

Editorial

Imphal Wednesday, October 26, 2016

Lady-Luck; but beware, it may not work this time

Chief Minister Okram Ibobi's political journey is often term as 'lady luck' by many analysts. The mass uprising of June 2001 against the backdrop of the controversial peace deal between the government of India and the NSCN-IM on June 14 of that year, popularly known as the Bangkok declaration, which included the extension of "cease fire" between the two entities without territorial limitation can be perhaps considered as the beginning of his lady luck. Valley region which have more seats and other hill areas where the NSCN-IM can't influence were driven by emotion to the aggressive attitude of the NSCN-IM. On the other hand, even though it was officially not recorded or accepted, each and every Manipuri knows how the cadres of NSCN-IM had interfered the 2002 Manipur Legislative Assembly election. It was as a result of their interference that the veteran congress leader and former Chief Minister Rishang Keishing was defeated by MSPC candidate Wungnaosung Keishing.

Okram Ibobi Singh, who was first elected as Independent candidate in 1984 Manipur Legislative Assembly Election and who later joined the congress was left as the only congress leader whom can be trusted by Rishang leashing, who at that time was more like a supremo of the Manipur Pradesh Congress Committee besides having healthy connection with the AICC leadership. The 2002 election was significant for Okram Obobi Singh. Congress strongman like Phunzathang Tonsing, Th. Devendra among others too got elected. The number that the congress got that time was only 20. Federal Party got 13 seats, MSPC got 7 seats, BJP got 4 seats, CPI got 5 seat, MPP got 2 seat, DRPP got 2 seats, NCP got 3 seats, SAP got 3 seats and NNC got 1 seat. Even though it was not absolute majority the Governor gave top priority to Congress and invited if they could stake claim to form government.

Instead of recommending Tonsing or Devendra, Rishang Keishing whose voice was highly respected by the AICC leadership chose Okram Ibobi Singh. The reason may be varied and only Keishing will be able to tell why he wanted Okram Ibobi Singh to be the Chief Minister of Manipur.

Horse trading game was common in those days and congress was expert in the field and form government. However at a time when Ibobi's position was in shaky position it was the Anti-defection Law of the 10th Scheduled of the Indian Constitution that save his position. Not only that he was saved but his position was even more stable.

Leaving aside the series of development and political crisis during his 15 years tenure, this 11th Manipur Legislative Assembly Election is going to be tough one for Mr. Ibobi, the Congress Chief Minister as BJP wave is sweeping across the country.

October 24, 2016 Ukhrul incident was perhaps a gain point for Ibobi. The sentiment of the valley people is once more in the dice and Okram Ibobi is tackling it with extra care. The territorial integrity factor is once more rolls out and Ibobi is all set to play the tough game in the name of protecting the boundary from the hand of BJP which is engaging peace talk with the NSCN-IM. Already Okram Ibobi has pointed fingered to NSCN-IM which had stopped him and ministerial candidates from inaugurating the government structures.

Well game is being played well and 'lady luck' is perhaps happening this time too. But it this luck is a staged one which is shattered from destiny then it would not amount to his own destruction but destruction of this erstwhile kingdom called Manipur. Beware fellow Manipuri lets' take good care in this election to protect the integrity of the state as well as to restore communal harmony among the people of the state.

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Manipur Maoist claims gunbattle with security force

The statement further added that the most important fact to be kept in our mind is that in a place like Manipur which is a very small area with a very small population, and with more than a hundred thousand occupational forces, who after setting up various camps, we are living in the largest concentration camp of the modern world. It said Manipur is certainly be the most militarized zone, where torture, exploitation and inhumane treatment are meted out by a so called Democratic country called India while compare with the countries across the world. Many thousands of Manipuri's were killed in fake encounters under the draconian inhuman & barbaric act AFSPA, 1958, where anyone donning a uniform has the right to shoot & kill first and ask questions later. The militarization is going on at utmost level by setting up of a camp of Security Forces around the

confinement of five kilometers each. Compare this to the policy adopted by the Indian Imperialist in Indian Maoist affected Red corridor, deploying only a hundred and fifty thousand paramilitary forces (as compared to Regular Armies in Manipur) in an area ten times the size of Manipur. It is an absolute strategy for the revolutionaries and especially so for the Manipur Maoist, to make a supreme sacrifice in such crucial scenario. If the Military Offensive of ours has to see any light at the end of the tunnel, this extreme sacrifice will be the guiding light. Therefore, the decisions resolved in the last convention held by the party on April 2016, is being maintained with great zeal & determination for a progressive and for advancing the national and class liberation struggle of Manipur, the statement added.

