

# Editorial

## A reminder to Central Govt.

The final settlement between the government of India and the National Socialists' council of Nagaland (NSCN) led by Th. Muivah and late Issac Chi Swe is finally at the door. India government earnest effort to solve the problem of 'the rebel group', which they consider to be the mother of all insurgency movement in the state has compelled the mainland administrators to finally fulfill some of the demands which will not hurt the interest of the Indian nation.

After engaging in several rounds of talk for over 2 decade the Indian Government had finally succeeded to divert the conflict between the country and the NSCN-IM to a conflict between the state governments of each North East Indian state with the rebel group. Now the ball has been successfully thrown to the court of Chief Ministers of Manipur, Assam and Arunachal Pradesh.

The declaration of the cease fire with the NSCN-IM on July 25, 1997 at the floor of Lok Sabha by the then Prime Minister of India, late Inder Kumar Gujral had already sparked tension among the various communities of the North East India, compelling some of the civil society organizations of the state to take up awareness campaign about the 'would be' affects of the cease fire agreement. Four years later, after the declaration of the ceasefire, the extension of the cease fire 'without territorial limits' on June 14, 2001, at Bangkok, which was later popularly known as 'Bangkok declaration', the simmering tension of the various communities of the state reached to catastrophe. Manipur was nearly turn to ash with almost 60 percent of the people of Imphal coming out to the street of Imphal and pouring their anger to the government set up of the state. Almost all offices of political parties, official quarters of MLAs, Ministers etc were set ablaze by the angry mob. Even the temple of democracy - the assembly secretariat was not spared. It was during this famous uprising in the history of Manipur that a complete change to the peoples' mandate during the general assembly election was brought.

After the signing of the Frame Work agreement on August 3, 2015 and the recent meeting with the interlocutor of the India government RN Ravi with 6 underground groups of Nagaland, stage is now set for a final solution. However, content of the agreement has not been let known to the public making it as a secret deal. Bothe Manipur and Assam government had expressed their apprehension.

On the other hand civil society bodies in Manipur are preparing for another bog protest if the FA crosses the boundary of Nagaland towards Manipur.

Manipur was burnt in 2001 and that too when the BJP led government was in power at the center. If Manipur burnt again people will no more tolerate to the responsible political party and its alias any more.

# Women's right in the frame work of human rights

By : Justice A.B. Pal  
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In his famous book "We the people" Nani A. Palkhivala, the renowned jurist wrote in his note of dedication:-

"To my countrymen who gave unto themselves the constitution but not the ability to keep it, who inherited a resplendent heritage but not the wisdom to cherish it, who suffer and endure in patience without the perception of their potential."

Human Rights are Birth Rights:- Human rights are those natural rights which are available to every human being by his or her birth. The relevant laws or covenants do not confer or have not conferred but only recognized those birth-rights for their protection and implementation. Four basic human rights recognized by the Universal declaration of human rights 1948 and enshrined in our constitution as fundamental rights are (i) right to life; (ii) right to liberty; (iii) right to equality and (iv) right to dignity. The Constitutional mandate is that these basic rights should be made available by the State to all its citizens irrespective of their caste, religion, sex, place of birth etc. To make these basic rights meaningful and enforceable certain other rights meaningful and enforceable certain other rights have also been recognized which are right to education, health, Shelters, congenial environment, civil and political rights social and cultural rights.

Women's Rights:- But even after long journey of human civilization crowned with tremendous progress in science, technology, education, literature and culture women have remained in subhuman status, treated as chattel, subjected to inhuman torture and humiliation, denied basic human rights of life, liberty, equality and dignity and yoked to degrading servitude.

There are many barriers to gender equality. Important factors include gender stereotyping of violence against women, social, cultural attitude and discriminating laws and practices. Women throughout the world live in constant fear and conditions of deprivation very often for the simple reason that they are women. Therefore, any attempt to assess the status and problem of women in a society should start from the social frame work, social structure, cultural norms and value system. There is a huge gap between theoretical possibilities and their actual realization which could not be bridged even by positive discrimination in favour of women in our constitution and other relevant laws.

Human Rights of women in India:- In India the women should under the constitution and other law, be allowed to enjoy the following human rights, viz.:

1. Right to equality,
2. Right to education,
3. Right to live with dignity,
4. Right to liberty,
5. Right to politics,
6. Right to property,
7. Right to equal opportunity for employment,
8. Right to free choice of profession,
9. Right to livelihood,
10. Right to work in equitable conditions,
11. Right to get equal wages for equal work.
12. Right to protection from gender discrimination,
13. Right to social protection in the eventuality of retirement, old age and sickness,
14. Right to protection from inhuman treatment,
15. Right to protection of health,
16. Right to privacy in terms of personal life, family, residence, correspondence etc. and
17. Right to protection from society, state and family system.

