

# Editorial

Imphal Friday, October 7, 2016

## A different perspective

The one simple thing that could make much of almost everything much easier and smoother, yet seemingly impossible to accomplish is the act of coming clean. It would indeed take a much greater strength of character to own up our mistakes and short comings, and still greater willpower to refrain from deliberately committing acts we consciously know is wrong and false. The few fortunate ones who have the grit and will to transcend these urges are acknowledged and respected. On the other hand, a new breed of "Go-Getters" who would not stop at anything to achieve their goal is on the rise the pressures of present day society helping in developing and pruning such mindset to perfection. They are the restless, hyperactive and aggressive ones who do not cater to emotions and aesthetics. Modern parents and guardians are increasingly urging their wards to adopt the letter approach towards life in order to carve out a place in the society that invariably results in a level of respect-respect that again is dependent on the earning capacity, the social circle adopted and living status maintained. Increasing compulsions for security in terms of food, shelter and a step towards a more secure future could be the factors that prompted the collective thinking towards adopting such an attitude towards life. But then, does that mean the adage "All is fair and love and war" will be made true? Is our life becoming a daily struggle, a battle-if not a war, we are destined to wage every single living day of our lives? Where does that leave us with any room or opportunity for improvement not the financial kind, but a more rounded and holistic, as a person? The present developments in the society-particularly that of mindless atrocities and lack of considerations that is becoming rampant would be a spill-off of this new approach towards life. The struggle for security-for the basic necessities of life has become the all-consuming tryst for wealth which invariably leads to the thirst for power and influence. Greed takes over everything else, making our lives worse off than when we started. What then could be the panacea for these aberrations that has come to plague our lives of late? The answer lays within us common knowledge which just needs to be acknowledged, and more importantly to act on. Putting up a façade of make-believe and a show of benevolence and righteousness will not absolve anyone of the crimes and wrongs. This is of utmost importance for everyone, and more so for those who are donning the role of public representatives who we are following. Concepts like beauty, peace and harmony can only be experienced if we can rise above our petty urges and look at life-that of ourselves and the ones around us in a different and totally new perspective one that does not have anything to do with wealth, power or fame. "The earth has enough to satisfy man's needs but not man's greed". Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi.

### More State news

#### Free ENT Camp held at Thoubal

**IT News**  
**Imphal, Oct 7:** Shija ENT Centre organized a free ENT Camp at Athokpam Awang Leikai, Thoubal yesterday. More than 60 patients were provided free OPD consultation and free Video Endoscopy. The free ENT camp was led by Dr. Moirangthem Niteshore Singh, Consultant ENT Surgeon, Shija Hospitals. Leaflets on ENT related problems were distributed to the patients participating in the free camp. The camp was jointly



organized with District Library cum Youth Centre (DLCYC), Athokpam Awang Leikai. The camp was held as a part of Shija Outreach Program.

### Lost

I have lost my original RC Book of my bike - Y2F R15 V2 bearing chassis no. MEI1CK023C2004847 and engine no. ICK2004847 on the way in between my residence and Thoubal Bazar on 30/9/2016. Finders are requested to handover the same to the undersigned.

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Charangpat Mamang Leikai  
PO & PS - Thoubal

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## Socio- Economic Condition of Jiribam & it's reality

In spite of having the largest population since independence, Bengali speaking community are at the bottom of the socio-economic strata in Jiribam as well as in the state.

The first three communities are having the more or less similar socio-economic condition. They constitute the neglected part of the Jiribam Assembly constituency. Since independence the so called jiribam people's representatives have been neglecting these communities in all spheres of life as well as in respect of their democratic rights assigned by the constitution of India.

Even the basic fundamental rights as enshrined in the constitution of India have remained a distant dream for these communities living in Jiribam.

Right to land is a basic right of every human being but in the case of Jiribam, these Bengali communities are not entitled to own land in their names. Thus they are denied of their right over property. Is this a policy of marking them/branding them as Bangladeshi immigrants by some groups/individuals with hidden agenda?