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National skill development mission

By : Loitongbam Iboiyama Singh
Knowledge and skill are fertilizer of economic growth and social development for any country. Countries having higher level of skills are more developed in all respect. In any developed country, no question arises native and foreign people who have skill in any trade, because of initiating to produce their own production. The idea of their practice is import the human resources and export the production for the economic growth and social development. India have 605 million people below the age of 25. They can act as agents of transformation, by being empowered with various employable skills which will enable them to make impact not only on their lives but also on the lives of other individuals. The recently approved Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY), is a flagship scheme for importing skill training to youth, focussing on improved curricula, better pedagogy and trained instructors. The training includes soft skills, personal grooming, behavioural change at all. Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched Skill India Mission on 15th July 2015, on World Skill Day. While launching the Mission he said, it is aimed at providing vocational training to youth across the country. Prime Minister said "If

China is like a 'manufacturing factory of the world, India should become the 'human resource capital' of world. That should be ever target and we should lay emphasis on that. The world needs skilled people. There is a huge job market. We must map the needs and train our youth accordingly". He said the Mission is not only limited to skills but also to encourage entrepreneurship. Through the skill India Mission, the Government is aiming at providing vocational skills to over 40.02 crore people in the country by 2022. The Prime Minister said India has the potential to provide work force of about 3 to 5 crore to the world if the capabilities of the country men are honed through proper and dynamic training in skills. National Skill Development Mission which seeks to coverage, coordinate, implement and monitor skill training activities on all India basis. It initiates to make network for creating skill man power in India with all ministries government of India, corporations and private sector skill initiative. Previous government launched "National Skill Development Mission" consisting following institutions:
i). Prime Minister's Council on Skill Development (PMCSDD) under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Prime Minister, for policy direction and

review spectrum of skill development.
ii). "National Skill Development Coordination Board (NSDCB)" under the chairmanship of Dy Chairman Planning Commission to enumerate strategies to implement the decisions of P.M.'s Council.
iii). "National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC)" a non-profit company under the Company Act, 1956. The corporation is being funded by trust "National Skill Development Fund" to which Government has contributed a sum of Rs. 995 crores from other governments, public sector entities, private sector, bilateral and multilateral sources. The corporation is expected to meet the skill training requirement of labour market including that of unorganized sector. The objective of NSDC is to fulfil the growing need of skilled manpower in the country mainly by fostering private sector initiatives in skill development.
The salient features of NSDC are:
1. Upgrade skills of work force through significant industry involvement especially founder privileged sections and backward regions of the country.
2. Enhance, support and coordinate private sector initiatives for skill development through public-private partnership (PPP) model.
3. Prioritize initiatives that can have a multiplier or catalytic effect.

NSDC will play a significant role in some of the essential support services like curriculum, faculty and their training, standards and quality assurances, technology platforms, student placement mechanisms and setting up standards and accreditation systems in partnership with industry associations. All these with participation of industry would improve the quality of human resources.
The National Policy for Skill Development and Entrepreneurships, 2015 launched by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi focuses on apprenticeship as one of the key components for creating skilled manpower in India. It is for the first time that a scheme has been notified to offer financial incentive to employer. The scheme has an outlay of Rs. 10,000 crore with a target of 50 lakhs apprentices to be trained by 2019-20. Apprenticeship Training is considered to be one of the most efficient ways to develop skilled manpower for the country. It provides foran industry led, practice oriented, effective and efficient mode of formal training. The policy purposes to work proactively with the industry including MSME to facilitate tenfold increase opportunities in the country by 2020.
(To be contd.....)

