

Editorial

Imphal Wednesday, March 1, 2017

The changing poll campaign

Whether 11th manipur Legislative Assembly Election will bring a change to the state of Manipur is a matter which needed serious debate. No doubt the BJP and the Congress are the main contender in this battleground. But one cannot rule out those candidates contesting the election from other political parties of their choices. Both BJP and the Congress are taking this election as a serious one as we have seen top star campaigners of both the parties engaging tough time campaigning for their respective political parties here in the state. The first few months when ECI issued election notification certain sentimental issues are being used as tools for election propaganda by both the parties. As for the Congress the 'Frame Work Agreement' and 'Economic blockade' is the only propaganda for campaign, while for BJP it was the corruption, misutilizations of government funds and mass scale violation government offices in appointment of employees. For some other party it is the gross violation of Human Rights violations, fake encounter and drug haul issues. Surprisingly when the polling day is just few days to go every living soul in the state seems to have forgotten about the issues that they had highlighted. Those contesting the election too seemed to be forgotten about what they had spoken. These candidates seems to be well aware of the mindset of the people and finally almost every candidates are now busy engaging door to door campaign taking more important to their personnel problems. In election, numbers matter and persons who are serious of the real issues of the state are less and majority people only care for their day today requirement. This kind of situation may be an architect of the past government but it is seen now and has become a phenomenon. Even the Chief Minister Okram Ibobi Singh's political gimmick by creating 7 new administrative districts in the state to garner support to congress party in the upcoming state assembly election turns out to be a flop one as interpersonal relationship seems more important. The expectation of the congress party to garner supports in Kuki dominated area turn out to be another wrong calculation as even the senior Congress Minister, whose name had already been announced in the ticket list of the congress party had resigned and contested from another political party. Nemcha Kipgen, the MLA of Kangpokpi Assembly constituency who had lately joined the congress party and who was supposed to applaud the Chief Minister for declaring the Kangpokpi as a new administrative district even left the party. In Nagaland, the UNC has stand strong to oppose the congress party. Well, now if Okram Ibobi Singh is so desirous of coming back to power than he would certainly concentrate at Valley assembly constituencies. But while doing so and if suppose the three time chief minister succeeded that certainly the thin line drawn between various communities particularly the Naga as propose by NSCN-IM and the Kuki group will become clearer.

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Time up for Manipur's 'Mr. 10 percent' chief minister, BJP says

Q: Some observers say the creation of new districts and a government job recruitment drive just before the election will help the Congress?
 A: No. Out of 100, those who had the capability to pay 10 lakh (1,00,000 rupees or \$15,000), 20 lakhs, 50 lakhs, only these people got the jobs. But 90 percent are left out for not giving money. So 10 percent may be happy but 90 are against him. Everybody knows him as "10 percent" Ibobi.
Q: What are the main issues for voters?
 A: The people are mainly concerned about the territorial integrity of Manipur, and corruption and human rights violations.
Q: What is the party's agenda if it comes to power?
 A: One person in every family will have a government job. Girls will have free education until graduation. A highway protection force will be formed, and health insurance schemes will be there

for below-poverty-line groups.
Q: How will you come up with the money?
 A: If we form the government, we will generate funds from the central government, the World Bank... Many funding [avenues] are there.
Q: What about the issue of corruption?
 A: The issue will be rectified from the top, not from the bottom. If I come to power and I decide not to be corrupt, then no one will be. It depends on the leaders.
Q: Will you look into the alleged corruption by the previous government?
 A: Definitely, we will take up corruption-related and human rights violation matters.
Q: In Nagaland, the BJP is in alliance with the ruling Naga People's Front. Is there a plan to join forces with the party in Manipur?
 A: No alliance will be done. We are not aligning with any party.

(with inputs from e-pao)
 Haji Abdul Salam is the first Rajya Sabha MP from among the Meitei Panggal Community. His father, Hafiz Mufizuddin, a Hafiz (one who keeps the Quran by-heart) & mother, Heiton Bibi, a house-wife, were from a remote village of Thoubal district. His father had his religious education from a madrasa in U.P. (1925-40), took to teaching in a madrasa. He was, in fact, one of the distinguished teachers and founding member of the 68 years old Mukam Madrasa in Mayang Imphal, regarded as the first madrasa established in Manipur.

Haji Abdul Salam is the eldest of the 6 siblings (4 brothers and 2 sisters). He had his early education from the village schools.

