

## Editorial

### Season of discontent continues

Incidentally or otherwise, if anyone would care to ponder over, there is this thing with trouble which come calling in the middle of the year like an unwanted guest who stays back for dinner. There has been this inexplicable and uncanny coincidence of all sorts of things that could go wrong actually going wrong most frequently in the middle of the year for a while now. It does not mean to indicate a happy, calm state for the rest of the time- year an increasingly visible and consistent pattern that was not given much thought about before now.

This year too, everything seems to be settled until yesterday when a group of students comes out on the street over some issues.

Could it be the change in the weather that drives most people to commit crimes and offences, the Government to be crowded out with scandals and revelations of misappropriation of funds, inaction and false promises. The public, not to be outdone, has been bringing up issues- some genuine and some blown out of proportion, jumping in amidst the fray that makes the whole scene rather ironically comic.

One thing is for sure- good or bad- the season for excitement and enthusiastic agitations is just round the corner once again. We can pretty much expect, without fail, an increase in the blockades and bandhs- to the point when three or four blockades are being imposed on the same road on the same day concurrently. We can then be seeing almost everyone out of their homes and into the streets to have a first-hand taste of the bandh. The rains will be bringing another set of issues from floods to accusations of apathy by the Government and delayed help- or no help as the case might be, to allegations of distributing live tadpoles, toads and other living organisms through the water supply system. A positive way to look at it would be to take heart in the fact that the water so supplied, though apparently undrinkable, proves for itself that it has not been poisoned. Could it be the logical explanation as to the question of why so many in the State have been taking to drinking from the local breweries? Social activism will be taken to with renewed vengeance by seasoned as well as wannabe social minded individuals and organisations. Power cuts have once again- raised the temperature and lowering the tolerance level of the common people, while the fortunate ones will be hogging the meagre supply of power so generously provided after allocation to the less fortunate neighbouring region has been made.

All in all, the season promises to be anything but idle. After all something is better than nothing and normal is as boring as always. For those of us in the news media and journalists, a hectic yet rewarding period. What we really have been wanting to say all along is "Keep up the good work people!"

### More National news

#### Chiefs of staff committee Farewell Banquet for the Hon'ble President

**PIB New Delhi, July 22:** The Chiefs of Staff Committee hosted a farewell Banquet on 21 Jul 2017 in honour of the Hon'ble President and the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces.

The Hon'ble Vice President, Hon'ble Prime Minister, Hon'ble Raksha Mantri, Hon'ble Raksha Rajya Mantri, Service Chiefs and other Senior Military and Civilian officials of the Services and the Ministry of Defence attended the Banquet.

In a simple but elegant function held at the imposing Manekshaw Centre,

the Hon'ble President, who is also the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces interacted with the senior military officers.

The Chairman, Chiefs of Staff Committee & Chief of Naval Staff, thanked the Hon'ble President for his sagacity & stated that he had been a source of great inspiration to all personnel of the Armed Forces. The Hon'ble President, in his farewell address, extended his best wishes to all members of the Armed Forces and their families. He also paid rich tributes to the Martyrs and their families for their sacrifices to the Nation.

## Babies who born deaf (Importance of early identification of hearing loss)



**By-P. Meenakshi Chanu Audiologist/Speech Therapist Newborn Screening Centre RIMS, Imphal.**

Hearing loss is one of the most common birth defect. Most babies are born with perfect hearing but 2-3 in every 1000 healthy babies are born with hearing loss. Most estimate suggest that 1-3 per 1000 children are born with hearing loss. All parents want their child to be able to develop their full potential. So, parents will experience a huge range of emotions which discover their child is deaf. Children relied on their hearing to learn from the beginning. It is crucial to identified and remedy problems as early as possible. With the right treatment, most children with hearing loss hear again and grow up normally if treated early, attending mainstream

school (normal school), reading and speaking like peers.

