

Editorial

Recollecting peoples' trust

"LIES" no matter how big or small always crack the foundation of "TRUST".

Sometime peoples' representative who were elected with high hopes shattered people's expectation.

The moment they were elected they often forgot what they had promised to the people often led a live thinking that the general public who elected them are bunch of ignorant fools who can be driven at any direction. The sinister concept become phenomenon and now people (almost all) now started thinking that there is no true leader who deserve victory in any of the election. But as the hangover system still has to be followed and continue there cannot be a full stop to the ongoing process. Election is mandatory for a democratic country. And for that candidates are required. In-order to form government there again need political party and those candidates need to be attached to any of the political party to render their service with effective power.

We are not sure if God frequently surfaces in the form of man, as is commonly believed. But what we can be dead certain is the fact that his arch enemy Satan often manifests himself, especially in Manipur, in the form of politicians. These incarnations of Satan, who are now running amok with the people's sensibilities, have cast such a nasty spell on the state that it is well nigh impossible for the people who elected them in the first place, to retain even a semblance of sanity.

There could be no other logical explanation to the goings on in the political arena than taking refuge in the unnatural and the irrational. And for the teeming millions who had inflicted this handful of pests on themselves, there could be no other option but to bemoan their fate. The curse, call it the millennium curse, is well and truly upon us.

It would be an understatement to say that there is something very basically wrong with our polity. Things have now come to such a pass that our state of Manipur can neither move forward nor backward but remain painfully suspended in a maze of anarchy and disorder.

The scourge of politicians has indeed taken a heavy toll, not only of the riches but also of its psyche. The epidemic is now all pervading and has invaded the very roots of the country's integrity and well being thereby impeding its prosperity and peace. Whatever the party, whatever their ideology and hue, when it comes to pursuit of power and pelf, our politicians are at their wily best and very united too in their mission.

If only these characters demonstrate the same solidarity and zeal in nation building, things would have been much different. But alas, their penchant for self-preservation has always won over patriotism, their quest for wealth has always been at the nation's expense and above all their instinct for survival has always prevailed over the nation's.

They have always prospered even as the state disintegrated, and they are always in a position of strength, be it 'secularism or communalism' that is at play. But what about the 27 lakhs people who elected them? They are never in the reckoning.

Encounter breaks out in Kulgam, Pulwama districts

PTI Srinagar, Nov 14: Two encounters broke out this morning between security forces and militants in Kulgam and Pulwama districts of south Kashmir, police said. Security forces launched a cordon and search operation in Nowbug Kund village in Qazigund area of Kulgam this morning after receiving specific information about the presence of militants in the area, a police spokesman said. As the forces were conducting the

searches, the militants fired upon them, triggering an encounter, he said. The firing was going on when last reports came in, the spokesman said. He said another encounter broke out in Laam village of Tral in Awantipora area of Pulwama after the militants fired upon a search party of security forces. Gunfight was going on, the spokesman said, adding, further details are awaited.

WHENEVER YOU SEE CONSTRUCTION AND MINING EQUIPMENTS, JUST THINK OF US



Power and Fuel Efficient Construction Solutions Are Here.
 Authorised Dealer : Cases New Holland Construction Equip. (I) Pvt. Ltd.
 &
 Kirloskar Engines Oil Limited (Kirloskar) Sales, Geneset (I) Pvt. Ltd.
 Contact No. 0385-2452159 / 0882288687

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

National and International News

UN chief meets Myanmar's Suu Kyi on Rohingya crisis

AFP Manila, Nov 14: UN chief Antonio Guterres urged Myanmar leader Aung San Suu Kyi to allow Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh to return, when they met today at a summit in the Philippines, his office said. The meeting added to global pressure on Suu Kyi to take action to end the crisis for the Muslim minority, with US Secretary of State Rex Tillerson due Tuesday also to hold talks with her in Manila then travel to Myanmar. "The Secretary-General highlighted that strengthened efforts to ensure humanitarian access, safe, dignified, voluntary and sustained returns, as well as true

reconciliation between communities, would be essential," a UN statement said, summarising comments to Suu Kyi. More than 600,000 Rohingya have fled to neighbouring Bangladesh in two and a half months. The crisis erupted after Rohingya rebels attacked police posts in Myanmar's Rakhine state, triggering a military crackdown that saw hundreds of villages reduced to ashes and sparked a massive exodus. Authorities have blocked independent access to northern Rakhine. But journalists and UN officials have collected reams of testimony from Rohingya refugees in