Honours/Certificates/Awards Conferred:

- Haji Abdul Salam was Awarded "Best Citizen of Manipur Award" by Manipur Muslim Development Organisation, as apex body of Manipur Muslim in Barak Valley, Cachar (MMDO) along with (in Manipuri) citation by the Manipur Muslim Development Organisation, Barak Valley, Assam on 28.04.2002.
- He was Conferred "Rajiv Gandhi Shromani Award" by the India international Friendship Society (NFS), Nev. Delhi, at a function organized in New Delhi on 19th August, 2003 for "Meritorious Services, Outstanding performance, Remarkable role, Achievements and Contributions to the Society" to commemorate the 59th Birth Anniversary of Late Rajiv Gandhi, Former Prime Minister of India.
- He was also Conferred "Jewel of India Gold Award" and "Gold Medal" (Certificate of Excellence) (Certificate of Felicitations) for the year 2004 and Bharat Excellence Award and Gold Medal by the Friendship Forum of India, New Delhi on 31st August, 2004.
- He was Conferred "Best Social Worker of Manipur among the Muslims" on 26th April, 2009 by the Ail Manipur Art & Culture as Sports Development Society at Khurai Khomidok Mayai Leikai, Imphal East, Manipur.
- Veteran Certificate awarded on 28th December, 2011 on the occasion of 126th Congress Foundation Day by the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Manipur at MPCC Office, Imphal.
- The late RS MP was awarded the "Life Time Achievement Award 2013 by the All Manipur Art & culture and Sports Development Society on 30th June, 2013 at IAS School Ground, Khurai Khomidok Mayai Leikai, Imphal East, Manipur.

Member of the Govt. of India Haj Goodwill Delegation-2005
 Haji Abdul Salam was Nominated as Member of the Govt. of India Haj Goodwill Delegation-2005 by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia from 16.01.2005 to 03.02.2005. First Member from Manipur to be a part of the Govt. Of India Haj Goodwill Mission. Also performed Haj. The Delegation was led by Alhaj Gulam Nabi Azad, the then Hon'ble Union Minister of Parliamentary Affairs & Urban Development.

Services rendered in the State/ Central Government:
 Before joining active politics Haji Abdul Salam had served both in the State (in Education Department) and Central (in Accountant General Office) Government Services for a total period of 141/2 years, from 1965 to 1979.

Special Invitee at the PM's Iftar Part.
 In recognition to his loyalty to Congress party he invited as the lone person from Manipur Pradesh Congress Committee (MPCC) at the Iftar party hosted by the Hon'ble Prime Minister on 6th Oct. 2007 at his Bunglow, 7, Race Course Road, New Delhi.

Social Activities:
 - Actively involved as leader of the local organizations for various developmental activities of the village area from boyhood.
 - Moved for reservation of seats for

the Muslims in Manipur in the State Government Services and educational institutions since 1977 onwards.

- Actively involved in setting up of State Haj Committee, State Wakf Board and State Minority Commission in Manipur.

- Member of the State Wakf Board, Manipur since its inception in 1987 till date under Wakf Act 1954 and 1995 etc. (Central Act.)

- Executive Member of the All Manipur Meitai Panggal (Manipuri Muslims) Welfare Association (AMMPWA), an apex body of the Muslims in Manipur.

- Nominated by the State Assembly as Senate Member of the Manipur University (now upgraded as Central University) as lone Muslim Senator for the years 1993, 1994, 1995 and 1996. Re-nominated in 2005.

Areas of Special Interest:

- Work for communal harmony, national integration, upliftment of rural and village areas in all respect, protection of downtrodden masses.
- Also take keen interest " the protection of ecology, environment and wild-life, especially protection of natural lakes of Manipur valley. Moved in the State Assembly and outside for protection of the fresh water-bodies and natural lakes in the 4 valley districts of Manipur.
- Saved one rare "Hog Deer" from the hands of hunters and handed over to Manipur Zoological Garden on 6th May, 1997 through Shri. Th. Priyobor Singh, IFS, Chief Conservator of Forest (Wild Life) & Chief Wild Life Warden, Govt. of Manipur.

Positions Held under the State Government:

- Minister, Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (RD & PR) from 1997 to 1999.
- Minister, Co-operation, Minorities & Other Backward Classes (MOBC) from 12.03.2002 to 05.07.2004 and resigned with the Downsizing of Ministries in India.
- Elected (in the first election held under the Central Haj Act, 2002) as the Chairman, State Haj Committee Manipur in May 2003. Re-elected in July 2006 for a term of 3 years.]
- Member of WAKF Board, Mar our since its inception in 1 987 (till date).

Positions Held in the Manipur State Legislative Assembly:

- Nominated as Panel of Chairman to conduct assembly sessions by Hon'ble Speaker in his absence from July 2004 till the completion of the term of 8th Manipur Legislative Assembly (i.e., 28.02.2007).
- Worked as Member of the Committee on Public Accounts, 2004- Feb. 2007.
- Worked as Member of the Committee on the Government

Assurances, 2004- Feb. 2007.

- Worked as Member of the Committee on Welfare of the Women and Children Programme, 2004-2007.

- Worked as Chairman of the Petition Committee, 2004-2007.

- Working as a member of the State Level Steering Committee of the Secular Progressive Front (SPF) since 2002.

