

## Editorial

Thursday, December 28, 2017

### A reminder on the role of media and political parties

In democratic India, all people irrespective of their social status are equal before the law of the land. Any person is free to exercise his or her rights when he or she feels that he or she is deprived of what he or she were supposed to enjoy. It may be in the form of democratic protest, criticisms through various channels of mass media or by organising mass campaign that the people in the society can be made understand that, rights of a common person is deprived. Once people are convinced, it is natural that the people join hands to the fellow citizen whose rights has been deprived, not because for individual cause but because justice to the single fellow will also mean justice for all people in the society.

Mass media in today's world is playing tremendous role in bringing up issues which they think is for the cause of the common people. India is not lagging behind; there have been many cases that common people who were victims of atrocities have been delivered justice. Many God men had been put behind bars, business tycoon are declared wanted and many politicians are also not spare for the wrongs they had committed which affect the livelihood of the common people by those in media risking their lives.

Paid news, reporting of cooked stories and yellow journalism are some of the familiar words coined to defame the people in mass media by those who had been exposed for their wrong deeds. Saying so it does not meant that some people in the profession are pure and sincere in rendering their duty.

The mass media in this little state Manipur too has been playing its role effectively. Without bothering the kind of returns they enjoyed as payment to their service, people in this profession have been taking all risk in exposing what is not right when it comes for the common people. 8 people in the field had lost their lives some remain as disabled in unfortunate accidents and incidents when they were on duty. Inappropriate salary in returns to their service had also forced many to quit the profession. Yet there is no shortage of manpower in this field.

From hand written pamphlets to letter press and then Offset printing machine and then come multicoloured Web printing machines besides the emergence of Television channels, mass media in Manipur too is marching ahead. Now it is the digital media that is slowly dominating the world of mass media. The traditional way of spreading news has been slowly changing converting the system to two ways channel- as both receivers and senders can communicate in a nick of time. The changing media trends showed that criticism, debate, arguments will be the future of media and it is already doing at many of the national and international media, even though it still seems way to go for the state of Manipur.

Saying so, it would be wrong to advocate a free speech from any individual or freedom of press without limit as legitimate. In democratic India a breached of privilege for some individuals or groups by any mass media can be challenged, but taking the law in hand to stand up or protest against any trespassing to individuals or groups is rather a sign of lawlessness. Government's silence on such matter will only be recorded as weak or inefficient, by the future generation.

On one hand, when lawyers, advocates protest on the street for failure of law and order, and when media goes protest for some peoples' threat to sue them through proper channel, it showed the timidity character of the group of people in the profession which should be the most courageous people. Steps like boycott of those voices against media which they felt not correct would be a more unjustified decision. Space for criticism to media should also be provided if someone felt that their image have been maligned by any writings or comment of a media house. A hurriedly managed staged demonstration by any groups including political parties or media or anybody driven by emotion and sentiments is not a signed of civility society.

### Name Change

I, the undersigned Chingangbam Amusana Devi (New Name) previously called Chingangbam Ongbi Amusana Devi (Old Name) doing house wife and resident of Haobam Marak Chingham Leikai Imphal West District, Manipur, India Solemnly declare that I abandon the use of my former name/surname of Chingangbam ongbi Amusana Devi and in place thereof, I do hereby assume from this date the name/surname Chingangbam Amusana Devi.

Sd/-  
Chingangbam Amusana Devi

### GOVERNMENT OF MANIPUR DEPARTMENT OF TEXTILES, COMMERCE & INDUSTRY DIRECTORATE OF HANDLOOMS & TEXTILES

#### NOTICE

Imphal, the 21<sup>st</sup> of December, 2017

No.HL-79/H&T/2017: It is notified that WORKSHOP ON THE USE OF LEIRUM PHEE DESIGN AS OFFICIAL LENGYAN IN MANIPUR will be held on 6<sup>th</sup> of January, 2018 11.00 am at City Convention Centre, Palace Gate, Imphal, Manipur. The workshop will discuss on the utility of Leirum Phee Design as official Lengyan in Manipur.

