

# Editorial

## Regional disparities towards the North Easterners

Humans have always had an intrinsic need to protect and propagate their own kind. Wars were fought and kingdoms were ruined as result. We've also always had this inherent feeling of curiosity, distrust and suspicions for anyone not of our own race or group. While most of the civilized minds have come to accept different cultures, traditions and ethnic groups, yet there still exist individuals who mock and are cynical of the behaviours and lifestyles of others belonging to another race, religion or region.

This immature outlook and narrowed mentality often hurt the sensibilities, and in some instances, are the cause of conflicts and confrontations. One such unfortunate incident, ignited after a local sweets vendor passed a derogatory remark on the looks of a young student from Arunachal Pradesh led to a scuffle and ultimately the death of the boy some years back. This incident, shocking as it is, is not the first or neither the last incident where physical confrontations result from uncouth remarks, or misplaced racial superiority have resulted in death and other atrocities against people from North east India.

Instances are too varied and numerous to cite, and despite repeated assurances from authorities in the capital, such atrocities continued unabated. Question is, should the people from the north east continue waiting for those promises to be delivered, or is it time to take precautions and measures as a collective whole to safeguard themselves?

What concrete steps are being taken up by the respective State Governments to ensure the safety of the people from the region in the capital, which is incidentally being tagged as the "Rape Capital of the world"?

The issue needs to be approached and handled with extreme care and caution. A concerted effort and understanding between the State and Central Government and the concern authorities needs to be established. There have been reports of the Delhi police refusing to entertain complaints lodged by people from the North east, as well as constant refusal of accommodation to students from the region. These instances point to some sort of serious communication gap or misunderstanding, or rather a negative preconceived notion of the people from the North east. A thorough introspection may reveal more into the genesis of such distrust and muted aggressions. It would surprise many from the "developed Metros" of India to learn that most of the influential and flourishing traders and businessmen are from mainland India, who are given the freedom to lead their lives and follow their faiths in the North eastern states without discrimination or ill will- a lesson these metro cities could learn. A proactive law and order system could impact a huge positive change in the present atmosphere of uneasy distrust and uncertainty.

Meanwhile, it could be more lasting if one can learn to brush off the snide remarks from uncivilized characters, or better still, raise the issue through the police, however unconvincing and frustrating the exercise may prove to be, for they are duty bound to serve and protect the citizens of this country of which we are very much a part and parcel of, whose frontiers we are safeguarding. And when every other avenue seems to close out, there is always the press and the media who are ever prepared to take the troubles to take any instances of discrimination and abuse to the people and highlight the reality without fear or distortions.

## My visit to Shri Lanka: the Great Kingdom of Legendary Ravana of Ramayana epic of India (Bharat) – (Final Shape)

By: N. Mangi Devi

To conclude my visit to Sri Lanka I wish to add the impressions and reflections of the journey because journey is more important than the destinations. Happy moments and hardships can better be experienced during the journey rather than the actual place of interest of the tour. As we all enjoyed the scenic beautiful landscapes of the hilly areas while we travelled from Imphal to Dimapur and other places of north east states like Mizoram, Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh, Tripura and Sikkim and face breath taking fear and wonder when seen the deep gorges of the Himalayas ranges of the Utrakhand State and

Himachal Pradesh.

I had a different pleasure during the long drive in the hilly areas of Sri Lanka and the flat dense forests and coastal plains throughout the six days drive and five night stay at different places of the charming country. We could see the slow movement of the elephant at broad daylight on the metallic road of Sri Lanka. I really like the quiet and peaceful sleep in the midst of calm weather and atmosphere in those days of night stay. It just reminded those days shivering nights at European countries during the last half of September 1980. The weather is neither hot nor cold nor wet. It is fine and nice. The roadside restaurants in Eliya areas are just



a fun for the foreigners from America, China, Japan and other countries. All the restaurants are of simple structure of woods bamboos with not much decoration. I think that is the attraction of the tourists from the materially well developed countries. The well prepared sweet curd filled in the red-earthen pots of different sizes are displayed and sold at small huts on the road-side of Nuwara-Ella areas are fine and tasty. Another taste of green mangoes on the road-side is worth to eat as it is not sour nor sweet. It has a good simple taste that I had a liking. At Colombo we had a simple walking as the coastal areas. It is

one of centre of the common wealth countries. It has no speciality. At the evening of the 8<sup>th</sup> February 2017 we left Sri Lanka and flew to Chennai Airport. Thus we ended our journey. In fine I just remind to the readers that tour and travel adds to our knowledge and experience even at this advanced age of life. So, I must say youngster can learn much more from travel by expanding their knowledge and inculcating more and more ideas about the people, their cultures and their lands that are not found in the books. Hence tour and travel should be encouraged at different levels of learning and stages of education. Learn to love serve all.



