

Editorial

Imphal Wednesday, March 8, 2017

International Women's day

The world today celebrates International Women's day under the theme "Be Bold for Change". The day is being celebrated across the world to show respect to the women community and also to uplift them from the crunch of the male dominated society.

Incidentally the day collides with the 2nd phase Manipur Legislative Assembly Election. As much of the political parties are busied for the election almost many including the state government seems to have forgotten that today is the day to show our earnest respect to women.

This year's theme - Be Bold for Change seems to have no significance in this land where women are known for their courage. Of the 266 candidates contesting the election in Manipur only 11 are women. Some big political party did not even provide a single seat to fight this election to woman candidate.

Well the observation of the day has its root at New York. The mass protest of the women garment worker in 1908 demanding improvement of their working condition had brought significant changes to the condition of women. Commemorating the day the United States of America observed February 28 as the National Women's Day in 2009.

Since then various uprising across the European countries took place. The United Nations later deeply felt the need for recognizing a day particularly for women and since 1975, the March 8 has been observed as the International Day across the globe.

Like every nations across the globe, the erstwhile kingdom of Manipur had witnessed various historic events. The first Nupi Lal of 1904 and the 2nd Nupi Lal of 1939, are some of the events where Manipuri women contribution towards bringing a change in the society is worth remembering.

Unlike the western countries which celebrate International Women's Day, the kind of observation being taken place in a place like Manipur is different - Women's day being observed by various organizations in the state is rather to find a solution to the problems being faced by the women of today's Manipuri society. And unlike in the mainland Indian states and other developed and developing countries, the issues are of the women here in Manipur are very different.

There are certain issues like domestic violence, rape and crime against women, issues of widows, orphan girl child may be somewhat similar in almost all human society. But the kind of subjugation being faced by the women of Manipur under the draconian laws and the women becoming most venerable object during conflict between non state actors and state actors is serious.

Women of Manipur have always been in the forefront at every historical event. Manipuri women had been known for their contribution in supporting the society in economy upliftment and societal changes. History proves it. But one thing that confuse to many is why the women still are the seems to be lacking far behind their male counterpart both in education and participation in the governance. As per record female literacy rate of Manipur is only 65.46%, when the literacy rate for male is 82.14%. This means that women are still seen deprived in education.

On the other hand Manipur's societal structure is always seen as male dominating society even after knowing that women have been always in the forefront - whether it may be fighting against immoral activities, drugs or wrongs of the government besides taking active role in supporting their respective family economically. But when it comes to rituals women are still forbidden to take the lead role. For example women are not allowed to do Keiyana dan during the marriage of her daughter when she is the only parents left. A widow with only daughters still have to wait some male relative to perform the last rite of her husband or near and dear one. In both Sanamahai and Manipuri Veishnavite culture women are always told to follow the male. They are not allowed to sit at "Phambat" - a place where head of the family often sit. This means that women are never considered as the head of family. These are issues.

For Manipur Women's day observance is very significant. But organizations observing the day need more courage to voice the problems of Manipuri women and also urged every political party to uplift women by way of providing them chances to become lawmakers.

WHENEVER YOU SEE CONSTRUCTION AND MINING EQUIPMENTS, JUST THINK OF US
A SOLUTION FOR EVERY CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT



Automobile Engineering Works-1
R K WORKSHOP
 New Checkon Road, Purana Rajbari
 Imphal East,
 Manipur - 795 001

Authorised dealer **BEML Limited**
 (A Government of India Mini Ratna Company under Ministry of Defence)

Letters, Feedback and Suggestions to 'Imphal Times' can be sent to our e-mail: imphaltimes@gmail.com.
 For advertisement kindly contact: - 0385-2452159 (0)

National & International News

One terror suspect killed as anti-terror operation ends

PTI Lucknow, Mar 8: A suspected terrorist was killed here today after 12 hours of anti-terror operation to capture him alive, police said. "After opening the doors of the house (where the terrorist was holed up), the force went inside and found the suspect dead along with weapons," Additional Director General of Police (Law and Order) Daljit Chaudhary said. "At one point of time it appeared that more than one person was holed up inside the house," he said. Chaudhary said that the operation "stands closed now. Rest of the legal formalities will subsequently take place." The IG ATIS Aseem Arun confirmed that the slain terror suspect was an