All interested well-wishers, Entrepreneurs and Weavers are invited to attend the workshop on 6<sup>th</sup> of January, 2018 11.00 am at City Convention Centre, Palace Gate, Imphal, Manipur.

Sd/-

K. Lamle Kamei  
Director of Handlooms & Textiles  
Manipur

**Letters, Feedback and Suggestions to 'Imphal Times'**  
can be sent to our e-mail : imphaltimes@gmail.com.  
For advertisement kindly contact: -  
0385-2452159 (O)

## National & International News

### Holiday season in Russia dented: Bomb blast in supermarket injures 10

**Saint Petersburg, Dec. 29:** A homemade bomb blast at a supermarket in the Russian city of Saint Petersburg injured 10 people on Wednesday, officials said, sparking a probe into attempted murder.

"According to preliminary information, an explosion of an unidentified object occurred in a store," a spokeswoman for Russia's Investigative Committee, Svetlana Petrenko, said in a statement.

The blast was caused by a "homemade explosive device with the power equivalent to 200 grammes of TNT filled with lethal fragments," she said.

"The investigation is looking at all possible causes of what happened," she said, adding that a probe for attempted murder had been launched.

The incident comes several months

after Russia's second city was rocked with a metro bombing in April which killed 16 people.

"Ten people have been hospitalised, their lives are not in danger," the head of Saint Petersburg investigative unit Alexander Klaus told Russian news agencies.

An emergencies ministry representative told said that one of the injured was in serious condition. An AFP correspondent at the scene observed first responders and police as well as a car belonging to the Federal Security Service (FSB), which investigates acts of terror.

The building containing the supermarket did not appear to have sustained serious damage. Police have cordoned off the area while the city's transportation authorities briefly rerouted public transport in the neighbourhood.

Passerby Galina Gustova, 58, observed the scene with horror.

"How terrible! And this happens as people are shopping ahead of the holidays," she said. "It's a good thing nobody died."

"I often buy groceries here, I wanted to go in but everything is blocked," said another local, 20-year-old Viktoriya Smirnova.

"I'm a doctor, I heard on the news that there was an explosion. I live nearby and thought I could be useful," another bystander, 50-year-old Marina Bulanova, said. Sources told Russian agencies that the explosive device had been placed in a storage locker.

"About 6:30pm there was the sound of a blast. As a result, several people have been injured," the Saint Petersburg police said.

"There is no fire. All shoppers have been evacuated," an emergencies

ministry representative told Interfax. Witness Artur Yeritsyan told TASS news agency that he heard the blast and saw smoke in the shop, but that there were not a lot of customers at the time, with some victims being taken away by ambulances.

Saint Petersburg was the target of a metro bombing in April, which killed 16 and left dozens of people wounded.

The bombing was claimed by a group linked to Al-Qaeda which said it was a message to countries engaged in war with Muslims.

In July, the FSB said it had detained seven people who were preparing "acts of terror" in Saint Petersburg, particularly its railway system and major public gathering places.

Saint Petersburg is one of the cities to host the World Cup in summer 2018 in Russia, and security services have been stepping up security measures.

### Struggling Delhi take on confident Mumbai in an ISL game

#### PTI

**Mumbai, Dec 28:** Struggling Delhi Dynamos will strive hard and hope for a turnaround in their fortunes when they take on a confident-looking Mumbai City FC in an Indian Super League game, here tomorrow.

Delhi are on the horns of a horror run since their lone victory against FC Pune City in their season-opening away game on November 22. They have lost five games on the trot since then, three of those at home, and are currently lying at the bottom of the points table.

Come tomorrow, Delhi would be

eager to arrest the streak and add to their meagre point tally of three.

The hosts, on the other hand, had a hiccup in their last home game losing to ATK, but then travelled to Guwahati to put it across NorthEast United FC. They also have a chance to go to the number two slot on the table if they win at the Mumbai Football Arena in suburban Andheri. Mumbai have won three out of seven games and drawn one and their tally of 10 has left them currently in the middle of the table, but a victory over Delhi would pitchfork them higher. Mumbai have had a mixed run so far

and looked impregnable at home before ATK punctured it with a measured performance 10 days ago.

