

## Editorial

### Of three Ws and Politics

It takes a lifetime to build up a reputation but a moment to ruin it. The adage couldn't have been truer than for people who are constantly in the glare of the public. It would indeed prove a difficult task for anyone to tread the line and balance the private and public side of oneself. This is the inconvenient choice one has had to make when the decision to spend one's life in the public domain is made. And given the inherently instinctive nature of man, it would be an understatement to say that every step that an individual takes is fraught with temptations, enticements and influences that could and often lead to disastrous results. A restive society such as ours is often a hotbed for various forms of enticements, corruptions and temptations as have been experiencing by the public till the present day. War, by its very definition is the state of armed conflict between different groups- political, ethnical, social, religion of financial. While there is a perceptible improvement in the situation in the state regarding administration of law and order, it would be a blunder for anyone to assume that the society has returned to normalcy. However, credit must be given where it is due and it would not be much further from the truth to state that the Biren-led state government has managed to make exemplary headway in steering the society towards the path to peace and reconciliation and as a result the general feeling of the public has been an upbeat one. The air of uncertainty and suspicion that was hanging like a suffocating shroud over the entire state has been lifted, replaced by a palpable feeling of bonhomie and appreciative gestures all around. However, it would be a premature move to hark on the achievements if one could term it as such because the present situation should rather be viewed as a desirable beginning towards a long and arduous journey. Wine, and all drinks alcoholic has been portrayed as a cause for many a misery in the society, and not without any reason. And yet, it has been accepted and offered as a drink for the gods among some faiths and has been an integral part of rituals and cultures for since time immemorial. And the so-called ban on alcohol in the state is but a half-hearted joke which is neither beneficial nor effective. The issue should be on regulation and awareness rather than on total prohibition which only encourage unscrupulous bootleggers and spurious products, not to mention the loss of precious income to the state. The most pragmatic solution would be to lift the prohibition and instead enforce strict regulations on sales and consumption. Women have been proven to induce cognitive impairment in men according to scientific experiments. Wars have been fought and dynasties have been laid waste on account of women since ancient times beginning with when Adam fell prey to Eve's words despite god's warning. Cut to the present, our society is no exception and there are more instances than one would care to acknowledge of the influence and sway women holds over men who are in positions of power and authority. There is the ever present threat of well-meaning and righteous leaders giving in to the emotional manipulations and wiles of women who managed to capture their attention and interest, and if the past is any indication it would only be right for the public leaders to exercise caution in this regard else all efforts and intents will come to naught along with their reputations. The worst loser will be the public who will ultimately bear the brunt of such foolish indulgences.

### Sonia Gandhi condemns New York terror attack

**PTI New Delhi, Nov 1:** Congress president Sonia Gandhi today strongly condemned the terror attack in New York and called for a sustained global effort to combat terrorism. Terming it as an unacceptable act of "brutal" terror against innocent citizens, she said, "Our heart goes out to the families of those who have lost their family members." Sonia Gandhi said that India wages a battle against the menace of terrorism every day and has made innumerable sacrifices in this battle, and called for a global effort to combat terror. "The New York attack is once again a stark reminder that the international community should work towards a concerted and sustained fight against the global network of terror," she said in a statement.

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## National & International News

### IPS officer caught copying scored high in UPSC's ethics paper in 2014

**TNN Hyderabad, Nov. 1:** IPS officer Safer Karim, who was caught rehanding copying in UPSC Civil Services (Main) exam in Chennai on Monday, scored high in the ethics paper of the Civil Services-2014 exam. Ethics paper tests the integrity of a candidate. By scoring high in the paper, Safer managed to secure an all-India rank of 112. Safer, who completed engineering in electronics, scored top percentile in CAT, but instead of pursuing MBA, went to Vajiram and Ravi Academy in Delhi for civil services coaching. After learning the tricks

