

# Editorial

Imphal Saturday, May 27, 2017

## The complaint caveat

The slew of changes that accompanies the change of guard in the state continues to delight and provide that much needed hope and positive expectations from the public which for long have been inured to toeing the line laid down by the officials, bureaucrats and the armed forces of the state. While skeptics are still waiting and watching for any slip-up, it would not be an exaggeration to state that there is no doubt about the perceptible enthusiasm and sense of urgency with which the representatives of the people are taking up their assigned tasks head on. Perhaps the most vivid display of the earnest intention to set things right could be when the Revenue Minister who is also in charge of CAF&PD urged the public to lodge complaints regarding any wrongdoing on the part of the government machinery. What this entails is that the public should be made aware of the deviations and mismanagements which would raise curiosity in the minds of the people which in turn will lead to learning and knowing about the proper way of doing things in the public domain. Participative governance has been proven to be the most progressive form of administering developmental activities in that with increased participation and involvement of the public the chances of drawing up relevant and beneficial projects, schemes and activities are much higher. It also becomes a very powerful and ongoing system for monitoring the present activities, and more importantly, a clear indicator for the type of policies and programs that the government needs to take up and prioritise.

The flip side of the coin, one which more often than not influence the decision making process of any government is the political will and the readiness to tread the untrodden path in its endeavor to bring in changes and usher in development.

The signs are very encouraging so far. And while the feel-good factor of the public regarding the activities being taken up so far by the Biren led BJP government is at an all time high, there still remains the very real possibility of the whole dynamic setup going astray. For one, despite the expressed intent of the central and state government to root out corruption, the practice will continue albeit in a more clandestine manner. And there can only be one option on the part of the state government to display the degree of its intent- to pull up and hand out exemplary punishment permissible under the law of the land without unnecessary delay or deliberation.

The inertia of the present state government is slowly but surely picking up, and it is up to the elected representatives to make sure the assurances and long cherished aspirations of the people of the state for a responsive, responsible and interactive administration is delivered without compromise or collateral. The force to enable the state government to step forward should however come from the collective participation and involvement of the general public. We need to raise our voices and make our opinions count for things fair or foul.

## Nagpur becomes first city with electric mass mobility, gets 200 e-vehicles

**PTI Nagpur, May 27:** Nagpur became the country's first city with electric fleet of 200 electric vehicles, including taxis, buses, e-rickshaws and autos. "Promoting electric vehicles is our priority. We want electric buses, auto-rickshaws and other vehicles to ply in the country. We are engaged in initial talks with SoftBank for loans at low interest rate for a green project. We want to introduce two lakh electric buses for public transport," Union road transport and highways minister Nitin Gadkari said on Friday. The parliamentarian from Nagpur constituency was addressing the media here before launching a pilot project for 200 electric vehicles, including 100 of Mahindra's new e20 plus.

electric vehicle project at the Nagpur Airport Complex, making Maharashtra the first state to provide various incentives to e-taxis. "Electric mass mobility ecosystem in Nagpur will bring about a transformational change in the automotive and transportation landscape in the country," Gadkari said after the launch. Speaking at the event, Fadnavis said, "To promote electric fleet, we have waived VAT, road tax, and registration for all electric vehicles in the state, and we look forward to building Maharashtra as a model state for others to emulate in future." The pilot project here will commence with a 200-strong fleet, including 100 of Mahindra's new e20 Plus vehicles. The rest will consist of vehicles sourced from other OEMs, including Tata Motors, Kinetic, BYD and TVS, among others.

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## THE BUDDHA SAID, 'WAR CANNOT BRING PEACE'

(Part-II)

By Sanjoo Thangjam

The following quotations written below are the sayings of the founders of several religious teachers as well as great philosophers, thinkers, scientists, historians, psychologists, politicians, free thinkers and from some other publications, too.

Their names and references are given below each quotations. There are also many other sayings where references are not given. Most of them are extracted by me.

Buddhism teaches us that all of man's unhappiness comes from the greed for things such as pleasure that money can buy, power over other men, and, most important of all, the things, the inherent desire to go 'living for ever' even after one is dead. The desire of these things makes people selfish, so much so, they come to think only of themselves, and do not, for a moment, mind what happens to other people. And since invariably they do not get all that they wish for, they become restless and discontented.

The only way to avoid this restlessness is to get rid of the selfish desires that actually cause them. This is very difficult; but when a man achieves it, it reaches a state of mind, which is the end of suffering.