The hosts have a sound back four led by Romanian Lucian Goiran and Brazilian Gerson Vieira, backed up by the goal-stopping skills of Amrinder Singh who has emerged with two clean sheets, as compared to none for the visitors an indication of what the visitors are up against. Balmurt Singh has been Mumbai's most successful striker with four goals to his credit, including a brace in the win in the previous away game against NorthEast United. He has the backing of a good midfield led

by Cameroon's Achille Emana who himself has scored once so far in seven outings.

Two crafty midfielders Brazilians Thiago Santos and Everton Santos - are the other players to have scored for Mumbai. To bring more cheers is the fact that Sehnaj Singh is also back in contention to take the field after sitting out the last game due to four previous bookings.

Their Costa Rican coach, Alexandre Guimaraes, was happy over the team's quick turnaround in Guwahati after the loss at home to ATK.

### More State News

### Symposium at Senapati inclusive development and harmony

#### PIB (DW)

**Imphal, Dec. 28:** On 27 Dec 2017, a Symposium was organised by Senapati Brigade under the aegis of Red Shield Division. Symposium provided the intellectuals and youth from different ethnicities, a platform to express themselves freely and share their view point on developing harmonization in Manipur. The Symposium was conducted for a total duration of four hours in which eight speakers representing different ethnicity and profession expressed their views on the theme "Inclusive economic development will usher in ethnic harmonization in Manipur". In addition to this, five eminent expert panelists also gave their experts comments followed by question and answer session on the topic. It was a very comprehensive debate and discussion which brought out very practical and relevant steps needed to be initiated by Govt, Socio-Political orgs, and all other stakeholders to bring harmony and peace in Manipur. More than 200 people who included number of socio-political leaders, youth from

different parts of Manipur, Govt Official and personnel from different media streams attended the Symposium and benefited from the views expressed by speakers and panelists on the topic. In the end, all speakers and the panelists were felicitated by the Chief Guest, Maj Gen U Suresh Kumar YSM, VSM, GOC 57 Mtn Div. During the conduct of Symposium, Prof N Mohendro Singh, in his opening keynote address, said that academic intervention is most effective in leading to far reaching changes in society and this effort of the Army will go a long way in

that direction. Ms Thokchom Sylvia Devi, Social Worker and National Youth Volunteer, while speaking against the motion, said that development alone will not bring harmony. We need to remove illegal taxation, corruption extreme lack of quality education, as hurts the common people most. Due to presence of these ills, no effective development can take place. Mr Kh. Shihle Anthony, Director HRD NEC Shillong, said that the trust deficit between various communities need to be bridged to achieve both development and harmony. He also said that Armed Forces, who

represent convergence of diversity, should take initiative and help various communities come together in Manipur. Ms Bountia Keishing, Social Worker and a Business Entrepreneur, stressed upon the need by government to give suitable knowledge to people and also stressed upon importance of people participation in the development process. Professor Amar Yunnam, HOD of Economic Manipur University, while summing up the Symposium, stressed upon the importance of such a gathering to generate ideas. He also mentioned a need to get out of living in the past and look and plan for the future. Maj Gen U Suresh Kumar, YSM, VSM, GOC Red Shield Division, in his concluding remarks said that it was a privilege to listen to speakers from various communities and each having amazing knowledge. He stressed upon the importance of harmony amongst different tribes as a pre requisite to achieve sustained development and ever lasting peace in Manipur. The event concluded with a vote of thanks by Brig Dipankar Saha, Senapati Brigade.

### WHENEVER YOU SEE CONSTRUCTION AND MINING EQUIPMENTS, JUST THINK OF US

CASE  
CONSTRUCTION  
1800 4129 770

### Automobile Engineering Works

New Checkon Road Purana Rajbari, Imphal East

Authorised Dealer: Case New Holland Construction Eqpt. (I) Pvt. Ltd  
&  
Kirioskar Engines Oil Limited (Kirioskar Silent Generator)

Contact No.:  
0385-24520117, 9862566601



Faster and Fuel Efficient Construction Solutions Are Here.