

Editorial

Imphal Monday, April 24, 2017

Leaking of the secret deal, is it another trick?

BJP led coalition government under the incumbent Chief Minister N. Biren has completed a month and few days. Appreciation pours from almost all sections of the people to the kind of works taken up by his government in this short span of 30 days. The rolling out of red carpet to the new chief Minister by the people of Utkhrul district, the trust from almost all communities had created a new hope to the people of the state. Peace and harmony was assumed restored with the coming of the new government.

But not everything seems going well after the completion of one month government. Besides, the government inability to prove its efficiency to the kind of promises it made to the people soon after holding the office, another issue which might spark fire in the state arises today at most newspaper.

Yes, it is about the secret deal between the NSCN-IM and the Government of India which is stated to have been leaked. Well Manipur burnt in June, 2001, after the then NDA government led by the BJP signed infamous cease fire agreement with the NSCN-IM at Bangkok which stated the extension of the cease fire agreement "without territorial limit". Peoples' anger over the agreement burnt even the Manipur Legislative assembly along with other offices of almost all political parties. 18 plus people died and several seriously injured in the peoples' uprising. Sensing trouble, the then government of India was left with no choice but to withdraw the words without territorial limit.

Since then the strategy to deal with the NSCN-IM has been change by respective government at the center.

Well bringing a solution to the issue of the NSCN-IM has been a top agenda of the Indian government irrespective of which party is in power.

It was on November 14, 2011, that the erstwhile newspaper called Seven Sisters Post had published a news report, which it said that a final solution was about to reach between the NSCN-IM and the Government of India. The report indicated formation of a Supra State for the Naga as demanded by the NSCN-IM. The then Seven Sister Post stated that the report was based on a leaked document. However, after another uprising in the state of Manipur, the Union government clarified and said that there was no such proposal.

Well in August 3 2015, after the BJP led government come to power at the center, a framework agreement was signed between the Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the Collective leadership of the NSCN-IM at New Delhi.

For reason best known the content of the framework agreement has never been spell out.

Again on August 13, 2015, this newspaper reported about another leaked document of the framework agreement. On that issue we reported that the preamble of the framework agreement contents 8 point preamble. On August 15, of the same year, the Imphal Times again reported about the 50 points demands that were put up by the NSCN-IM collective leadership for signing with the Government of India.

The report failed to give much impact to any of the stakeholder until a National Daily based at Hyderabad reproduced the news report. Again, the interlocutor of the peace talk RN Ravi denies any such points being raised by the NSCN-IM.

Now a National media "The Week" again published a report from a leaked document stating that to solve the issue of the NSCN-IM the Union government will create an autonomous district council in the state of Manipur with financial autonomy to four districts, disrespecting the state government creation of 7 new districts.

We at the Imphal Times are not sure whether the Union Ministry of Home Affairs will once more said that this report is baseless or not. But don't worry there will be another uprising and may be after sacrificing several youths of the state, the government may finally comes out with another statement.

Leaked documents are intentionally leak out to check the response of the people.

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National and International News

Congress dubs NITI Aayog a 'flop'

ANI

New Delhi, April 24: Launching a scathing attack on Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Congress on Monday dubbed the National Institution for Transforming India (NITI) Aayog as a 'flop', adding that the Central government needs to understand the feelings and problems of the state governments rather than harassing them.

"Niti Aayog is a flop. It has not been able to make any significant mark. It, in fact, has been reduced by this government to an exercise in futility. It was a foolish decision of the Central government to do away with the planning commission. This Niti Aayog is only trying to underwrite the doings and undoings of the Modi government," Congress leader Om Prakash Mishra told ANI.

Taking a dig at the Prime Minister's assertion that every state needs to work together for better India, Mishra said the former talks about new India while his supports are trying to create division in the country.

"New India was born in 1947. It has been nurtured through seven decades of Parliamentary democracy. It has been enriched by liberalism, secularism. Modi government is trying to undermine institutions. Modi and his government should rather focus on building up and strengthening the institution, they should attempt to diffuse the conflict situation in many parts of the country and they should not try to harass the opposition. That is how new India actually can further be developed," he added.

U.S. citizen trying to leave North Korea detained

ANI

London, Apr. 24: A U.S. citizen trying to leave North Korea amid fears of a major war has been detained, bringing to three the number of Americans now being held in the country. According to Park Chan-mo, the chancellor of the Pyongyang University of Science and Technology, the detained American is Tony Kim, who also goes by his Korean name Kim Sang-duk, reports Guardian.

