

Editorial

Imphal Saturday, October 29, 2016

The lost paradise

Manipur today can be rightly called as a fail state run by irresponsible government elected by irresponsible people.

Bomb blasts in the middle of the Imphal city (at MG Avenue today) when the state is preparing for Diwali and Ningol Chakkouba festival shows that nowhere in the town is safe for any citizens. Even Chief Minister and Ministerial team are considered not safe in his own state. This is being told from the event that happened on October 24 at Ukhrul town.

Bombs are available in plenty. The last few days witness many such bomb placed at various places where people were enjoying dice games. Unofficial report stated many people who are engaging in active politics and their workers are travelling with guns- either licensed or not is known by the law enforcers only. When the valley is preparing for Diwali and Ningol Chakkouba festival, the Hill brethren have already set staged to celebrate the KUT festival. 'November' perhaps should be a month of peace and harmony but to the contrast the month is appearing as a scourge for the people. Ethnic enmity, politics of supremacy, communal mindsets and feeling of insecurity filled the mind of almost all common people, when those in bungalow enjoying extra privilege are living a life encircled by world class luxury. Manipur today, no doubt is placed in war like situation by them.

Roads in Imphal city is perhaps the worst during these days with no proper traffic regulation being enforced and policemen on duty are seen busy collecting tips from vehicles and allowing them to violate the rules made by them.

For the VIPs they have no problems, people are facing extreme difficulties or not they will drive them away using law enforcers to clear their road.

On the other hand, future of the students particularly those in the Manipur University and those trying to go for higher studies are at stake. Protest, agitation are day today events and aspirant future leaders and administrators are now engaging in hostilities instead of putting their mind to their studies.

Meanwhile, thousand of unemployed youth are seen thronging to various department some knowing that they will not get what they are trying for as they have no tips to feed the so call Ministers. Rumours now spread about selling of government job at not less than Rs 20 lakhs. Surprisingly, many people are seen lining up in queue to fill the pocket of those who can assure them the job.

The ugly game of corruption, which was an agenda of all political parties and even those civil society organizations are remaining as silent spectators, even after seeing people approaching to MLAs and Ministers to fill their pocket for getting the job.

When many who had been assured of government job after payment of the amount are smiling, many frustrated youths are now considering finding other option even though they are qualified enough.

It is at this juncture, that sometime people sees no future of this erstwhile nation state called Manipur.

Many cried that the practice of bribing VIP for getting job will be uprooted but again election is knocking at the door. Aspirant candidates now started throwing money in organizing campaign and started offering big feast for youths to win their heart and soul.

The system has been here from a very long time and it continues till today. Those voices against this system are considered outlawed and anti-social elements.

Now the question is, where will the poor goes for survival? They are born and live has to be lived either by hook or crook. When those educated but thrown out for not having adequate amount to pay the money for the job they would certainly look for other option. The Paradise of once upon a time will be not less than Hell at that time.

Export Manipur's Education to Southeast Asia

By : Chingakham Dina, Arambam Karamjit, Khwairakpam Sunita

English medium education is becoming a booming industry in Asian. In the past one or two years, people are anticipating that there is going to be bigger market influence in Manipur from southeast Asian nations. There has been new education proposal and policy, announced in the news to meet the challenging supply and demand of skills and job market in Manipur. Where does Manipur stand to take the challenges coming from our neighbors.

Education quality in India is not good compared with world standard. To figure out the stand of education quality of India with respect to world standard, let us look at some facts. India put students in the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) test from two Indian states such as Tamil Nadu and Himchal Pradesh in 2012. PISA test is conducted to check the quality of students among 15 years old high school students. India came second last among the 73 countries. Poor quality and shocking with the reality, India hasn't participated the test in the following years.

There are large numbers of English teaching jobs in our neighboring Southeast Asian countries. However we cannot tap this opportunity because of the faulty and low quality education system of India. Quality of education in the east Asia and southeast Asia is becoming top ranking in the world. In 2015, the result of PISA test showed that top five (ranking) best education in the world are from Asia namely-

1. Singapore
2. Hong Kong
3. South Korea
4. Japan
4. Taiwan (Japan & Taiwan holding the same position).

Vietnam is in 12th position. This result shows Asia's real good performance in high school education ahead of former Scandinavian countries such as Finland. When we look at city-wise, Shanghai of China is doing excellent quality of education in recent years.

Better English proficiency captures better job and better salary in job market. We educate our youngsters in English medium, however we still are not able to capture the attention in job market and education business.

Foreign Students in India

There are students from southeast Asia and south Asian countries in big cities of India such as Delhi, Mumbai, Bangalore, Chennai, Pune etc. We will have more potential to attract those students to Manipur if we manage a good learning atmosphere. Southeast Asian nations such as Thailand, Laos, Myanmar, Cambodia etc share similar food and culture to many aspects with us. There are more similarities in culture, food habit, and similar looks with northeast people. Education business could be huge profitable in Manipur with better management as gateway of India to Look East Policy which is almost opening.

Our Perception of Education about Thailand

Thais don't speak English because they communicate in a single national language. But time has changed. You will see native English speakers in almost all the schools in Thailand. They have money to hire teachers from the west. So, nowadays there are many international schools, private schools, and English programs in almost every school. Reporters on TV, radios news are exactly sound as native English speaker. Native English became standard in recruiting teachers but still there are many Asian teachers especially from the Philippines. During 1960s & 1970s, Thai people went to the Philippines for education, but today younger generation Filipinos come to Thailand for education.