But the reality is that all the

constitutional mandates and legal protections notwithstanding the women and denied at every state the freedom to enjoy their rights. The question is why? Where the malaise lies.

Women in Vedic period.

If we look back, even in vedic period generally the birth of girl was not welcomed. But she did not suffer on that account and was entitled to all the privileges given to a son. Women studied in Gurukul and enjoyed equality in learning Vedas. The great women like Ghosa, Apala, Lopmudra, Gargi Maitreyee, Indrani, Yami and others had distinct qualities of art, music, dance and even fighting in the battle. Brides had exclusive rights to select their life partner and marriage was solemnized only when the couple had reached mature age to understand nature and significance of marriage. But polygamy was practiced in aristocratic classes and dowry was prevalent in rich and royal families only in the form of moveable gifts. A widow could marry again and did not require to give up wearing ornaments and shave her head. But she could not hold or inherit property.

Women in post vedic period (1500B.C.-500A.D.)

In post vedic period the status of women suffered a set back when various restrictions were put on women's rights and privileges by sages like Manu, Yajnavalkya, Parasara and others. The education of women began to be neglected. Yajnavalkya declared that women should follow the words of their husbands because this is their highest duty. In Ramayana and Mahabharata the husband was indeed a Deity for the wife. Independence of women was ruled out. Manu emphasized that a woman's father protect her in childhood, the husband in youth and her son protects in old age. A woman is never fit for independence.

Women in Medieval period (500 A.D. to 1800A.D.)

Invasion by Alexander, Hoons and Muslims further degraded existence of women. They were completely sub-ordinated and compelled to take pardah which restricted movement of women outside home. They became more and more dependent on men. Polygamay further aggravated their agony. Uneducated and devoid of any status they came to be treated as chattels.

Women in Mughal and British period

During Mughal and British period the practice of SATI, killing of baby girls, polygamy and system of Devdasi in different parts of India were prevalent. Social degradation led to terrible sufferings of women and that is why the cause of emancipation of woman and her education engaged the attention of almost all social reformers. In 19<sup>th</sup> Century serious efforts were made by social reformers for eradication of social evil and making people sensitive to injustices perpetrated to women. The notable social reformers of this period include Raja Ram Mohan Roy, Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar, Dadabhai Noroji, Swami Dayananda Saraswati, Lokamanya Tilak, Aurobindo and Mahatma Gandhi. Crucial role was played by some outstanding women like Annie Besant, Sister Nivedita, Sarojini Naidu, Sucheta Kripalini, Durgabai Deshmukh, Kasturaba Gandhi, Vijay Laxmi Pandit and many more.

Post Independent Era; Fundamental Rights.

Independence of the country brought about a sea-change in the status of women by enshrining in the constitution equality principle and playing greatest honour to the women who were neglected and subjugated for centuries. The fundamental rights in the constitution have been extended to all irrespective of sex, caste, creed and place of birth.

## National & International News

### IndiGo staff manhandle passenger, airline apologises

Courtesy TNN

New Delhi, Nov 8: In a shocker, IndiGo ground staff manhandled and dragged a passenger at Delhi Airport on October 15 after a tiff. An airline employee who acted as a whistleblower, tried to intervene and shot a video of this violence and was sacked by the airline.

This drama unfolded on October 15 when 6E 487 flew into Delhi from Chennai. After alighting from the Airbus A-320, a passenger Rajiv Katiyal got into an argument with some ground staffers over some issue and he allegedly abused them. What sparked this argument has not been ascertained yet.

Two to three IndiGo ground staffers stopped Katiyal from boarding the bus which was taking passengers to the terminal. They then manhandled him and dragged him

on the tarmac for over a minute. An IndiGo employee, Montu Kalra, who was at the site tried to intervene and shot a video of his colleagues manhandling the passenger. Instead of acting against the employees who thrashed passenger Katiyal, IndiGo sacked Kalra whose wife is pregnant and who needs the job desperately for his growing family.

On Tuesday when Kalra's video became public and was aired by Times Group's Times Now, Minister of state for civil aviation Jayant Sinha spoke to IndiGo founder Rahul Bhatia and sought a detailed report on this issue. He said once the passenger lodges a criminal complaint (FIR) against the IndiGo employees who beat him up, they will lose their security clearance for airport passes and not be able to go

there for their job. Effectively, the guilty employees of IndiGo will not be able to work in the aviation industry, Sinha said.

Sanjay Bhatia, IGI Airport DCP, confirmed receiving a PCR call regarding the tiff between the passenger and IndiGo employees on October 15. "Passenger Rajeev Katiyal, who had flown in from Chennai, was waiting for coach bus. There was altercation between IndiGo staffer Jubi Thomas and the passenger due to a misunderstanding. The matter was amicably sorted out and call was filed."