Bangladesh describing soldiers and Buddhist mobs committing murder, rape and mass arson. Following its first official investigation into the crisis, the army published a report this week in which it cleared itself of any abuses. Nobel laureate Suu Kyi, a former democracy activist, has been lambasted by rights groups for failing to speak up for the Rohingya or condemn festering anti-Muslim sentiment in the country. But she lacks control over the powerful military, which ruled the country for decades until her party came to power following 2015 elections. The United States has been careful

not to place blame on her and has focused instead on the army's role in the conflict. Guterres and Suu Kyi met in the early hours of Tuesday morning, according to his office. In a summit on Monday night with leaders of the 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations, of which Myanmar is a member, Guterres also voiced concern about the Rohingya. He said the displacement of hundreds of thousands of Rohingya was a "worrying escalation in a protracted tragedy," according to the UN statement. He described the situation as a potential source of instability in the region, as well as radicalisation.

Indian-American announces to run for US Congress

PTI Washington, Nov 14: Indian-American Jitendra Diganvker has announced to run for the US House of Representatives in the 2018 Congressional elections. If elected by his Republican party in the primaries, Diganvker, a business owner and community worker, would be pitted against popular Democratic Incumbent Raja Krishnamoorthi from the 8th Congressional District of Illinois. A suburb of Chicago, the Congressional District has a sizeable Indian-American population. Krishnamoorthi, who has carved a niche for himself in the last 10 months in the US Congress through his articulate views on key issues like national security,

immigration and economy, is backed by the former US President Barack Obama. If nominated by the Republican Party, it would be for the first time that an Indian-American would be pitted against another in a Congressional election. Diganvker said that he is running for Congress to give a voice to the hard-working middle-class Americans that are too often ignored by career politicians in Washington DC. "Immigrating to our great country, my family and I have experienced many highs and lows," he said. My family came to America to achieve the American dream—to succeed or fail by our hard work and commitment. Today, career politicians have left

behind hard-working middle-class Americans. I will be a voice for those very people who have been left behind, because my family is one of them," Diganvker said. He lost his two daughters in a tragic house fire in 1999, which drove him to become a compassionate community servant. He said he has seen first-hand, how burdensome government regulations and rising health care costs can discourage the entrepreneurial spirit. "I am not a politician. While most politicians pass laws yet never feel the effects of their actions, I come from real America. I have felt these struggles and know first-hand the consequences of Washington's action, and

inaction, on issues important to middle-class families. I will be the voice of everyday Americans in Washington," he said in a media release. The US House of Representative currently has four Indian Americans. Ami Bera from California is the three-term lawmaker. Three others Ro Khanna from California, Raja Krishnamoorthi from Illinois and Pramila Jayapal from Washington State were elected to the Congress last year. All of them would be seeking re-election next year. Kamala Harris from California is the first Indian-origin American Senator. She was elected to the Senate last year. She is of mixed parental heritage.

GST has reduced barriers between states, says Kovind

PTI New Delhi, Nov 14: President Ram Nath Kovind said today that the introduction of Goods and Services Tax (GST) was a milestone and the new regime has reduced barriers between states, creating a more formal economy. Inaugurating the 37th India International Trade Fair (IITF) at Pragati Maidan here, he said the country is recognised as a bright spot of the global economy and the world has acknowledged the change in its business

environment. "Introduction of GST has been a milestone and it has broken down barriers between states. It has provided a boost to the creation of a common market and a more formal economy as well as a stronger manufacturing sector," Kovind said. Due to these efforts, he said, foreign direct investment (FDI) in the country increased to USD 60 billion in 2016-17 from USD 36 billion in 2013-14. The President also said that the

focus of India's economic reforms and policies is to eliminate poverty and enhance the prosperity of millions of ordinary families. "After all, trade must help common people. They are the ultimate stakeholders," he added. Listing the government initiatives such as Make in India, Digital India, Start Up India, Skill India and Smart Cities, he said that these steps are an attempt to make economic reforms more meaningful to those at the grassroots. GST, which subsumed more than a

dozen central and state levies like excise duty, service tax and VAT, was implemented from July 1. About the IITF, Kovind said as many as 3,000 exhibitors including 222 foreign companies, domestic firms, public sector units and states are participating in the fair. This year, 'Startup India Standup India' is the theme of the fair. The 'Partner Country' is Vietnam and the Focus Country is Kyrgyz Republic. These countries, the President said, are important trade and strategic partners of India.