The entire Jiribam area is having only two numbers of government Primary Health Centres. Even though one district hospital is being constructed with a huge expense of money, it is not functional yet. People are to come over to Silchar for minimum medical treatment. Many people have lost their lives due to the unavailability of quality health care facility.

In the entire Jiribam area there is only one aided college and two higher secondary school. All others primary and lower primary schools are non functional. Most

interestingly there is only four high school in Bengali speaking communities and Tribal community habitat area. Under the right to education Act (2009), children within age group of 6-14 shall be provided free and compulsory education but due to non functional of government primary and lower primary schools, it is still a dream for the children of these communities to get basic education. Hence the Mid-Day Meal seems to

and maintained. Is government not known to this hard reality? The communication and public transportation is one of the biggest challenges for the general public of Jiribam living in the interior area. But no substantial steps have been undertaken by the government so far. Even after 70 years of India's Independence, sanitation and availability of/provision for clean drinking water for the people

By: Sheikh Noorul Hassan, Freelance Journalist cum social entrepreneur & political analysts.

of Imphal Valley and contractors. Most of the state government officials are bias towards these communities (Bengali, Tribal and Manipuri Muslim), hence there is a hostile environment. Most of the high ranking state government employees posted in Jiribam works in favour of local MLA and they act as an agent of local MLA during Assembly election.

Huge land has been taken over by the state government for tea plantation but it is not functional and these lands has been encroached by some individuals who has nexus with the politicians. There is a hidden agenda to construct Private Township by these individuals on these lands but government has remained deaf, dumb and blind on this issue. The same is with paper grip mill.

Law and order situation in Jiribam seems to be very chaotic. In every state Assembly Election, state forces are openly manipulated by the local MLA in his favour. The operation of gang during election is a very common feature to suppress and oppress these communities. Since independence adult franchise has never been free and fair in Jiribam.

Jiribam has its special strategic and geographical location, because of which it is one of the major heart line of entire Manipur. Most of food items as well as non-food items are passed through Jiribam to reach to the mainland of Imphal, yet all will be astonished to see the pathetic road connectivity, which has created more inequality in terms of development of Jiribam compared to other parts of Manipur.

### The demographic components of Jiribam can be jotted as-

- A) Bengali speaking community (both Hindu and Muslim)- constitutes the largest/majority populated community,
- B) Tribal community- constitutes third largest populated community,
- C) Manipuri Muslim - constitutes least populated community and
- D) Meitei community- constitutes second most populated community.

be not reachable to the most deserving children of this locality.

There is no properly maintained motor able road beyond Dibong. Under PMGSY in the name of constructing and maintaining roads every season huge amount of money is being released but in reality there is neither construction nor maintenance of road takes place in Jiribam. Jiribam is often referred to as a place where contractor earns millions without doing any work (akash bill). There is an apprehension amongst the people that without the knowledge of local MLA, this corruption cannot be practiced. Even the PWD roads are not properly constructed

of these communities in jiribam is still not available. There is a budget allocation for sanitation and clean drinking water supply but it never reaches to the downtrodden sections of society.

Various people oriented Central government schemes are available only on paper and not on the ground. The number of people from this community is also lagging behind in terms of enrolment in both state and central government services. There is no organised industry/market available in Jiribam. Most of the people are living as daily wage earner. Most of the Jiribam rubber plantation is owned by big politicians

### National & International News

## India-Pakistan Border to Be Sealed By December 2018: Home Minister Rajnath Singh

**Jaisalmer, Oct 7:** The India-Pakistan border will be sealed by December 2018, Home Minister Rajnath Singh said today after a meeting with Chief Ministers to review security in border states. "This is time bound, it will be done by 2018 December. We are readying action plan for that," Mr Singh said after the meeting in Rajasthan's Jaisalmer. He said a border security grid will also be in place soon, adding: "We are also looking at technological solutions to man the border."