- The laws of conflict is nothing but selfish craving
- Verily, due to selfish craving,
- Conditioned through selfish craving,
- Impelled by selfish craving,
- Entirely moved by selfish craving,
- Kings fight with kings,
- Princes with princes,
- Priests with priests,
- Citizens with citizens,
- Mothers quarrels with son,
- Son with father,
- Brother quarrels with sister,
- Sister with brother,

And friends quarrel with friends. Thus thereby they suffer death or deadly pain.

**BUDDHA-MI-886**

- Why a man gets angry  
 Very often when a man is wrong and does not admit it, he always gets angry.

- The nature of man's craving  
 Man is never satisfied with his life. The purpose of life will elude him even after gaining the whole world.

- People feel lonely when they work for their own benefit  
 People are lonely because they build walls instead of bridges.

- Why worry?  
 For every problem under the sun There is remedy or there is none If there is one to find it If there is none, why worry about it.

**SANTIDEVA**

- Retaliation is not the solution  
 The policy of an eye for an eye will make the whole blind.

**MAHATMA GANDHI**

- Observances of precepts supports others to live

Observance of religious principles or precepts not only benefits the one who observes them, but supports others to live peacefully. It is just as one who erects a fence or wall to protect his own house from the neighbour's house, serves to protect the neighbour's as well.

- Try to harmonise with others  
 If we do not know how to live up to the expectation of others, how can we expect others to live according to our expectations!

- Calmness is the nature of a cultured mind

Calmness is not weakness. A calm attitude at all times shows a man of nature.

- Sensual pleasure and mental happiness

To experience sensual pleasure there must be external objects or participants but gaining mental happiness does not depend on these.

- People's mentality differs  
 Dogs like bones, not grass, cows like grass but bones. In the same way some people like excitement more than peace; for others, peace is more valuable than excitement.

- Live in harmony  
 It can only come about when we live in harmony with the natural laws, which bring us health, success, contentment, and tranquillity. When we live in discord with these laws we experience sickness, failure, discontent, worry and insecurity.

- Peace comes when we cope with conflicts  
 Peace comes not from the absence of conflict in life but from the ability to cope with it. War is not an unavoidable law of nature.

- Principles give happiness  
 Nothing can bring you peace but yourself; nothing can bring you peace but the triumph of principles.

**RALPH WALDO EMERSON**

- You are the cause of your happiness or unhappiness  
 It is not your position that makes you happy or unhappy; it is your disposition.

- How important is laughter  
 A good hearty laugh is worth ten thousand 'groans' and a million 'sighs' in any market on earth.

**NAPOLEON HILL**

- Health and hope must work together  
 He who has health has hope; And he who has hope has everything.

- Learn how to smile  
 If you can smile at life, life will always smile at you.

- Health is more important than wealth

The health of nations is more important than the wealth in nations.

**WILL DURANT**

- Make the whole world happy  
 Individual happiness is conducive to the happiness of society, while the happiness of society means happiness of the nation. It is on the happiness of nations that the happiness of world is built.

- Contentment is the real wealth  
 I have great wealth that can never be taken away from me; that I can never squander; that cannot be lost by declining stocks or bad investments; I have the wealth of contentment with my lot in life.

**NAPOLEON HILL**

- If you can trust yourself that is enough  
 If you can trust yourself when others suspect you that is enough for you to maintain peace in your mind.

- Law and weapon  
 Laws kneel down in front of the gun.

**MAO ZEDONG**

- Man's conflict is the cause of fear and worry

o Man is in conflict in nature;  
 o Man is in conflict with other human beings;

o Buddhism is in conflict with himself.  
 Buddhism says, the worries and suffering that we experience are nothing but a clash between our selfish desire and changing worldly conditions. One who develops one's mind to understand this can overcome worries and suffering.

The winds of the cold war are blowing all over the world. This dangerous situation can wipe out mankind from the face of the earth.

In the end, there will be nobody left in this world to win the battle.

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## National and International News

### Sri Lanka: 92 killed, 110 missing in rainfall-triggered floods and landslides

**PTI Colombo, May 27:** Heavy floods and landslides triggered by the worst rainfall since 1970s have killed at least 92 people and left 110 missing in Sri Lanka, officials said on Saturday, warning the situation could get worse.

Over 20,000 people have been displaced in seven districts as the south western monsoon caused havoc, destroying hundreds of homes and cutting off several roads.