Conferences Attended:

1. All India Haj Conferences Attended: Attended the AN India Annual Conference for Haj 1423 (H)/ 2003 (AD) at Sher-i-Kashmir International Convention Centre,



Brief Profile Of Haji Abdul Salam Rajya Sabha MP (Member of Parliament from Manipur) (Feb 2014)

Former Minister, Manipur
Name : HAJI ABDUL SALAM
Father's Name : Late Hafiz Mufizuddin
Mother's Name : Heiton Bibi
Full Address : Heibong Makhong Village, P.O. & P.S. Mayang Imphal, 36- Wabagai Assembly Constituency, Thoubal District, Manipur.
Present Address : Minuthong, Golapati, Imphal-795001
Date of Birth : 01st March, 1948
Educational Qualification : M.A. (Pol. Sc.), LL.B. (Gauhati University)
Marital Status : Married on 8th Feb, 1971
Spouse's Name : Mrs. Najida Begum 1 (one)
Number of Son : 1 (One)
Number of Daughter : 5 (five)
Religion : Islam (Sunni)
Nationality : Indian

Srinagar on 04.08.2002 (Sunday).

- Attended the All India Annu Conference for Haj 1425 (H)/ 2005 (AD) on 27th Oct. 2004, at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.

- Attended the All India Annu Conference for Haj 11426 (H)/ 2006 (AD) on 6th June, 2005 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.

- Attended the All India Annu Coherence for Haj 1427 (H)/ 2006-11 (AD) on 20th May 2006 at Vig. Bhawan, New Delhi.

2. Ministerial Conferences Attended:

- Haji Abdul Salam had attended the all-India Conference arranged by the Ministry of Rural Areas & Employment, Govt. of India, along with the concerned Ministers and Secretaries of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj of the states, on 12-1 3th May, 1998 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi, in the capacity of Minister, RD & PR, Govt. of Manipur. The conference was inaugurated by the then Hon'ble PM, Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

- Also attended Conference of the Panchayati Raj Ministers of the States with Finance Commission, Govt. of India, on 09.09.1998, at New Delhi, in the capacity of Minister, RD & PR, Govt. of Manipur.

- Also attended the all-India Conference arranged by the Ministry of Agriculture, Govt. of India with the Co-operation Ministers of the States on

08.08.2002 at New Delhi.

Member in the Ministerial Committees:

Haji Abdul Salam Member of "State Level Communal Harmony Integration Committee" from 2002 to 2004. The Committee was headed by the Chief Minister of Manipur. He was Member of "Manipur State Population Commission" from 2002 to 2004. The Committee was headed by the Chief Minister of Manipur.

Political Activities:
 Haji Abdul Salam joined active politics w.e.f. 22.09.1979 just after acceptance of resignation on 21.09.1979 from the Central Govt, service in Accountant General Office, Manipur.

He ever changed Political Pan., for attraction of Anti Defection Act, 1985.

Haji Abdul Salam was elected for the first time " the 3rd Manipur Legislative Assembly Elections (1980) from the 36-Wabagai Assembly Constituency as an independent candidate and joined INC supporting R.K. Dorendra Singh Congress Government.

He was again re-Elected for the 2nd time in the 6th Manipur Legislative Assembly Election (1995) from 36-Wabagai A/C.

Again re-Elected in the 8th Mar, pur Legislative Assembly Elections (2002) under Indian National Congress (INC) ticket for the 3rd time.

National & International News

Trump condemns Indian techie's killing in address to Congress

PTI Washington, Mar 1: Breaking his silence, US President Donald Trump today condemned as "evil" and "hate" the fatal Kansas shooting in which an Indian techie was killed.

"Recent threats targeting Jewish Community Centers and vandalism of Jewish cemeteries, as well as last week's shooting in Kansas City, remind us that while we may be a nation divided on policies, we are a country that stands united in condemning hate and evil in all its forms," Trump said in his first address to the joint session of US Congress.

Srinivas Kuchibhotla, 32, was killed and Alok Madasani, another Indian of the same age, injured in the shooting by navy veteran Adam Purinton, who yelled "terrorist" and "get out of my country" before opening fire on them.

The two work for technology firm Gamrin.

A 24-year-old American named Ian Grillot who tried to defend the Indians also received injuries in the firing last Wednesday. Purinton, 51, apparently mistook the Indians for immigrants from the Middle East and yelled racial slurs "get out of my country" and "terrorists" before opening fire on them.

Trump's comments came after the White House condemned the shooting as "racially-motivated hatred".

"As more facts come to light, and it begins to look like this was an act of racially-motivated hatred, we want to reiterate that the President condemns these and any other racially or religiously motivated attacks in the strongest terms." White House Deputy Press Secretary Sarah Sanders told reporters during an off-camera news

conference. "They have no place in our country and we will continue to make that clear," Sanders said.

"The President is keeping the family of the victim, who was senselessly, killed in his thoughts, and we're praying for the full and speedy recovery of those who were wounded," Sanders said.

By mentioning Kansas in his address, Trump heeded to the call being made by a number of Indian-American organisations and lawmakers to publicly condemn the shooting which is being investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) as a hate crime.

The FBI, along with the US Attorney's Office and the Department of Justice's civil rights division, is working with the Olathe Police Department to investigate the shooting.

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