Congenital deafness may be of two causes in children. One is due to lack of hair cells receptors in the inner ear that convert sounds into pulse signals that activate the auditory nerve and the second cause is a malfunction of the nerves. A child may be born with what appears to be a normal inner hear. The Newborn Hearing Screening programs ensure that every child born with a permanent hearing loss may or may not associated with high risk criteria like absent Birth cry, Neonatal Jaundice, Birth Asphyxia, Premature delivery etc are identified at the time of birth or before three months of age are provided with timely and appropriate intervention services before six months of age. Obviously, the earlier we can identify hearing loss the sooner we can begin to treat the problem and have better outcomes for that individual.

Two types of newborn hearing screening tests are used: One is Otoacoustic Emissions or OAEs. In this, a miniature earphone and microphone are placed in the ear which stimulates the outer hair cells and response are reflected back to screen of OAEs instrument whether the repose is PASS (Normal) or REFER (abnormal). The second test is called the Brainstem Evoked Response Audiometry (BERA) or Auditory Brainstem Response or ABR. For this test, electrodes are placed on the mastoid of both ear and a ground electrodes on the forehead

to detect responses. ABR and is an objective test to understand the transmission of electrical waves from the VIII th cranial nerve to the brainstem, in response to click sounds given through the ear. This test measures how the hearing nerve responds to sounds and can identify babies who have a hearing loss. In some hospitals, babies are first screened using OARs. Babies who do not pass on the first OAE test can be given a second test using the ABR. Both tests are reliable.

#### COCHLEAR IMPLANT

Cochlear implants are much different than hearing aids, which only amplify sounds. By contrast, cochlear implants is a surgically implanted electronic device that bypass the hair cells and directly stimulates the auditory nerve. The implant generates signals that are sent to the brain via the auditory nerve. The brain then recognizes these signals as sound. If the child has severe to profound hearing loss and do not get benefit from any hearing aids, then a cochlear implants could be an effective solution. The younger the child receive a cochlear implant, the easier it will be for them to meet the critical period i.e. the first two year of life that are very important in the development of their crucial language, speech and communication skills.

Children who are fit with appropriate amplification before 6 months can developed language skills on a par with hearing. However, children who receive cochlear implants before 18

months of age are better able to hear, comprehend sound and music and can speak than their counterparts who receive the implants at a later age. The child who underwent cochlear implant should go for Auditory Verbal Therapy (AVT- a speech and language training approach).

Children who do not received early treatment suffered from language delayed, reading difficulty, delayed in cognitive skills leading to isolation, low self esteem, learning difficulty and behavioral problems. So, it is very essential for the baby/ child is tested, diagnosed and get speech and language therapy with the help of hearing aids, cochlear implants and other treatment to meet development of speech and language milestone at right time. It is concluded that all infants admitted to the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) should be screened for hearing loss prior to discharge, Universal screening to be implemented for all infants within the first 3 months of life, the preferred model for screening should begin with an OAE test and should be followed by a BERA test for all infants who fail the OAE, comprehensive intervention and management programs must be an integral part of a universal screening program and education of primary caregivers and primary health care providers like ASHA (Accredited social health activists) on early signs of hearing impairment is essential.

### National and International News

#### Pentagon to India, China: 'Defuse border tensions through dialogue'

**New Delhi, July 22:** Expressing concerns over India- China border standoff, the Pentagon has encouraged both the countries to engage in a direct dialogue to reduce tensions and free of any "coercive aspects". Defence Department spokesperson Gary Ross said in a statement to the media: "We encourage India and China to engage in direct dialogue aimed at reducing tensions and free of any coercive aspects." India has taken a strong stand against China's move to build a road in Sikkim's Doklam area and change the status quo. It's been a month-long standoff between the two countries since June 2016. Pentagon's top commander, earlier this week told lawmakers that China is exploiting its economic leverage as a way to its regional political

objectives. "The Chinese have shown their willingness to exploit their economic leverage as a way to advance their regional political objectives. As China's military modernisation continues, the United States and its allies and partners will continue to be challenged to balance China's influence." General Paul Selva, USAF, said in written response to questions to the Senate Armed Services Committee for his nominee for reconfirmation as Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Garry Ross refused to respond to any queries regarding India and China and said, "We refer you to the Governments of India and China for further information. We encourage India and China to engage in direct dialogue aimed at

reducing tensions. We are not going to speculate on such matters," Ross said when asked if the Pentagon fears escalation of tension between India and China.

