

Editorial

Imphal, Tuesday May 30, 2017

June/July syndrome

It's not that we are against any form of democratic protest against any misdeed by either miscreants or government agencies or the top-level government politicians and bureaucrats. Being a citizen of a democratic country, everybody has the right to express their grievances, and the government too should not let things gone out of hand when any such grievances are being put up.

The last couple of decades showed Manipur witness bandh, blockades, or any form of protest on any issues during these months. Either it may be from the valley, or from the Hills or from the border, issues are often brought up by vested interested persons to spark state wide chaotic situations. Some are genuine and some are for the interest of clique of people which disturbed the daily affairs of thousands of people.

This year, after the BJP led government came to power in the state, people were somehow relieved after witnessing serious concern of the government led by chief minister N Biren Singh by acting tough to sort out almost every issues haunting the state for the pass so may years. With the hundred days programme preparing under hectic scheduled people of the state had seen hope about the restoration of peace and harmony.

Manipur this time had high hope that there will be no disturbances in these particular two months where Manipuris had never able to enjoy a peaceful life.

But what went wrong, the attacked to Parliamentary secretary (Home) Suchindro @ Yaima and followed by killing of a daily wage earner lady labourer by unknown miscreants near border town Moreh on Myanmar side already had begun the show of June/July syndrome.

Earlier, an attempt to boil up the issue of Chief Minister's son using national media (Print and electronic) failed to create trouble in the state. And now again the death of a salesman from Heingang is trying to spark another chaotic situation in the state.

Perhaps today's 48 hours bandh is the first bandh in the 2 plus months N Biren Singh Government. This can be term as the first set back of N Biren Singh as he had successfully solved almost all matters but failed to keep the promise that his government will make Manipur a Bandh Free state.

To remind the government it is worth remembering that large number of women observed Meira Paibi Day on May 28 and the slogan of observing the day is against the draconian act AFSPA and demand for rectification of convention on torture. CM Biren himself had many a times stated that his priority is also to remove AFSPA.

Well, Mr. Chief Minister, during his speech during the inaugural function of the Barak Spring Festival at Senapati has rightly pointed out that there will be issue if the society has to go on. But resolving the issue is his government's top priority, he also added.

When, certain vested interested so called human rights activist tried to sabotage the image of the Chief Minister by exposing the case of his son through national media, even after knowing that the matter is in the court, Imphal Times had questioned the motive behind such activities.

Now about the death of Huirom Priyokumar who has been missing since May 17, 2017 after depositing money at State Bank of India, Chief Minister need to take the case with due seriousness.

The question arises over the death of this young man is that Imphal city is still not secure for laymen. This case should be seriously dealt and all those involved should be punished if the government really feel that the June/July syndrome should be eradicated from the soil.

Media Fellowship on Climate Change Reporting in Himalayas

Centre for Media Studies (CMS) announces DST-SDC Media Fellowship for Climate Change reporting in the Himalayan region. The fellowship is organized in collaboration with Indian Himalayas Climate Adaptation Programme (IHCAP), a project of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) with the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India.

The Fellowships aims at improving the quality of reporting on climate change, capturing the voices of the Himalayan communities, increasing scientific accuracy of media reports on climate change and thereby facilitating effective communication about mountain communities vulnerable to impacts of climate change. A total of four Fellowships will be awarded during 2017 from across the country for reporting on climate change impacts and adaptation in the Indian Himalayan Region. Fellows will be expected to undertake at least a two-week-long field visit related to subjects they choose. The value of the Fellowship amount is Rs. 60,000.

During the fellowship programme, fellows will be expected to write a minimum of three in-depth stories, which should be published or broadcast before November 2017. Along with this, fellows will have to carry out field trips for at least two weeks (one week per month) in the Indian Himalayan region.

Interested media persons can click here to know more: <http://www.cmsindia.org/?q=node/207>

Last date for submitting application: June 5, 2017.

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

News from IGAR South 29 MAY 2017

5 JAK RIFLES ORGANISES FREE MEDICAL CAMP

Continuing the commitment of assistance to the local population, Patsoi Army Camp of 5 JAK RIF of 9 Sector of Assam Rifles under the aegis of HQ IGAR (South) organised a 'Free Medical Camp' at village Salam under Lamsang Assembly Constituency on 28 May 17. The 'Free Medical Camp' witnessed an overwhelming response by the locals and even by the folk of remote foothill villages.

A team of Army medical specialists and ophthalmologists from Regional Institute of Medical Sciences (RIMS), examined around 300 patients of all age groups. Specialist medical advice was provided and those requiring further detailed diagnosis were referred to RIMS hospital. Free medicines were also distributed during the camp and the pre-treatment precautions in case of snakebite were also explained.

