yet surely started to learn to air our vows, never mind fact that, more often than not, a large number of such views and personal opinions reflect the underlying ethnic leanings and are unnecessarily abrasive and harmful.

This is, after all, a starting phase to the trend of social participation and will hopefully learn from the mistakes, and with time, to polish up on one's thoughts and outlooks. The most significant outcome is perhaps the increased awareness not only of one's own history, tradition and customs, but also of other communities as well. There is also a tangible change in the manner in which the public consume resources. The sustained lack of facilities have evidently stirred the curiosity and raised the enthusiasm of the public. There is an increased effort by various groups and individuals to usher in self reliance, especially with regards to food. If the well-meaning but clueless state government can harness the present agitations and unrest, then perhaps we can channelize the energy into something productive instead of playing the reluctant leader. It may be hard to admit for a lot of self-appointed leaders and undeserving representatives, but one cannot deny the fact that at the root of the present turmoil is economic considerations. The sooner we admit and understand that, the easier will it be to work out a solution. Times are changing, hopefully for the better. With increased awareness, participation and enthusiasm, it is now the duty of everyone in the state to take up the cudgel and wield it productively, and not to batter each other until nothing remains. Every life is precious, and in order for all of us to make our existence worthwhile, we first need to snap out of the illusion of superiority of language, caste, creed, clan, religion and customs.

Guest Column

The Significance of Red-ink

By : N. Supriya

Since our school days, we are told not to write with a red-ink pen. The reason is - red is the colour of blood, so it is the sign of a bad-omen. But I think blood is the most precious thing for our health. And then, again we are told not to write any name with the red ink because name written in red-ink means the person is dead or our assumption is this the person may face bad omen or unlucky or die etc. and etc, so many prohibitions and restrictions, with them we grow up. Now, teachers are using this colour as an indispensable thing. With this, we have corrected so many mistakes for our students. Our students are also understanding that, on Teachers' Day they presented the red-ink pens to their teacher. With them, teachers have been correcting students (our children) every day so that they grow up as a perfect citizen. So now, I think red-ink is not a bad-colour or fear factor but the most useful weapon or means to correct people everywhere, in schools, colleges, Universities and Offices. Not the students only but for teachers, employees, etc. So the red-ink is so powerful and very strict that no one can make a fool with his or her job. It checks on regularity, punctuality, spelling mistakes etc. It records a person's data in the file of our service career. Its significance is becoming more important and distinct.

Preserving the Rich Industrial Heritage of Railways

By : Arun Kumar P

Indian Railways with more than 160 years of rich history; presents a wide spectrum of both tangible and intangible heritage. Indian Railways is proud owner of four UNESCO accorded World Heritage Sites namely Darjeeling Himalayan Railway (1999), Nilgiri Mountain Railway (2005), Kalka Shimla Railway (2008) and Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus, Mumbai (2004). There are two more in waiting or in the tentative list namely Matheran Light Railway and Kangra Valley Railway.

However, the repository of heritage of Indian Railway is not limited to its four world heritage inscriptions. Like any other industry, Railway technology evolves at a fast pace. For example, Steam Locomotives, Meter Gauge rolling stocks, Wooden body coaches are no longer in operation now. With their phasing out, lots of maintenance practices have also been gradually forgotten. At times, it becomes really impossible to locate an artisan who can do valve setting of a steam locomotive or a carpenter who can precisely fix the door of wooden body saloon. Beside rolling stocks, even equipment like block instruments, their tokens, token pickup devices, quadrant signalling devices, stationary vacuum exhausters, which were very common three decades ago, are now completely phased out.

Indian Railways, in addition to being a special industrial relic, occupy a special place within the national heritage spectrum of India. The remains of rolling mill, cupola, brake block foundry, forging anvils of any old Railway Workshop are not only historical evidences or

industrial relics but sense of belonging to the workshop. Similarly iconic station and office buildings at Mumbai (Victoria Terminus, Bandra Suburban, Churchgate), Howrah, Garden Reach (BNR Office), Chennai Egmore, Royapuram, Lucknow, Madurai etc. bear identities of their respective cities.

