

# Editorial

Imphal Friday, April 7, 2017

## Failed maintenance

"Be very careful what you wish for; they might come true"-ironic as the saying might sound, the people of the state have had the unfortunate experience of living this statement for a number of years now. What was a fervent wish for the people only a couple of days back have materialized, only to add more worries and cause much discomfort and inconvenience. The frantic rush for water, made more serious by the forecast of a prolonged spell of dryness had the public worried, with much of the days preoccupied with the process of looking for and stocking up on any available source of water. Neglected and stagnant bodies of water which have hitherto been left untouched suddenly became precious. Social organizations and public bodies were suddenly awakened to the necessity of keeping the environment clean and the waters hygienic. The jolt did our society a world of good, and hopefully the heightened civic sense prevails for years to come. But the irony of the situation is that only a few days of rain have left the state in danger of being inundated. Roads and lanes became unusable as water everywhere was flowing on the streets, with the newly constructed drains and drainage systems either being too high off the road or disconnected with the rest of the drainage system, if there still exist such a system worth the name. Incidentally, there is an apparent realization on the part of the Government of the increasingly worsening situation of floods and droughts in the state, with reports of a plan to set up a plan to tackle the situation. But it's easier said than done and it would take much more than a mere plan, however practical or efficient it might be, to make things work at the ground level. There needs to be a radical change in the system as well as in the mindset of those running the system. Welfare of the public does not necessarily mean huge expenditures and never ending construction activities, nor does progress entail unimaginable inconvenience to the public. Timely execution and strict conformity to the quality and schedule of activities could produce better results. A concerted effort needs to be taken up - a proposal that is in all probability an impossible feat given the present circumstances. It is rather unfortunate that a state like Manipur, endowed with abundant resources and favorable conditions have remained largely underdeveloped, not for want of assistance from the centre, but as a result of the haphazard implementation of policies and programs, not with the best intention and welfare of the public in mind, but apparently with personal interests and private gains in sight. To say that the state is prone to droughts and floods would be stretching things beyond acceptability. It is rather the absence of an efficient system of utilizing these natural resources such as water and natural drainage system, compounded by haphazard unplanned populist measures of doling out contracts such as for drains and culverts without proper planning. The Government needs to take up measures to harness and preserve resources such as rain water and address the issue of disconnected drainage system along with a system to keep these resources and structures functional and clean. Involving the multitude of social organizations and making them partners in the process of development instead of doling out contracts to the cronies of the powerful and the influential will go a long way in mitigating the various social inconveniences and inefficiencies plaguing the system at present.

## CBI arrests telecom officer for graft

**PTI Jaipur, April 7:** The CBI has arrested a Telecom District Manager (TDM) and a retired junior accountant of BSNL for allegedly demanding and accepting bribe in Rajasthan's Bharatpur district. According to a CBI source, the accused allegedly took Rs one lakh from a contractor to clear his bill following which they were arrested. "TDM had demanded the bribe from the contractor of optical fiber cable, Sukhbeer Singh Sinsinwar, to clear his bill amounting Rs 60 lakh through his middleman, a retired junior accountant. "They were caught by the team at the TDM's residence in Bharatpur last night when they were taking the bribe amount," the CBI source said. After initial questioning, they were today placed under arrest on the charge of criminal conspiracy. They were booked under relevant sections of the Prevention of Corruption Act. A search was launched at the office and residence of the officer, the source said, adding, they will be produced in a court later today.

**By Rohini Mohan**

Education, if looked at beyond its conventional boundaries, forms the very essence of all our actions. What we do is what we know and have learned, either through instructions or through observation and assimilation. When we are not making an effort to learn, our mind is always processing new information or trying to analyze the similarities as well as the tiny nuances within the context which makes the topic stand out or seem different. If that is the case then the mind definitely holds the potential to learn more, however, it is us who stop ourselves from expanding the horizons of our knowledge with self-doubt or other social, emotional, or economic constraints. While most feel that education is a necessity, they tend to use it as a tool for reaching a specific target or personal mark, after which there is no further need to seek greater education. Nonetheless, the importance of education in society is indispensable and cohering, which is why society and knowledge cannot be ever separated into two distinct entities. Let us find out more about the role of education in society and how it affects our lives. Purpose of Education in Society Education is Self Empowerment Receiving a good education helps empower you, thus making you strong enough to look after yourself in any given situation. It keeps you aware of your given surrounding as well as the rules and regulations of the society you're living in. It's only through knowledge that you can be able to question authority for its negligence or discrepancies. It is only then that you can avail your rights as a citizen and seek improvement in the structural functioning of governance and economy. It's only when a citizen is aware about the policies of its government can he be able to support or protest the change. As a whole, people can bring about development only when they know where improvement is necessary for the greater good of mankind.