Kim taught accounting at the university for about a month and was detained by officials as he was trying to leave the country from Pyongyang's international airport. Although the reason behind Kim's detention is yet to be ascertained, the development comes at a time of unusually heightened tensions between the US and North Korea, as both countries have recently been trading threats of war.

Last year, Otto Warmbier, then a 21-year-old University of Virginia student from Cincinnati, was sentenced to 15 years of hard labor in prison after he confessed to trying to steal a propaganda banner. Kim Dong Chul, who was born in South Korea but is also believed to have US citizenship, is serving a sentence of 10 years for espionage. Meanwhile, following North Korea's threat to sink an American vessel, the Pentagon on Sunday called on Pyongyang to avoid destabilizing the situation further.

"We call on (North Korea) to refrain from provocative, destabilizing actions and rhetoric, and to make the strategic choice to fulfill its international obligations and commitments and return to serious talks. North Korea's unlawful weapons programs represent a clear, grave threat to US national security," Pentagon spokesman Gary Ross said.

The statement came just hours after a North Korean newspaper said Pyongyang was ready to take out a US aircraft carrier conducting drills with Japanese destroyers near the Philippines.

Tej Bahadur likely to appeal against his BSF dismissal today

ANI

New Delhi , April 24: Former Border Security Force (BSF) jawan Tej Bahadur Yadav, who was dismissed from the BSF over his viral video of poor food quality for jawans, is likely to appeal against his dismissal from service in a Delhi court today.

The Summary Security Force Court (SSFC) on April 19 dismissed the BSF soldier from service for posting a video regarding substandard food being served to the jawans. The SSFC conducted the proceedings against Yadav following charges under provision of the BSF Act and Rules:

- An act pre-judicial to good order and discipline of the force in which he made false allegations on social media regarding quality of food and did not adhere to formal grievance redressal mechanism of the force.
- Neglect to obey general orders of the force in which he carried two mobile phones while on operational duty against the SOP and also posted photographs in uniform on social media in contravention of instructions.

Yadav was found guilty of all the charges and awarded dismissal from service. However during the proceedings, all opportunities were given to Yadav for his defence.

As per the BSF Act and Rules, he can submit a petition or appeal against the punishment to the rot in the system by revealing the deeply ingrained corruption in the higher order, saying that the troops are not even getting basic three square meals.

SC to hear plea seeking filling of police vacancies in six states

ANI

New Delhi, April 24: The Supreme Court will today hear the plea seeking a direction for filling up the vacancies in the police forces in six states.

Earlier this month, the apex court called on the Home Secretaries of six states to come up with a road map regarding the steps they would take to fill up the vacancies. The apex court bench, headed by Chief Justice of India Jagdish Singh Khehar, said that if the Chief Secretaries are unable to make an appearance, then another representative would appraise the top court about the plans on filling up the vacancies.

The six states are Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal. Manish Kumar, who is the petitioner in the case, sought the top court's intervention and a direction to fill up the police vacancies as soon as possible.

Kumar, in his petition, claimed that there are vacancies of almost more than a lakh across six states. Kumar said that the six states which are having maximum number of vacancies are Uttar Pradesh with 1.50 lakh, West Bengal with 37,000, Bihar with 34,000, Jharkhand with 26,000, Karnataka with 24,000 and Tamil Nadu with 19,000 are needed to be filled up.

North Korea cranks the heat, threatens to sink US ship

ANI

New York, April 24: In a development bound to further rock the already dilapidating ties between the two nations, North Korea on Sunday threatened to sink an American aircraft carrier in the western Pacific Ocean.

North Korea's state-run newspaper Rodong Sinmun said in an editorial the country is ready to illustrate its "military force" by sinking a "nuclear-powered aircraft carrier with a single strike," reports CNN. The paper also claimed to have weaponry which "can reach continental US and Asia Pacific region" and the "absolute weapon," hydrogen bomb.

US President Donald Trump had said the USS Carl Vinson carrier group was being deployed to waters off the Korean peninsula

The fresh threat comes in the wake of Trump announcing that he was sending "an armada" to the Korean waters potentially to deal with threats from North Korea.

"We are sending an armada. Very powerful. We have submarines. Very powerful. Far more powerful than the aircraft carrier. That I can tell you," Trump said.

US defense officials told CNN the Vinson and its carrier group would arrive off the Korean Peninsula by the end of April.

However, Sunday's threats are consistent with others North Korea has made in past weeks. Besides asserting that it will respond in kind to any US attack on the country, Pyongyang has also claimed it would strike the US mainland and US carriers and forces in the region, specifically US bases in Seoul and Tokyo.

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