The Station and Office buildings, locomotives, coaches, wagons, equipment, artifacts etc. when appropriately preserved and open for public display create memories of the past in the heart of the future generation and thus help maintaining a continuity of human experience.

Indian Railways, over the years, have been endeavoring sustained and focused approach for safeguarding its industrial as well as living heritage and to transmit it intact to future generations. Today, Indian Railway maintains 34 Museums, Heritage Parks and Heritage galleries, spread all over India, for creating unique and rich experience to visitors about Railway heritage in India. The National Rail Museum in New Delhi, Regional Rail Museums at Chennai, Mysore and Howrah, are iconic tourist destinations in their region.

Indian Railways have also preserved about 230 Steam Locomotives, 110 vintage coaches and wagons at prominent places including museums, heritage park etc., for public display. Many of these rolling stocks are more than 100 years old and they bring back memories of old glory to the mind of the viewers.

Indian Railways are also preserving about 16 Steam locomotives as working heritage. Although, not in

regular service, these preserved steam locomotives are still capable of hauling tourist trains and ceremonial running. The Rewari Steam Shed has been rechristened as Rewari Heritage Steam Centre in 2002 for recreating the memories of working Steam Shed, a feat unparalleled in the World. Rewari Steam Centre now maintains six Broad Gauge and four Meter Gauge working steam locomotives, that include the iconic "Fairy Queen" (1855), placed in the Guinness Book of Record as being the oldest working locomotive in the World and "Akbar", that featured in many Bollywood movies like Sultan, Gadare etc.

The Darjeeling Himalayan Railway (DHR) and Nilgiri Mountain Railway (NMR), both UNESCO accorded World Heritage Sites, operate Steam services on regular basis. DHR and NMR, with working steam locomotive holding of fourteen and six respectively, attract steam lovers from India and abroad. The sight and sound of Steam Locomotives recreated smells and romance of a bygone era.

Indian Railways have a large repository of built heritage like buildings, bridges, viaducts etc. As of now, about 25 bridges and 70 buildings are designated as Heritage Assets by Indian Railways. Notable among them are Jubilee Bridge near Kolkata, Yamuna bridge near Naini, Sone Nagar Bridge, Pamban viaduct, Bandra suburban station, Pratap Vilas Palace, Vadodara, Glenogle Bungalow, Mumbai, SER (erstwhile BNR) Headquarter, Kolkata etc. Indian Railways have been making special efforts to conserve these built heritages.

Indian Railways have recently

launched its heritage web-page (placing all relevant information including heritage inventories for easier access by citizen and all stakeholders).

With advent of technology and wider reach of internet, heritage displays need not be limited to collections in Museums and Galleries or in form of outdoor exhibits near prominent places like Stations, Administrative Offices etc. Indian Railways is collaborating with Technology partners for creating a Pan-India virtual museum in a digital web enabled platform. This virtual museum shall contain all railway heritage components e.g. Locomotives, Coaches, Building, Bridges, Documents, Artifacts etc. for worldwide access through internet even on a mobile device.

The virtual museum shall also feature 'contributory or crowdsourcing mode' for soliciting contributions from large group of people, and especially from online communities. Such digital platform, already operational in some large museums in India, can also serve as 'on-line' repository of knowledge on Railway heritage, useful to students, tourists, research scholars and citizens.

Union Minister of Railway, in his budget speech 2016, had emphasized promotion of tourism through World Heritage Railways and Museums. Preservation of Railway Heritage and unlocking its potential for making significant and meaningful contributions to India's knowledge society and Incredible India Campaign shall remain one of the prime social responsibilities of Indian Railways and its associated Public Sector Undertakings.

(Courtesy PIB Feature)

National & International News

Terrorism has become truly global challenge: Sushma

PTI New Delhi, Oct 18: Amid criticism that India failed to obtain consensus on reference to cross-border terrorism in BRICS declaration, External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj today said threat of terror featured strongly in the narrative of the Summit and there was a growing recognition that it has become a truly global challenge.