in Delhi, he returned to Kerala and opened his own civil services coaching centres, Karim's La Excellence in Kochi and Thiruvananthapuram. Safer secured 112 rank in the 2014 Civils exam in his third attempt. An All India Service (AIS) officer, who is Safer's batchmate, told TOI that the Kerala native had scored high in the ethics, integrity and aptitude paper, which had enabled him to secure a good rank. "The ethics paper was introduced by UPSC in 2013 to test integrity of a candidate. Safer's case is the classic example of how the paper failed to test integrity of a

candidate, who later went on to commit a fraud to shame the entire AIS officers' fraternity. He had scored 108 in the 250-mark paper in General Studies-4 (ethics, integrity and aptitude) paper. His scores in other three General Studies papers were comparatively less," an IRS officer, who too appeared in the UPSC Civil Services Examination-2014, said. Safer had secured 772 out of 1,750 marks in written exams and 178 out of 275 in the interview, with a cumulative of 950 out of 2,025 marks. Not just AIS officers, even directors of coaching centres condemned Safer's shameful act.

"It is highly condemnable that somebody who scored so well in the ethics paper has been found adopting such unethical means to be an IAS officer. The government must initiate CBI probe into the issue to ensure that justice is delivered," KS Rao, director of KS Rao IAS Academy, said. Expressing shock over an IPS officer resorting to hi-tech copying in UPSC Civils exam, director of another prominent coaching centre in Himayatnagar said, "It is an irony that someone who scored 108 marks in the subject, took the unethical route just to be an IAS officer."

### 8 killed by New York motorist in 'cowardly act of terror'

**AP New York, Nov 1:** A man in a rented pickup truck drove onto a busy bicycle path near the World Trade Centre memorial today, killing at least eight people and injuring several others in what the mayor called "a particularly cowardly act of terror." The 29-year-old driver was shot by police after jumping out of the truck with what turned out to be a fake gun in each hand, officials said. He was taken into custody. His condition was not immediately disclosed. Witnesses described a scene of panic and blood, with people screaming in fear and the path strewn with bodies and mangled bicycles. Cities around the globe have been on alert against attacks by extremists in vehicles. The Islamic State has been encouraging its followers to mow down people, and Britain, France and Germany

have all seen deadly vehicle attacks in recent months and years. Police said the vehicle, a rented Home Depot truck, entered the bike path on West Street a few blocks from the new World Trade Centre and mowed down several people. The truck also slammed into a small yellow school bus, injuring two adults and two children. A paintball gun and a pellet gun were found at the scene, police said. "This was an act of terror, and a particularly cowardly act of terror aimed at innocent civilians," Mayor Bill de Blasio said. At least two bodies could be seen lying on the path beneath tarps, and the front end of the pickup was smashed in. Tom Gay, a school photographer, was on Warren Street and heard people saying there was an accident. He went down to West Street and a woman came around the corner shouting, "He has a gun! He has a gun!"

Gay said he stuck his head around the corner and saw a slender man in a blue track suit running southbound on West Street holding a gun. He said there was a heavyset man pursuing him. He said he heard five or six shots and the man in the tracksuit fell to the ground, gun still raised in the air. He said a man came over and kicked the gun out of his hand. The attack closed roads across the western edge of Manhattan along the Hudson River and sent uniformed officers rushing to the neighbourhood as people prepared for Halloween festivities, including an annual parade through Greenwich Village. Eugene Duffy, 43, a chef at a waterfront restaurant, said he was crossing West Street when he heard something, turned back and saw the white pickup on the bike path. After seeing the mangled bikes, he ran south, seeing the school bus

that appeared to have been T-boned, and officers at the scene, guns drawn, ducked behind patrol cars. "So many police came and they didn't know what was happening," Duffy said. "People were screaming. Females were screaming at the top of their lungs." Uber driver Chen Yi said he saw a truck plow into people on a popular bike path adjacent to the West Side Highway. He said he then heard seven to eight shots and then police pointing a gun at a man kneeling on the pavement. "I saw a lot of blood over there. A lot of people on the ground," Yi said. Video footage of the school bus showed its right side bashed in, and firefighters surrounding it as they worked to free children inside. The White House said President Donald Trump was briefed on the attack.