active member of the ISIS. "The slain terror suspect belongs to the Khurasan module of the ISIS and was an active member. But, whether he has been indoctrinated or not is a matter of investigation," Arun said. Anti-terror operations were carried out to get hold of terrorists, suspected to be linked with the Bhopal-Ujjain train blast near Jabdi station in Shajapur district of Madhya Pradesh yesterday in which at least 10 people were injured, three of them seriously. Speaking to the media after the anti-terror operation was over, Arun said, "Efforts were made to catch the suspected terrorist (identified as Saifullah) alive, but unfortunately this did not materialise. We fired tear

gas shells and chilly bombs, so that he comes out. But, he did not come out." The ATIS commandos then stormed inside the house (after issuing a warning to the terrorist), Arun said, adding "The suspected terrorist then fired at the ATIS commandos, which was then appropriately retaliated by the ATIS commandos. After this, two rooms were thoroughly searched and checked, and the person identified as Saifullah was found dead." "One pistol, revolver, knife and ammunition have been recovered," he said. The commandos also saw a wire wrapped around the stomach of the terror suspect, Arun said. "We suspect that it could possibly

be an explosive. Hence, the Bomb Disposal Squad has been called to clear the room first. After this the investigations would commence," he said. On earlier reports of two terrorists being holed up in the house, the IG ATIS, said, "Since we were using the tube cameras to ascertain the details (of the suspected terrorists), the image was not very clear, and it appeared that there may be two terrorists holed up in the house. But, when the search and clear operations were carried out, only one dead body was found." Asked to comment on the possible terror linkage of the slain terrorist, Arun said that this would be answered during the course of investigation.

Gunmen dressed as Doctors attack military Hospital in Afghanistan's Kabul

Kabul, March 8: An explosion and gunfire rattled Kabul's diplomatic district Wednesday as insurgents dressed as doctors attacked Afghanistan's largest military hospital, officials said, as growing insecurity besets the war-battered country. No insurgent group immediately claimed responsibility for the ongoing assault on the Sardar Daud Khan hospital, but it comes as the Taliban ramp up attacks even before the start of their

annual spring offensive. No casualties were immediately reported but medical staff trapped in the facility posted desperate messages for help on social media. "Attackers are inside the hospital. Pray for us," a hospital staff member wrote on Facebook. Hospital administrators told AFP three gunmen wearing white laboratory coats were on the loose after the explosion struck, sparking chaos inside the 400-bed facility.

"The attackers are shooting everywhere," administrator Abdul Hakim told AFP by telephone. "We are trying to bring the situation under control," he said in a frantic hurry before hanging up. The attack comes a week after 16 people were killed in simultaneous Taliban suicide assaults on two security compounds in Kabul. Dozens of others were wounded as a suicide car bomber struck an Afghan police precinct in western Kabul and a five-hour gun battle ensued after another attacker snuck in, sending clouds of smoke billowing into the sky. In the second attack, a suicide bomber blew himself up at the gates of an Afghan intelligence agency branch in eastern Kabul. The growing violence underscores rising insecurity in Afghanistan over the resurgent Taliban. The country is bracing for an intense fighting season in the spring as the government's repeated bids to launch peace negotiations with the Taliban have

failed. Afghan forces, already beset by record casualties, desertions and non-existent "ghost soldiers" on the payrolls, have been struggling to rein in the Taliban since US-led NATO troops ended their combat mission in December 2014. Kabul last month endorsed US general John Nicholson's call for thousands of additional coalition troops in Afghanistan to fend off the militants before the spring offensive. Extra troops were needed to end the stalemate in the war, Nicholson, the top US commander in Afghanistan, told the US Congress in what could be President Donald Trump's first major test of military strategy. Separately, the Pentagon this year said it would deploy some 300 US Marines this spring to Helmand province alone. The Marines will assist a NATO-led mission to train Afghan forces, in the latest sign that foreign forces are increasingly being drawn back into the worsening conflict.

Disabled DU professor G N Saibaba, four others get life for Maoist links

Gadchiroli, March 8: Wheelchair-bound Delhi University academic G N Saibaba and four others were sentenced to life term by a court here for links to the banned naxalite outfit CPI (Maoists) on Tuesday. The physically challenged professor of English was arrested in May 2014 and was on bail ordered by the Supreme Court since June last year on ground of failing health. All five were sentenced under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act for being members of "terrorist gang or organisation and offences relating to support given to a terrorist outfit and waging war against the nation" along with criminal conspiracy.

of pressure on the judiciary to implement anti-people and undemocratic policies at the behest of corporates and MNCs. "The (state and Central) governments have selectively suppressed the voice of people to plunder the resources of this country. The BJP government wants to push nakedly the agenda of RSS by sending people like Saibaba behind bars." This is the first case in Maharashtra where convictions were made based on electronic evidence. Judge Shinde added that Gadchiroli has remained undeveloped since 1982 due to the Maoist movement and their violent activities.