"We have seen worst rainfall since the 1970s," said Duneshe Gankandana, deputy minister of Disaster Management Centre (DMC).

"We are carrying out relief operations in some areas when we can't even reach some of the affected areas," Gankandana said, adding that people in the southeastern region of Ratnapura were taking shelter on tree tops.

The DMC said the death toll has risen to 92 and another 110 remain missing with reports coming in from

areas which were inaccessible earlier in the day. The government has alerted international organisations for relief, Gankandana said.

"The Ministry of Foreign Affairs will keep monitoring the situation and will seek assistance as required," said Deputy Minister Karunaratne Paranavithana.

Sri Lanka Airforce and the Navy are working to provide relief to people stranded by floods with helicopters and boats deployed, an official has said.

Relief officials said the monsoon had been expected, yet the rainfall recorded was at unexpected levels. Over 600 millimeters of rain was recorded in some areas with other badly affected areas receiving rainfall ranging between 300 and 500 millimetres.

Chief of Meteorological Department R S Jayasekera said while the peak of the monsoon had passed, more rains are expected during the next few days. Jayasekera said it is

expected to intensify again on May 30. He said the rainfall was more than in 2003 in the south of the island which killed over 250 people.

A majority of those killed were from a landslide in Kalutara and flooding in Ratnapura district, officials said. They said adverse weather had badly affected seven districts.

According to DMC, a total of 7,856 individuals from 2,811 families were affected in the Sabaragamuwa, Western and Southern Provinces due to the torrential rains which have been lashing several parts of Sri Lanka since Friday.

"The number of deaths in Ratnapura district is recorded as 10 and it's nine in Kalutara due to floods and landslides," the DMC said earlier in a report.

According to the report, Galle is the worst affected district where 7,157 people have been affected. Kalutara District Secretariat Field Officer said 38 deaths were reported from the district alone.

The Centre has asked people to be

vigilant on rising water levels and also advised them to evacuate from unstable slopes if the showers continue for the next 24 hours to minimise disasters due to landslides, rock falls in Kegalle, Galle, Kalutara, Matara, Hambantota districts.

"People of Bulathkohupitiya, Deraniyagala, Yatiyantota, Dehiowita, Baddegama, Yakkalamulla, Neluwa, Thawalama, Bulathsinhalu, Agalawatta, wallalawita, Baduraliya, Kotapola, Pasgoda, Pitabeddara, Mulatiyana, Walasmulla and Katuwana areas are advised to evacuate," the report said.

"Showers or thundershowers will occur at times in the Western, Sabaragamuwa, Southern, Central and North-western provinces. Heavy falls (about 150 mm) can be expected at some places," it said.

Sri Lanka, which has been heavily deforested for cash crops, often witnesses landslides during the monsoon season. Last year, more than 100 people were killed in a massive landslide in the country.

### Mumbai and Delhi on high alert over possible terror attack

**PTI Mumbai, May 27:** Intelligence agencies have issued an alert about a possible terror attack by Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) in metro cities including Mumbai and Delhi. The Delhi Police have been put on high alert following intelligence inputs that a group of 20-21 LeT terrorists has entered the country to carry out attacks.

Police sources say it is suspected that the group members might be putting up in Delhi, Mumbai, Rajasthan or Punjab. The Delhi Police Special Cell has issued an advisory alerting its district, metro police and railway police units, asking them to step up security in market areas, religious places, malls and metro and railway stations. The advisory has asked various police units to maintain utmost vigil and keep a "sharp eye for suspected persons/articles and vehicles" and conduct proper frisking and checking of vehicles and persons.

This advisory comes close on the heels of terror attacks in Manchester in the UK and several other places across the world.

Officials have also been asked to carry out mock drills to check preparedness of their staff.

In a recent interview to PTI, Delhi Police commissioner Amulya Patnaik had said that they needed to make extra efforts in maintaining vigil since the national capital was a favourite target of terror outfits.

Ten PCR vans manned by National Security Guard-trained drivers and commandos have been deployed at vulnerable spots.

The 'Parakram' vans will be stationed at Vijay Chowk, Palika Bazar, IP Marg, Select Citywalk Mall in Saket, Vasant Kunj Mall, Pacific Mall in Subhash Nagar, Netaji Subhash Place market and mall complex, Akshardham Temple, Lotus Temple and Jhandewalan.

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