IndiGo president Aditya Ghosh said in a statement: "I acknowledge the unpleasant experience our passenger went through, while engaging with our staff at Delhi airport. My personal apologies as this does not reflect our culture. I had personally spoken to the passenger and asked for an apology. At IndiGo, dignity of our passengers and staff is of utmost importance. Any act that compromises the dignity of either is of a serious concern to us. Under the code of conduct violation, this incident was investigated and stern action was taken against the staff. Once again my personal and sincere apologies to the affected passenger."

The airline later added to this statement, saying: "Treating our customers with respect is core to what we do. Every day we take tens of thousands of happy customers to where they need to get to. It is for this reason that customers choose IndiGo more number of times than any other airline in the country. An incident happened in Delhi airport which is entirely the opposite of this and against what we stand for at IndiGo. The video

of this incident came to our attention and we took action. Even while the investigation was going on we immediately suspended the involved employees. I personally spoke to the customer and apologised to him the very same day. Whatever may have been the provocation, our staff were completely out of line and didn't follow laid down procedures.... Under the code of conduct violation, this incident was investigated by the designated committee and stern action was taken against the staff who was he main culprit by immediately terminating his employment. He was the one found instigating and aggravating the situation. He is the exact opposite of what IndiGo's customer service aims to be."

### AR provides first aid to accident victims

Imphal: On 03 Nov 2017 a TATA Dumper (Haiwa) of Bharti construction company vehicle bearing No MN 04A 9113 moving on Khongsang-Tml road slipped off from the road and fell in 10 mtrs gorge. The accident occurred near Triveni railway coy construction site, 12 Km away from Khongsang market. Accident victims, driver of the vehicle Mr Billund, 27 yrs, s/o Fausiddin Laskar of Silchar, Assam and co-driver Mr Abdul Munaf, 16 yrs, S/o Isue Bali of Jiribam were evacuated from accident site to COB Khongsang of Tamenglong Bn and were given first medical aid by medical team of Tamenglong Bn. The driver suffered fracture on his left leg and co-driver had minor injuries. Both victims were further evac to Silchar for further treatment.

### Modi robbing country, turning people's anger into communal hatred: Rahul

Courtesy: Deccan Herald

New Delhi, Nov 8: Congress Vice-President Rahul Gandhi on Wednesday accused Prime Minister Narendra Modi of "robbing" the country of its economic prowess and "damaging" India by converting people's anger due to joblessness into "communal hatred".

On the first anniversary of demonetisation, which he termed as a "tragedy", Gandhi said livelihood of millions of honest Indians was destroyed due to this "thoughtless act" of the Prime Minister.

"Modi's reforms have robbed India of its economic prowess," he alleged in an article in 'Financial Times' that said demonetisation has wiped out 2 per cent of GDP and "ruined" the lives of millions of workers. Gandhi said the prime minister claimed his decision was aimed at wiping out corruption, but "Twelve months on the only thing he has wiped out is confidence in our once booming economy".

The Congress vice-president alleged that demonetisation destroyed the informal labour sector and has wiped out many small and medium businesses.

"Mr Modi has damaged India by converting anger created by joblessness and lack of economic opportunity into communal hatred. "He has chosen to hide behind a shallow, hate-filled political narrative. Anger might have brought Mr Modi to power but it will never create jobs or fix India's institutions," he said in the article. Taking a poetic dig at the government, he tweeted in Hindi

that even a single tear spelled danger for the government and one has not seen an ocean coming out of the eyes, tagging a picture of some poor people crying while standing in queues.

"Demonetisation is a tragedy. We stand with millions of honest Indians, whose lives and livelihoods were destroyed by PM's thoughtless act," he said on Twitter.

"Ek aansu bhi khukha ke liye khatra hai, tumne dekha nahin aankhon ka samundar hona" (Even a single tear is a danger for the government, you have not seen eyes turning into an ocean)," he said in another tweet.

The Congress, which described note ban decision as the "biggest scam" and a "money laundering scheme", will observe the demonetisation anniversary as "black day" by taking out countrywide protests in the form of processions, rallies and candle-light marches.

Congress leaders will pan out across the country and will participate in protests with "Desh Bhugat Raha hai" and "India suffers" as the central theme for the day.

Gandhi is in poll-bound Gujarat to participate in protests in Surat, the country's diamond and textile hub. Quoting the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy, Gandhi said 1.5 million people have lost their jobs in the first four months of 2017 due to demonetisation, which he termed as an "arbitrary and unilateral" decision of the Prime Minister.

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