The principal district and sessions judge, Suryakant Shinde, showed no leniency to the disabled professor while pronouncing the verdict in a packed courtroom. "Though he is physically handicapped, he is mentally fit. He is a think tank and leader of banned political organisation CPI (Maoist) and its frontal organisation RDF." "Several lives were lost from 2009 due to your activities and there was huge loss of public property. The imprisonment for life is not a sufficient punishment to the accused, but the hands of court are tied with the mandate of Section 18 and 20 of UAPA. It's a fit case to award life imprisonment to all the accused, except one (Vijay Tirki)," the judge said.

"For that, all accused and members of banned organisations, CPI (Maoist) and its frontal organisation, Revolutionary Democratic Front (RDF), are responsible. About 78% of the district consists of forest which offers good shelter to the outlaws. Life in general is paralysed and no industrial and other developments take place due to fear of Naxalites and their violent activities. The government declared entire district as Naxalite-affected on August 6, 2002."

A visibly upset Saibaba refused to comment on the judgment, asking TOI to speak to his lawyers. Even the police personnel prevented him from addressing the media. Saibaba's wife Vasanta issued a press statement saying, "Our advocates will move the (Bombay) high Court... This judgement is shocking... It seems the state and Central governments have put a lot

The Gadchiroli police based their evidence on a memory chip received from Mishra after his arrest from Ballarshah railway station on August 22, 2013, with Mahesh Tirki and Narote. Incriminating data recovered from the hard disk of Saibaba's computer revealed their role in Maoist activities, police said. Rabi and Vijay Tirki were arrested on September 2, 2013, while Gadchiroli police arrested Saibaba on May 9, 2014, from his Delhi residence on charges of being a member of the banned CPI (Maoist), providing logistics and helping in recruitment for the group.

I-Card Lost

I, the undersigned, have lost my identity card for class X issued by the Sainik School Imphal (Admission No. 3505) on the way between Luwangsangbam Liberal College Gate to Chingmeirong on March 5, 2017. Finders are requested to hand over it to the undersigned.
 Sd/-
 Lourenbam Bishorjit
 Luwangsangbam, College Gate.
 Ph. No. 8131862012/8794976500

Certificate of Registration Lost

I have lost certificate of registration for my vehicle Fascino bearing MN O1A B 6979 on the way between Nagamapal to Yourabong on 7 May 2017.
 Sd/-
 WAHENGHAM PANORAMA
 Yourabong Maning Leikai
 PO- Lamlong, PS- Lamlai, Imphal East

The National Small Industries Corporation LTD. (A Government of India Enterprise) Industrial Estate, 3rd Bye lane, Bamunimaidan, Guwahati - 781021, Assam

TENDER NOTICE

Sealed tender are invited from the interested Firms/Agencies/ Contractors having experienced in the same line for three years in the following works for upcoming Event "4th IMPHAL EXPO" at the premises of Iboyaima Sumang Lila Shanglen, Palace Compound, Imphal, Manipur from 20th to 27th March, 2017.

1. Pandals with Tarpoline, Cloth Ceiling, Wooden Platform with carpeting.
2. Stalls with plywood/octronum carpeting, tables, chairs etc.
3. Design wood & Bamboo Structure, gates, hoarding, Facia etc.
4. Electrical wiring, fitting, Led Blubs etc.

The tender must carry rate in sq. Meter etc and will be received in the NSIC, Sub Office, Imphal, Manipur-795001 to 13 hrs of 14.03.2017 & will be open at 15 hrs on 14.03.2017. NSIC Ltd reserve the right to disqualify any tender.

Sd/-
 JK Mahanta
 Chief General Manager

Correction

My original name Nepram Surajkumar Meitei s/o N. Gourahari Meitei has been wrongly entered as Nepram Surajkumar Singh in the electoral list number 511 published for 5- Thongja Assembly Constituency - Bashikhong Torban Maning Leikai Eastern, Porompat Sub Division, Imphal East District. My name should be Nepram Surajkumar Meitei.

Sd/-
 Nepram Surajkumar Meitei