National & International News

'Missing JNU student Najeeb Ahmed had beaten someone for wearing kaleva, wrong to blame ABVP'

New Delhi, Oct. 26: In a new twist in case of Jawaharlal Nehru University student Najeeb Ahmed, who has been missing since October 15, the president of JNU's hostel union said it is wrong to blame Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) for the violence on October 14 night. It has been 11 days since a 27-year-old MSC student, Najeeb Ahmed, has been missing from the university. On October 14 night, Ahmed was allegedly beaten up by a mob of students, allegedly ABVP members, after a student named Vikrant had gone to his room at Mahi-Mandavi hostel to campaign for the post of mess secretary and got into an altercation with him. Reports had earlier said that a mob of around 30 students rained blows, abuses, and communal slurs on Ahmad on October 14 night.

However, J Alimuddin Khan, the president of JNU's hostel union, has stoked a fresh controversy by recounting the events took place on that day: "I got a call around 11.30 am and was told that Najeeb had hit someone for wearing a 'kaleva' (sacred red thread) on his wrist. When I reached the hostel, his roommate, Qasim, said Najeeb was a threat and should be kept out of the hostel." "Najeeb was kept near the washroom, away from the students. He said sorry to me and promised never to repeat it. We decided to take him to the senior warden's house. But as soon as we stepped out, the agitated students pounced on him. We still managed to take him to the warden's place with the help of security," *The Times of India* quoted Khan as saying.

The warden then decided to take action against Vikrant for assaulting Najeeb. However, he was asked to withdraw Najeeb's hostel facility for slapping Vikrant. "Everyone, including JNUSU president Mohit Pandey, agreed to this," Khan added. The president of JNU's hostel union further said the Jawaharlal Nehru University Students Union (JNUSU) later convened a meeting with Muslim students in a bid to give a communal colour to the incident. Pandey has rubbished Khan's claim. Khan added that around 10-15 students belonging to various political groups had assaulted Najeeb. "But it was a political afterthought to call all of them ABVP goons. Instead of looking for Najeeb, everyone is now politicising the

issue," Khan alleged. Later, Najeeb was summoned for a meeting with hostel's senior warden but he was found to be missing. "After that, the students blocked the north gate and an all-organisation meeting was called. Whenever such meetings are called, NSUI and ABVP are not invited. I was told to keep quiet about it, and it was decided that no one will speak about Najeeb first slapping Vikrant," Khan alleged. Pandey, however, said Khan may have got money to divert attention from the issue of finding Najeeb. Although, an FIR has been filed and a Special Investigation Team (SIT) formed to trace Najeeb, the communal rift in the premier university is constantly widening and has become more obvious than ever before.

IS militants kill 30 in central Afghanistan

Kabul, Oct. 26: Militants linked to Islamic State jihadists killed around 30 civilians, including children, in central Afghanistan, officials said Wednesday, raising concerns about the group's expanding presence beyond its eastern strongholds. The incident occurred late Tuesday north of Firoz Koh, the capital of Ghor province, with the local government calling it a revenge attack after a local IS commander was killed. "Our security forces with the help of locals conducted an operation and killed a Daesh (IS) commander yesterday. Daesh fighters in return abducted around 30 villagers, mostly shepherds," Ghor Governor Nasir Khazeh told AFP. "Their dead bodies were found by local people this morning." Abdul Hameed Nateqi, a Ghor provincial council member, gave a similar account to AFP. IS, which controls territory across Syria and Iraq, has so far not officially claimed responsibility for the attack.

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TENDER NOTICE Imphal, the 19th October 2016

No. 116-CCTV/RIMS-16 : Sealed Tenders (two bid system) from registered firms/manufacturers/authorised dealers are invited for supply and installation of CCTV and other accessories for use of RIMS Hospital, RIMS, Imphal listed at annexure-A. Tender documents containing detailed specifications of the above items along with terms and conditions of supply can be had from the office or can be downloaded from the Institute's website i.e. www.rims.edu.in and CPP Portal website i.e. www.eprocure.gov.in on or after 19/10/2016. Tender documents will be supplied on request upto 01/11/2016, during office hour. The sealed tenders should be submitted through post/courier/hand latest by 4:00 p.m. of 03/11/2016. Sealed tenders will be opened on 07/11/2016 at 2:00 p.m.

Sd/-
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