### New York attack: Trump orders 'extreme vetting' of foreign travellers

**PTI Washington, Nov 1:** President Donald Trump said today he had ordered more robust "extreme vetting" of travellers coming into the US in the aftermath of the first deadly terror attack in New York since the September 11, 2001 carnage in the city. At least eight people were killed and 11 others injured in Lower Manhattan today after a gunman in a truck ploughed through a busy bike path, an incident the US termed

as an "act of terrorism". The suspect, 29-year-old Sayfullo Saipov said to be from Uzbekistan, was shot in the stomach before being arrested. "I have just ordered Homeland Security to step up our already extreme vetting programme. Being politically correct is fine, but not for this!" Trump tweeted. Trump also changed the banner on his Twitter account to the New York skyline. His administration announced last

week that it would resume accepting refugees after a 120-day ban, though arrivals from 11 "high-risk" countries, most of them home to Muslim majorities, will still be blocked. "Our thoughts and prayers are with the victims of today's terrorist attack in New York City and their families," Trump had said in a statement after the attack. Earlier, the US president took to Twitter to decry the attack, saying "we must not allow ISIS to return".

"In NYC, looks like another attack by a very sick and deranged person. Law enforcement is following this closely. NOT IN THE U.S.A.!" Trump tweeted. "We must not allow ISIS to return, or enter, our country after defeating them in the Middle East and elsewhere. Enough!" he said in another tweet. New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio said authorities are treating the incident as a terrorist attack.

## More State news

### Run for unity organized by AR & CRPF at Historic Kangla fort

**Imphal, Nov. 1:** As apart of nation wide campaign, Assam Rifles & CRPF under the aegis of IG Assam Rifles(South) & IGP CRPF M & N Sector organized 'Run for Unity' on 31/10/2017 at Historic Kangla Fort which had been the ancient seat of political power and also a holy place of religious worship and ceremonies. The program was organized in connection with "Rastriya Ekta Diwas" to commemorate the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel, the "Iron man of India" who played a stellar role in the struggle for independence and creation of a united independent India out of several hundred princely states which existed at the time of Independence. More than 600 persons drawn from Assam Rifles, CRPF, students of Sainik School, Kendriya Vidyalaya, MaryKom boxing Academy, Sarita Devi boxing Academy & various other institutions participated in the Run. A pledge was administered to all the participants by Vikram Sahgal, IGP,



Manipur & Nagaland Sector CRPF to up hold the unity, integrity, harmony and Internal security of the nation reiterating the vision of Sardar Patel. Miss Oinam Bemben Devi, renowned Footballer of the country, Arjuna Awardee, graced the function as a special invitee. The Run was flagged off jointly by Vikram Sahgal, IGP CRPF, Brigadier Jai Singh Bainsla Commander

9Sector AR, Brigadier S.K. Sharma, DIGP CRPF and Miss Oinam Bemben Devi. The Run started in front of Historic Kangla Uttaraandended at the same spot after covering about 1.5 Kms. Speaking during the function Vikram Sahgal, IGP stated that the strength of India lies in its Unity in diversity and appealed to one and all to work towards building a

progressive and united India. Later on, a marchpast of contingents drawn from CRPF & AR was held at Group Centre Langjing followed by Cultural program presented by students of KV Langjing.

### Jwalamukhi Battalion distributes Solar Lamps

**PIB Imphal, Nov. 1:** Jwalamukhi Battalion under the aegis of Senapati Brigade of Red Shield Division distributed 30 solar lamps to villagers of Jangnomphei and T Songlung of Kangpokpi district on 26 Oct 2017. Jwalamukhi Bn is making all efforts to promote the image of Security Forces since its induction and has undertaken various goodwill projects to alleviate the problems of the locals and resuscitate the existing facilities in the district. The villagers and village authorities of Jangnomphei and T Songlung conveyed their gratitude for this gesture shown by the Security Forces