Later this month, National Security Advisor Ajit Doval will head to Beijing to attend a meeting of BRICS During his visit, Doval is expected to talk with his Chinese counterpart on this issue. The US has been "closely" following the border standoff between India and China, urging the two countries to engage in direct dialogue to reduce the tension. Chinese and Indian soldiers have been locked in a face-off in the Doklam area of the Sikkim sector for over a month after Indian troops stopped the Chinese army from building a road in the disputed area.

China claimed that they were

constructing the road within their territory and has been demanding immediate pull-out of the Indian troops from the disputed Doklam plateau. New Delhi has expressed concern over the road building, apprehending that it may allow Chinese troops to cut India's access to its northeastern states.

India has conveyed to the Chinese government that the road construction would represent a significant change of status quo with serious security implications for it. Doka La is the Indian name for the region which Bhutan recognises as Doklam, while China claims it as part of its Dolanglang region.

Of the 3,488-km-long India-China border from Jammu and Kashmir to Arunachal Pradesh, a 220-km section falls in Sikkim.

#### India on track to grow at 7.4%: ADB

**FromAIR New Delhi, July 22:** Asian Development Bank today retained India's growth projection at 7(point)4 per cent for the current financial year even as it raised the forecast for developing Asia region to 5(point)9 per cent.

In a supplement to its Asian Development Outlook (ADO) 2017 report, ADB revised the forecast for developing Asia from 5.7 per cent earlier. For 2018, it was raised from 5.7 per cent to 5.8 per cent. For India, it maintained the growth forecasts at 7.4 per cent for 2017-18 and 7.6 per cent for fiscal 2018-19. Implementation of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) is expected to improve ease of doing business and facilitate growth in the medium term, it said, adding that there could be some teething pains as firms will take time to adjust to the new indirect tax regime.

#### OFFICE OF THE IMPHAL SMART CITY LIMITED DIRECTORATE OF MAHUD, PDA COMPLEX, NORTH AOC, IMPHAL

NO. 31/2017-ISCL

Imphal, the 10th July 2017

#### AMENDMENTS TO REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RPF)

**Name of contract:** "Selection of Project Management Consultant (PMC) to Design, Develop, Manage and Implement Smart City Project"  
**REP No:** 1/4/2017-ISCL (Issue on 9th June)  
**Last date for Submission of Proposal:** July 31, 2017 (as modified)

Following items of the Tender Document are amended as in the table below:

Sl.No.	Section/Clause	Amendment to the Tender Document
1.	Section 2 BDS/ITB 14.3	DO NOT OPEN ,BEFORE 15.30 hrs of 31st July 2017
2.	Section 2 BDS/ITB 14.4	Date & time and address for submission of proposal/ bid:  Date 31/07/2017 Time 15:00 Hrs Address CEO, Imphal Smart City LIMITED, Directorate of MAHUD, PDA Complex, North AOC, Imphal West, Manipur, India, 795001

In case of queries and clarification on the above, please contact:  
 CEO, ISCL  
 Directorate of MAHUD, PDA Complex, North AOC, Imphal-795001  
 Email: ceoimphalsmartcity@gmail.com or poimphalnmunicipal@gmail.com

Yours faithfully,  
 Sd/-  
**Th. Harikumar Singh**  
 Chief Executive Officer  
 Imphal Smart City Limited

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