## Importance of Education in Society

Education helps you understand yourself better, it helps you realize your potential and qualities as a human being. It helps you to tap into latent talent, so that you may be able to sharpen your skills.

### Financial Stability and Dignity of Life

Another importance of education is that it helps you gain sufficient academic qualification so that you are able to get suitable employment at a later stage. A decent employment would be combined with hard-earned remuneration or salary through which you can look after your personal expenses. While you earn for yourself, you gradually begin to realize the true worth of money and how hard it is to earn it. You realize the significance of saving for a rainy day and for unforeseeable contingencies. You feel empowered because there is a new sense of worth that develops within you, and you feel the need to be independent and free from any further financial support. You take pride in the fact that you are earning for yourself, and are not obligated to anyone.

### Growth in Personal Aspiration

There also comes a phase when the amount you are earning presently will seem inadequate because your aspirations and expectations for yourself would have grown considerably. After this, you will want to change jobs so as to have a higher profile. However, here is when you need to be prepared. A promotion of this figure can occur in two given situations, which are, that either you have the necessary higher academic qualification or a college degree which allows you a safe passage, or that you have amassed enough practical experience which allows you to be a suitable candidate for the employment you seek.

### On the Job Efficiency

This is why college education is very important after high school and must not be taken for granted. When faced with the option of choosing between a highly qualified candidate and a not so educated candidate, the employers will most

probably go in for the qualified person. The reason being that, a qualified candidate will not require much investment of the employer's time and money. The organization need not teach him or her the tricks of the trade, or the various ways of functioning and performing the tasks of the workplace. On the contrary, a novice / amateur applicant would need to be taught everything from scratch, which many employer's are usually not willing to do. The same applies for people who seek higher education and get advanced diplomas while working. These people are continuously improving their profile and their knowledge base so as to go higher up on the competitive ladder.

### Helps Plan Ahead

Those who have amassed enough education, steer the path of development and progress for their country. It is these individuals who go ahead and become teachers, scientists, inventors, welfare activists, soldiers, and politicians who work together to form the very backbone of the society. Without this pool of intellect, the economic and social framework would crumble and fall, paving its way for anarchy, degradation, and violence. While this intricate balance of growth is maintained, there will be a continuous rise in progress in all quarters of life, whether that be personal growth, or development of the nation as an entity. This progress has a very important role to play for the coming generations, which will reap the benefits of our hard work, as they develop it further. At the same time, the negative impact of our actions shall have its collateral damage on the coming generation as well. Which is why we must be exceptionally prudent about the decisions we make and the actions we take in the present.

### Job Seeker vs. Job Provider

There will come a time, when you will no longer feel the need to be working as someone's mere employee. You would want to take charge and control over your own life and income. This is when you

will decide to become a self-employed individual, who would like to watch his / her own ideas take realistic form. You would prefer being the one offering job opportunities to others and aid in providing income to them. At this stage of entrepreneurship, you may use your own expertise as well as that of other trained and skilled associates. As a team, you will find your business or venture expanding and yielding good results. You may even gain the confidence and insight, which will help you diversify and spread your expertise into other business arenas, which were previously unknown to you, or you were unsure about. This ability, comes with experience and knowledge amassed over the years. **An Idle Mind is 'The Devil's Workshop'**

Education and studying regularly, gives people of all age groups something substantial and challenging to do. It helps them think and use their idle hours, doing something productive and worthwhile. Education need not be purely academic and may include reading for leisure or as a passion for literature, philosophy, art, politics, economics, or even scientific research. There is no limit, to all that you can teach yourself, only if you take the interest to learn and grow as an individual. However, those who treat knowledge as trash, eventually find themselves getting absorbed with thoughts of violence, and jealousy against those who are better off than themselves. It is people such as these who turn towards drug addiction, unnecessary rebellion, crime, and plain inactivity. Such people lack the self-esteem, that a good education often provides to its followers. Education plays its continuous role in all spheres of life. The reason being, that if we are aware of the drawbacks of a decision and we know about the possible contingencies and the collateral damage, our consequent actions would be wiser, which would help us to keep danger at bay at all times.