Two days after the BRICS Summit in Goa where India's forcefully highlighted terror emanating from Pakistan, she said there was no bigger global challenge than "state-sponsored" and "state-protected terrorism, asserting those supporting terror networks must be made to pay the cost.

In clear reference to Pakistan, Swaraj said there is a need to extract costs from those who sponsor and support terrorists and provide them sanctuary and continue to make the "false distinction" between "good

and bad terrorists". Swaraj was delivering an address at the BRICS media forum.

In an obvious reference to Pakistan blocking several pacts on transport and connectivity, Swaraj referred to growing cooperation on these issues among BIMSTEC nations, noting "There cannot be a greater contrast with those who reject even trade and connectivity for political reasons."

On deliberations at the BRICS, Swaraj said while the economic engagement and political cooperation remained key factors, there was a sharp realisation that global development and prosperity was very much dependent on continued peace and security.

"Terrorism was universally recognised as a key threat to stability, progress and development. Consequently, it featured strongly in the conference narrative and its eventual outcome.

"Indeed, what we saw was not just an understanding of the dangers posed by terrorism to the economic aspirations of the world but a growing recognition that this has now become a truly global challenge that the international community can only ignore at its peril," she said.

There was criticism of the government after consensus eluded on reference to cross-border terror in BRICS declaration. Without naming any country, Swaraj said there has always been an overarching political context for the BRICS meetings which essentially underlines that a serious global

discourse cannot be the "preserve" of a few countries with a "narrow agenda".

"There is a developing consensus that it cannot be business as usual. We must be prepared to extract costs for those who sponsor and support terrorists, who provide them sanctuary, and who, despite their own claimed victimhood, continue to make the false distinction between good and bad terrorists.

"BRICS has always been global in its approach and today, there is no bigger global challenge than state-sponsored and state-protected terrorism," she said.

Police official shoots self with service revolver

PTI Kolar, Oct 18: In the third such case in recent months in Karnataka, a police official allegedly shot himself dead with his service revolver at Malur Police Station in Kolar district in the early hours today.

38-year-old Raghavendra Muniyappa, a circle inspector, returned to the police station after a night patrol and shot himself fatally around 2 AM, police said.

The reason for the extreme step by the police official was not known immediately, they said.

Kolar district Superintendent of Police Divya Gopinath said the reason for the alleged suicide was not known and police were investigating the case.

The latest alleged suicide by a police official comes months after two similar incidents which had triggered a controversy.



Document lost

I have lost my original certificate and mark-sheet of AISE Exam 1996 bearing roll number 6134501 issued by CBSE along with original certificate and mark-sheet of AISE Exam 1998 bearing roll number 6229063 issued by CBSE on the way between Lamphel to Chingmeirong on 10/10/2016 along with original certificate and mark-sheet of BA (Graduation) of 2001 bearing roll no. 03602462 issued by Manipur University. Anybody who found these documents are requested to handover to the undersigned. He/She will be highly appreciated.

Sd/-
Thanjam Ereima
Chingmeirong Mamang Leikai
Ph. No. 9612155986

PRESS RELEASE 17th October, 2016

"NYV Training Concluded"

The 7 days Refresher Training Course of National Youth Volunteers (NYV) of the 10 NYKs of Manipur concluded today, the 17th October, 2016 at the Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Hengbung, Sadar Hills, Manipur.

Sharva Shri C. Author Worchuiyo Deputy Commissioner, Senapati, Shri Haokholet Kipgen Hon'ble Ex-Minister, Shri Ngao Benjamin Tao, Hon'ble Member of Autonomous District Council, Senapati and Shri Sahib Singh, State Director, NYKS, Manipur were the Chief Guest, President and Guests of Honour respectively. The Chief Guest expressed his view to the volunteer to dedicate their service for nation building activities.

During the training, Interaction and Discussion, Field Visit, Yoga, Experience share, Preparation of different report career counselling were the main items of the said training course.

Sd/-
(S. Gourakishwor Singh)
DYC,NYK
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