Students Inflow and Outflow from

Manipur

We lost huge amount of money for education as many students are moving to other states. If we maintain high quality, non disturbance environment in Manipur, our students will stay and learn in Manipur. In recent years, there has been growing number of B.Ed training institutions in Manipur. This is good sign for flowing in income to the state. People from other states of India started coming to study in Manipur. We should design our syllabus to produce more better human resource that could be employable easily in other advanced countries as well not only confining in the local job market. Targeting only local government job is wrong as the already existing government employees are not able to get paid their salary regularly due to wrong management.

1. Teacher and Students Exchange Program

Introducing exchange program for teachers and students with foreign countries will help to learn and expand knowledge in teaching-learning. Taking home those teaching learning experience will help a lot to improve our education management in Manipur. This exchange program needs involvement of officials, leaders of institution such as signing Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to make things easier for paperwork and visa for teachers and students participating the program. However, the weakness of schools and institution in Manipur, low standard of school infrastructures, disturbance with bandh and strike will surely discourage participation of foreign teachers and students in Manipur. Foreign educators and learners want to learn something valuable in a similar way we too, are looking for something to learn from them. Without improving those infrastructures, it will not be an easy task to bring foreigners and exchange program. Connecting people to people will enhance business opportunity in different fields.

2. English Language

The importance of English language in job market (local and international) is too high. Native English speaking teachers became role model. Even though we produce large number of English speaking youths and teachers, we are not able to enter successfully in English teaching job. We need to train our students to achieve near native English proficiency with better native-like accent by introducing modern language learning technologies.

3. Infra-structure and School Facilities.

Another important step is to improve school infrastructures to attract learners from outside. Our school buildings, facilities, and infra-structures are very poor. They are not enough and comparable the basic thing to that of Thailand, Singapore, Malaysia, and Hong Kong etc. Library, sports facilities, canteen, toilet, drinking water, computer literacy, wifi, recreational

facilities and all other extra-curricular activities are in poor state and these are very important parts of for education not only classroom lesson in other countries. They don't look at education for getting seats only for doctors or engineering learning. We neglect those things and that simply reflect to our Olympic performance so that we hardly able to bring medal from international competition. We need to improve these facilities otherwise outsiders will not be impressed to come to study in Manipur.

4. Kids Computer Coding

Computer became compulsory part of learning. There came a revolutionary introduction of computer code learning among kids. The seriousness of learning has become another level in advanced countries. In Hong Kong, basic computer coding has been introduced to kids as young as 6 years old. Most of our kids cannot access the basic of computer learning. Now many countries follow the footsteps of Hong Kong in this direction. We also need to take up such important steps of education in Manipur too to stand on par with our surroundings.

5. Stop Bandh Culture

People are using bandh-strike tactic to solve the conflict. This method punishes everyone in the whole state even though the origin of conflict is not involved the whole society. No one tries to bring solution by direct talk with concerned parties without bandh and strike. Anybody doesn't care the economic hard cause by bandh-strike. We shouldn't bring and involve kids as much as possible like in other countries. When there was big conflict in Thailand, the protesters organized their activities at particular place by building temporary stage to explain their causes and propaganda, to solve the problem. They always mind their own business not to hurt people's interest, business, and earning. We lost control these things in Manipur.

6. Changing Nature of People to Bring Foreign Students

To bring students to education industry depends on the stability of the society. People's attitude, the peace, the calmness, neat and clean

environments will attract many outsiders. Dirty, pollution, unhygienic atmosphere will deter outsiders coming to Manipur. People want to go to USA, England, Canada, Australia etc. to experience the systematic nature of the society not only the classroom education. The science, and the maths we learn in the classroom are the same as those taught in USA, England etc. but they attract students just because of their competitiveness, quality and smooth system of the environment in the society. We need help of local people, clubs, youths, government and non government organizations' involvement to run the society smoothly. Without basic infrastructure such as road, electricity, water, toilet, communication, we will not attract foreign students. Strict rules imposed on foods and drinks, dress code and culture will discourage people coming to Manipur. As such freedom and competitive business atmosphere are available, there are thousands of foreign students in Thailand even though it is not famous for education destination. No first world country's students will come to study in 3rd world except for cultural heritage learning if we still cannot modify and provide brighter side of the society. Our potentials will not be catapulted unless we bring some smooth atmosphere in our society. Despite of many odds, we still have better chance in education business if we manage better learning atmosphere. We need to bring more income for the state machinery to run the infrastructures smoothly and maintain the existing infra-structures, so education business could be one of the source of incomes.

Writers' Profile:

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MANIPUR LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT NOTIFICATION Imphal, the 27th October, 2016

No. 1/13(6)/2014-LA(E)/Rectt.: It is hereby informed to all the candidates who have applied for direct recruitment to the following posts in the Manipur Legislative Assembly Secretariat that the written tests are re-scheduled on the date, time and venue as shown below:

Sl.No.	Name of post	Date	Time	Venue
1.	Committee Officer	03-11-2016	11:00am	Assembly Secretariat
2.	Translator	04-11-2016	11:00am	

Candidates who have not yet collected their admitcards are intimated to collect the same on or before the date of written test re-scheduled above and also to appear for the same without fail.

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

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