The Home Minister is on a two-day visit to review security on India's western border amid tension with Pakistan. He is expected to visit outposts on the 1,048 km border with Pakistan in Rajasthan. NDTV reported on Thursday that intelligence agencies have warned of a possible terror attack at airports in Rajasthan, Delhi and Punjab, Jammu and Kashmir and Gujarat. 22 airports in the four states have been sent detailed warnings and authorities have

confirmed high security measures are being implemented. The Civil Aviation Security Bureau has also written to the police chiefs in each state, the CISF or paramilitary force which guards airports, as well as to state-run and private airlines alerting them to the security threat. A high security alert is standard for the festival season. But agencies are concerned about a terror attack in retaliation for last week's surgical strikes in Pakistan-Occupied Kashmir which

saw soldiers targeting seven terrorist launch pads or gathering areas. Intelligence agencies have warned of nearly 100 terrorists being prepped to cross the Line of Control before winter sets in and the routes into Kashmir are covered with snow. The cross-border strikes carried out by India a week ago were in response to a deadly attack at an army camp in Uri in Kashmir last month, in which 19 soldiers were killed by a group of four Pakistani terrorists.

## Ghana says it wants to remove Gandhi statue from campus

**AP Ghana, Oct. 7:** Ghana has expressed its intention to remove a statue of Indian independence leader Mohandas Gandhi from a university in the capital, citing a controversy over what critics call his "racist identity." But the government made clear the move would be for the statue's safety, telling the critics that "we must remember that people evolve." Professors at the University of Ghana launched a petition last month calling for the removal of the statue, which was unveiled by Indian President Pranab Mukherjee in June.

Ghana's foreign affairs ministry said the government "would... want to relocate the statue from the University of Ghana to ensure its safety." Obadele Kambo, one of the petition's organizers, said Thursday there was no confirmation the statue would be removed. He said moving the statue to another location in Ghana would be insufficient.

He urged the government to send it back to India. "We don't think the statue would be well received anywhere in

Ghana," he said. Gandhi, a lawyer, traveled to South Africa in 1893 and stayed for two decades, fighting to expand rights for Indians there. The petition quotes writings from that period in which he refers to black South Africans as savages. At the same time, Gandhi's approach of nonviolent protest

influenced the African National Congress and its resistance to white minority rule. "While acknowledging that human as he was, Mahatma Gandhi may have had his flaws, we must remember that people evolve," Ghana's statement said. "He inspired movements for civil rights and freedom across the world."

The statement also expressed concern that the professors' campaign could harm Ghana's ties to India.

The professors say the university instead should feature statues of local heroes like Yaa Asantewaa, who led a rebellion against British colonialism, or Kwame Nkrumah, Ghana's first president.

## Supreme Court stays Patna high court order quashing liquor ban in Bihar

**TNN & Agencies New Delhi, Oct. 7:** In a relief for the Nitish government, the Supreme Court on Friday stayed the Patna high court order quashing the notification banning consumption and sale of liquor in the state.

"Ban on liquor and fundamental rights do not go together," the SC bench said. The Bihar government had moved the SC on October 3 challenging the Patna high court order. The Patna high court had on September 30 quashed April 5 notification of the state government banning consumption and sale of alcohol in the state, saying it was ultra vires to the Constitution. However, two days after the high

court quashed the order on prohibition, Bihar government on Gandhi Jayanti came out with a new law banning liquor with harsher provisions like arrest of all adults in the event of recovery of the contraband in their house.

In its notification, the government notified the Bihar Prohibition and Excise Act, 2016 to ensure that the ban on sale and consumption of alcohol including Indian Made Foreign Liquor (IMFL) as well spiced and domestic liquor, continued in the state. While assailing September 30 high court verdict, Bihar government urged the court to decide whether state can impose absolute prohibition on distribution and

consumption of liquor and whether an individual can claim right to consume liquor as his or her fundamental right under the Constitution.

It claimed that as a consequence of the high court order, the state government's efforts to bring complete prohibition on liquor, in performance of its constitutional obligations, has been frustrated. (More) PTI/MNL UK/SJK  
The Grand Secular Alliance government had first banned manufacture, trade, sale and consumption of country-made liquor since April 1, but later imposed a blanket ban on all types of liquor, including foreign liquor, in the state.