North Korea soldier shot six times during rare defection to the South

Seoul, Nov. 14: A North Korean soldier involved in an extremely rare and dramatic defection to the South was shot six times by his own side as he drove to the heavily guarded border and ran across under a hail of bullets. The US-led United Nations Command (UNC), which monitors the Panmunjom border trade village where the defection occurred Monday, said the soldier had driven close to the heavily-guarded, military demarcation line separating the two Koreas. "He then exited the vehicle and continued fleeing south across the line as he was fired upon by other soldiers from North Korea," the UNC said in a statement. An official with the South Korean

Joint Chiefs of Staff said the North's border guards fired at least 40 rounds. A doctor treating the soldier—who was airlifted to a hospital for emergency surgery—said he had been shot half-a-dozen times and sustained a serious stomach injury. "He has at least six gunshot wounds on his body and the penetrating wound in the abdomen is the most serious," Lee Cook-Jong told reporters. "His organs are extremely damaged... we do not know how long he can hold up," Lee said, describing the soldier's condition as "very serious." It is very rare for the North's troops to defect at the truce village, a major tourist attraction bisected by the demarcation line and the only part of the frontier where forces from the two

sides come face-to-face. The 1953 ceasefire ending Korean War hostilities was signed at Panmunjom, and it has since hosted numerous rounds of inter-Korean talks—sometimes held in huts that straddle both sides of the border line. Previous defections at Panmunjom The fact that the defector drove to the frontier suggests he may not have been a member of the elite corps of North Korean troops posted to Panmunjom, who are carefully vetted and selected for their loyalty. No tourists were present at the time, because tours do not run on Mondays. According to the South Korean military there was no exchange of fire across the border, and the UNC statement stressed that no South

Korean or U.S. forces were harmed. The incident, which happened in broad daylight around 4:00pm, comes at a time of heightened tensions on the Korean peninsula over the North's nuclear weapons programme.

Smog continues in Delhi, 10 trains cancelled

PTI New Delhi, Nov 14: The toxic smog continued to envelope national capital today morning, with reduced visibility in some areas leading to cancellation of ten trains in the city. According to a senior Indian Railways official, 73 trains have been delayed, 34 rescheduled, and 10 cancelled. "The minimum temperature was recorded at 14.6 degrees Celsius, a notch above normal," a MeT department official said. The humidity was recorded at 84 per cent at 8.30 AM. "Light rain is expected tomorrow, which might intensify the fog but could clear the smog," the official said. Delhi has been experiencing dense smog for about a week, forcing authorities to enforce emergency measures such as banning construction activities and brick kilns in the National Capital Region.

Stalker sets woman on fire in Chennai

TheHindu Chennai, Nov. 14: A 22-year old woman died after she was set on fire allegedly by a stalker for refusing his proposal. Her mother and sister who tried to rescue her have been admitted to hospital with burn injuries. The incident took place at Saraswathi Nagar in Adambakkam on Monday night, when Aakash (25), an engineering graduate, who used to be on friendly terms with Indhuja, reportedly poured petrol on her and set her on fire. He has been stalking her for over a month, claiming he was

in love with her. When Indhuja didn't respond, Aakash went to her house on Monday night and committed the heinous act. According to reports, Indhuja and her family were initially reluctant to open the door, but Aakash persisted, claiming he only wanted to speak to her for a few minutes. Indhuja's mother Renuka (44) and Nivedha (20) who went to her rescue, also suffered serious burn injuries. Neighbours, on hearing the screams went to the rescue of the family,

rushed all of them to Chromepet Government Hospital where Indhuja was declared 'dead on arrival'. Renuka and Nivedha are undergoing treatment at Kilpauk Medical College (KMC) Hospital. Doctors at KMC hospital said Renuka suffered 49% burns while Nivedha suffered 23% burns. They have suffered burns mostly on their face and hands, a doctor said. The accused who escaped from the scene after receiving a few blows was reportedly picked up police on Tuesday.