The locals expressed their gratitude for this facility and appreciated that such 'Free Medical Camps' be organised more frequently so as to spread awareness regarding the health issues.

It was informed to the locals that there are plans to hold more medical awareness campaigns in the times to come, especially among school children as they are our ambassadors to the future. The Pradhan of Salam Gram Panchayat was also thanked for the assistance in making the endeavour, a grand success.

INAUGURATION OF STATE BANK OF INDIA ATM AT CHASSAD VILL BY ASSAM RIFLES

As part of continuous efforts to develop rural areas and provide basic amenities to the people of North East, 31 Assam Rifles of 10 Sector Assam Rifles under the aegis of HQ IGAR (South) inaugurated State Bank of India ATM on 18 May 2017 at Chassad village of Kamjong District.

The inauguration of State Bank of India ATM at Chassad village will not only improve facilities but also further strengthen the bond of civil populace with Assam Rifles who are considered as the 'Friends of Manipur'. The village people while expressing their gratitude to 31 AR deeply appreciated the sincere efforts undertaken by Assam Rifles in reaching out to the population living in remote vill which otherwise remain neglected and cut off from the main stream.

ASSAM RIFLES CONSTRUCTS COMMUNITY AND CONVENTION HALL

A Community and Convention Hall constructed under Op Sadbhavana 2016-17 was inaugurated by Brigadier Sandeep Mohla, SM, DIG HQ 10 Sector Assam Rifles under the aegis of HQ IGAR (South) at Awongtang, Ukhrul district on 27 May 2017.

Awongtang has a sizeable population of Ex-Servicemen community and the project was heartily welcomed by them. The local population including the Ex-Servicemen conveyed their heartfelt gratitude to the Assam Rifles for their untiring support leading to the realisation of a long cherished dream.

Special Drive to enrol left out electors giving focus on first time electors

PIB New Delhi :

The Election Commission of India has decided to launch a Special Drive from 1st June this year for maximization of registration of eligible electors and removing the impurities in the rolls. In tune with the theme of 'No voters to be left behind' the ECI has decided to utilise the period of continuous updation for maximisation of enrolment of young electors particularly 18-19 age group by launching a special drive in all States.

During the campaign, which will be completed by 31st July 2017, following activities will be undertaken by election official in all States.

- Submission of Forms shall be available to electors in following modes:-
- Submission of Form 6 at EROs Office
- Sending of Form 6 by Post
- Online Submission of Form 6 at National Voters' Service Portal (NVSP)
- Submission of online Form 6 at Common Service Centers (CSCs)

Following additional services for the purpose shall also be provided during special drive:-

- Door to Door visit of BLOs:** BLO shall visit door to door of the households to collect Form 6 from the applicants, particularly 18-19 age group (extendable to 21 years of age) from 1st July 2017 and 31st July 2017 (except the Special

Campaign Dates).

Mobile App: A user can also fill the Form using mobile app 'The Voter Services mobile application', available only on the Commission's website.

National Call Centre (NCC): The ECI has also provided facility of National Call Centre for extending Citizen Services. At the State level, CEO will provide State Call Centre (SCC) and District Contact Centre (DCC) at district level by upgrading '1950' on the same line of National Contact Centre. A citizen making a call at NCC/SCC/DCC will be informed about procedure of Form submission through the above modes. If a differently abled person making call at any of these centres, expresses his inability to utilize any of the above services, then a visit by BLO concerned will be arranged at his/her address for getting the Form filled and receiving it back from that person for further processing. This service will be provided free of cost.

Paid Services: CSCs will provide services of making online filling and hard copy Form digitization on payment basis.

Special Campaign Dates: Special Campaigns will be organized on two dates in the month of July 2017, which will be publicised through media by the Chief Electoral Officer. On these dates, Camps will be held in each polling station where Booth

Level Officer will sit with adequate number of Forms 6, to receive Forms from the applicants. On the day of camp, entire final electoral roll, 2017 along with its supplements, if any, shall be pasted on the wall of the polling stations. The roll shall also be read out publicly by the BLO on that date. The left out eligible citizens will fill Forms 6 and give the same to the BLO at the polling station itself, or submit through any other available means during the Special Drive. Special camps will also be conducted in all Government and Private Educational Institutions (colleges and Schools)/ Vocational Training Institutes on at least two different days between 1st July 2017 and 31st July 2017.

ii) Removal of names of dead electors: During the Special Drive, removal of names of dead electors will also be taken up. For identification of such dead electors, data on registered deaths shall be collected from the Registrar of Deaths and all registered death entries should be removed during the Special Drive.

iii) Disposal of Forms: Disposal of Forms 6 and Forms 7 (death cases), received during Special Drive will be done by 31st August 2017. However, Forms 7 (other than death cases), Form 8 and 8A received during the period will be done only after the Special Drive.

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