### National News

#### SC refuses plea to probe mass murder of Kashmiri Pandits

**IT News**  
**New Delhi, July 24:** The Supreme Court on Monday refused to entertain a plea seeking probe and prosecution of various persons, including separatist leader Yasin Malik, for offences including murder of over 700 Kashmiri Pandits during the height of militancy in the Valley in 1989-90. A bench of Chief Justice JS Khehar and Justice DY Chandrachud said that almost 27 years have passed and it will be very difficult to gather evidences in cases of murder, arson and looting which had led to mass exodus of Kashmiri Pandits from the Valley. "You (petitioner) sat over it for last 27 years. Now tell us from where the evidence will come," the bench said. Advocate Vikas Padora, appearing for an organisation 'Roots of Kashmir', said Kashmiri Pandits were forced to leave their abodes in the Valley and could not join the investigation and further submitted that the delay was there but neither the Centre nor the state government nor the judiciary took adequate note of it to do the needful.

#### 3 persons feared dead as boat capsized in Cachar district

**IT News**  
**Silchar, July 24:** At least three persons are feared dead as a boat capsized in Cachar district of Barak Valley yesterday. According to the reports, a boat capsized in flood waters at Lakhipur sub-division in the Cachar district with 9 persons on board. Six persons were rescued by the nearby fishermen with the help of locals, but other three persons are still missing. NDRF and SDRF teams have been called and search operation is still on. The missing persons are identified as Biswajit Paul, Rajib Das and Appu Ali.

### More State News

#### Police cracks down drug peddler and users site at Yairipok

**IT News**  
**Imphal, July 24:** A team of state police force led by SDPO Yairipok Amarjit Singh Lamabam, MPS and DSP CDO Ak. Sadananda Singh cracked down a site for drug users and arrested drug peddler who supply the psychotropic substances to the users in Yairipok areain Thoubal district. According to report, at around 3pm yesterday the police team saw some youths moving suspiciously near a house at Singha Makha Leikai under Yairipok Police station. The police team moved towards them the youth. The team immediately tried to stop them but instead of listening them they escaped towards various direction and some rushed towards a house. When the police team conducted search at the house



which belonged to one Mrs. Nooreda (45) yrs W/O Md Nasimuddin of Singha Makha Leikai Yairipok it was found that the youths had run away in a different direction. The police team found two black polythene bags in one room in a suspicious manner. When enquired Nooreda told the police team that it was some eatables. As the police team became suspicious a thorough checking was conducted. In that 1780 suspected SP capsules were found in one Polythene bag and 160 suspected

N10 tablets were found in the other Polythene bag. On thorough verification the woman disclosed that she has been engaged in selling of illicit drugs for the last one year. The drugs found in her house were brought four days back. The woman was arrested at 4.30 p.m. yesterday and the illicit drugs were seized from her possession by following formalities. The arrested person along with seized articles are handed over to officer-in-charge of Yairipok Police station.

#### Education Minister inspects Heirok Higher Secondary School

**IT News**  
**Imphal, July 24:** Education Minister Th. Radheshyam inspected the infrastructure and the surrounding areas of Heirok Higher Secondary School, Heirok yesterday. The Minister during the visit, checked the classrooms, the under construction kitchen and the playground of the school. The visit was made in order to check the prevailing condition of the school so that certain necessities of the educational institution could be supplemented. Sad by the broken windows and doors, floors and leaking roof, he said, plans to renovate and restructure the school building with proper maintenance are necessary. Later, Th. Radheshyam, who also held the Labour & Employment portfolio, inaugurated a library and distributed awards to the meritorious students. He said, the library would benefit the youths and students from the wealth of knowledge from the books collected in the library. Distributions of awards to the meritorious students



could be more meaningful if such event could be organised collectively as a whole, he added. He said, development as per the motto of Modi's 'Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas' meant a collective effort towards inclusive growth to work for the improvement of the most deprived and downtrodden section of the society. In the school, it should begin with the last student who is very weak, nurture the weakest of the students to

improve and make the best out of that student, he added. He also assured that, for the upliftment and empowerment of the women, work sheds will be constructed. The function was organised by the All Heirok Students Welfare Association (AHSWA). Heirok as part of their 4<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day Celebration. In the function DC Thoubal L. Nabakumar, dignitaries, members and locals attended the function.

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