## National & International News

# SC seeks response from Centre, states on banning cow vigilante groups

**New Delhi, April 7:** The Supreme Court on Friday issued notice to Centre and six states seeking their response on why self-styled 'gau rakshaks dal' be not banned for allegedly creating disharmony among various communities and castes and indulging in mob violence. A bench headed by Justice Dipak Misra asked the governments to file response within three weeks and posted the case for further hearing to May 3. It passed the order on a PIL filed by Congress leader Tehseen Poonawalla seeking ban on such groups. Senior advocate Sanjay Hegde,

appearing for the petitioner, told the court that people were being attacked by such vigilante groups and the court should intervene to direct the states not to give protection to them. The petition alleged that "Gau Rakshak Dals", which have been active across the country and carrying on their illegal activity, were spreading violence and committing atrocities against dalits and minority communities and pleaded the court to direct the Centre and states to take action against them. "The petitioner humbly submits that the menace caused by the so called cow protection groups is spreading

fast to every nook and corner of the country and is creating disharmony among various communities and castes. These vigilantes groups are operating beyond the realm of law and are known to take law in their hands," the petition said. Highlighting the menace of cow vigilante groups, Poonawalla, who claims to be a political analyst and social activist, referred an incident in Una in Gujarat where seven dalits were thrashed for skinning a dead cow. He said that similar incidents had occurred in Madhya Pradesh, Haryana, Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh. "In most of the cases the police and

other law enforcement agencies are either complicit in such illegal actions or have merely been mute spectators against such evil. Therefore Centre and states should be directed to take immediate and necessary actions against such groups and also to ban them," he said. "The actions of cow protection groups infringe the personal liberty of the victim. The actions of public flogging, urinating on the victim forcing them to eat cow dung takes away the victims right to life and personal liberty and the court should intervene to protect people from such groups," the petition said.

## Four killed due to torrential rain in Jammu and Kashmir

**IANS Srinagar, April 7:** Four persons were killed and five others went missing due to incessant rains in Jammu and Kashmir as authorities declared flood in the valley on Friday. "In the Jhelum River, water was flowing at 21.50 feet at Sangam in Anantnag and at 20.20 feet at Ram Munshibagh in Srinagar at 8 a.m. today (on Friday)," Muhammad Hanief Lone, chief engineer Flood Control Department told reporters here. "At both these places the water level is above the flood mark. In view of this development, the state government has declared floods in the valley and all related emergency arrangements have been made," Lone said. The Chief Engineer also said even

though the weather was likely to improve from Friday, the water level in rivers, lakes and streams of the valley was expected to rise further. "People living in low lying areas and close to the banks of rivers and streams are advised to remain vigilant," Lone said. Four people have so far died due to incessant rains in the state during the last 24 hours. A father and his son were killed by an avalanche in Kargil district of the Ladakh region on Thursday. A woman was killed by lightning in Rajouri district of Jammu region and a 10-year-old girl drowned in north Kashmir's Kupwara district. The girl's body was washed away by a roaring mountain stream. Rescue teams recovered the body two km away from the place where the girl

had drowned, an official said. An avalanche hit a post of the Indian Army in the Batalik sector of Ladakh region on Thursday burying five soldiers under it. Two soldiers have been rescued so far while rescue operation is on to locate the other three missing soldiers. Five passengers of a taxi were miraculously rescued after the vehicle fell into the overflowing Brengi mountain stream in Anantnag district on Thursday. Two passengers of the ill-fated vehicle were still missing. Army used helicopters to rescue 17 people marooned in flash floods in Poonch district of Jammu region on Thursday. Dozens of houses across the state have been partially damaged due to the flood and torrential rains.

At least 40 sheep perished in a house collapse in Reasi district of Jammu region on Thursday. Water has entered many villages in north Kashmir's Baramulla district where authorities have pressed in rescue teams with boats to help the marooned people. In residential and commercial areas of Srinagar city including Maisuma, Karan Nagar, Bemina, Batmaloo, Wazir Bagh, Rajbagh, Mehjoor Nagar, Chanapora etc people complain that water had entered their homes. More than two feet deep water logging was witnessed in Budshah Chowk, Jehangir Chowk and Regal Chowk areas of uptown Srinagar causing traffic jams. Authorities used fire and emergency services pump sets to clear the water logging on the uptown main roads.

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