

Editorial

Traffic regulation still yet be improved

The state of Manipur, and Imphal city in particular has been witnessing a phenomenal increase in the amount of vehicles- an indication of the rising social status of the public and improving economic conditions in the state. While these factors are a welcome sign, the fact remains that the concerned authorities have failed to keep pace with the times and the changing social scenario in the state resulting in heavy traffic jams and delays which needs to be addressed immediately. The short term policies and systems being implemented from time to time in an attempt to ease the congestions and traffic jams have not been able to alleviate the problem in any way, on the contrary these ad-hoc measures have managed to confuse the public and compound the problem the authorities have been trying to solve. The formation of Traffic regulation and parking committee has not been of much help, and one can only wonder if they are functioning at all. Queries put up to the concerned departments have only resulted in more bewildering responses- a classic example of the effectiveness of passing the buck around that has been at work in all government set ups. While formulation of policies and systems to control and regulate traffic may be a beginning in the right direction, the fact remains that the increasing number of vehicles need additional space to accommodate them and juggling acts of the traffic system by the experts, however efficient and experienced they may be, will not bear fruit. Construction of additional parking spaces at strategic locations, bypasses and flyovers, and most importantly providing subways at important and crowded junctions will go a long way in reducing these problems. The need to streamline and re-orient the traffic police personnels is also being felt by the public. Turning a blind eye to the irregularities being committed by the drivers of various public and commercial transport vehicles in consideration for a "quick handshake" has been well documented- despite the dangers and inconveniences such greedy acts causes.

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The Greatest Achievement of Humanity

We live in the era of modern technology and have made many impossible things possible. We reached the moon; climbed the highest mountain peak and measured the depth of the ocean; invented aircraft and many more machines to make our life happier and more comfortable. But are we content with what we have achieved? What is the Greatest Achievement of Humanity?

Prem Rawat says "It is contentment; it is to be in peace. Peace is not a luxury which can be purchased. It is not a thing that can be found on a mountain peak or deep inside the ocean. It's a feeling within us. Contentment is a feeling that emanates from within you. If someone asks you, "Are you satisfied?" You can say, "Yes, I have a good family, good job, good car, great friends, even my pets listen to me, hence I am satisfied." But are you content? Have you sown the seed of contentment?"

There is a story. Once, there was a remote village. The people in this village were very simple. One day a tourist arrived and stayed for a night. The next morning, he took out his mirror and put it up on a wall so he could shave. He cleaned up and shaved, but forgot to take the mirror off the wall before he travelled on. An elderly villager with grey hair, bright eyes and shiny face saw the mirror on the wall and looked into it.

He had never seen a reflection of himself, so when he saw his face in the mirror, he was mesmerized, and said to himself, "Today, I have seen the face of God." He left - completely happy, saying "I have seen God". Then along came a young girl. When she saw herself in the mirror, she was taken aback and exclaimed "I have seen the most beautiful woman! Since I grew up, this is how I wanted to look like. And then came along a man who had lost his father not too long before. He looked into the mirror and said, "Oh, my god! I have seen my father again." Now, each of these three people wanted to keep this mirror with them because they had their own reasons to it. The older man wanted the mirror because he had seen the face of God. The young girl wanted the mirror, because into it she has seen, how she wanted to look like. And the third man wanted the mirror because into it he had seen his father again. They started arguing and long fights were breaking out all over the village, because whoever looked into the mirror and whatever they saw - they liked and they all wanted the mirror for themselves.

Finally, a wise man happened to come there. When he saw the fights, he asked, "Why are you all fighting?" Different people answered, "I want this thing

because this is my God," or "this is who I want to be," or "this is my father" or "this is my this; this is my that." He asked for the mirror to be brought to him. He looked at it and said, "Don't you know what this is? This is a mirror. He called the old man, the young girl and the third man and told them that they have seen themselves into the mirror. It reflects the image of anything that is in front of it."

How does this story relate to peace and contentment? You see, peace begins with each one of us; but we have forgotten our own self, our own need. What is the face of peace? Some people will tell you that the face of peace is the absence of war, but that doesn't mean the presence of peace! The face of peace is none other than your own face when you are in contentment when you are in peace - when peace dances upon your face. Look at how much money governments spend on trying to make society amiable; but when we are content, that happens automatically. We have spent so much money, time and energy; however we need to also realize this simple and basic human quality that when you are content, you are nice and when you are not content, when! Forget it. If somebody is in your lane and just looks at you implying, "Can I come in front?" you will drive your car a

little further ahead, "Don't even think about it!" because you are no longer stable. You become different. This is the importance of contentment; this is the importance of peace. Without contentment, we are unrecognizable. With contentment and peace, everything begins to dance in the sweetest and the most beautiful way."

Mr. Prem Rawat, an International Speaker addresses global audiences on the topic of Humanity and Peace. He is also known by the honorary title "Ambassador of peace". His message is recognized and admired globally by various forums i.e. European Parliament, United Nations, Oxford University, Harvard University, IIT Delhi and many more. He is closely involved in various humanitarian programs and projects. In recognition to his Nobel work and dedication towards humanity, he has also received several awards like Life Time Achievement Award, Brand Laureate Award, Keys to Cities etc. In 2001, he started The Prem Rawat Foundation (TPRF), with a mission to address the fundamental human needs of food, water and peace. TPRF's - Food for People, is an innovative program that provides nutritious meals to children and ailing adults in India, Nepal and Ghana. The excerpts of Prem Rawat's message are available online at www.timelesstoday.com and www.premrawat.com.

National & International News

Air Force Marshal Arjan Singh was actor Mandira Bedi's uncle and a fourth generation soldier

New Delhi, Sept. 18: Among the galaxy of politicians including President Ram Nath Kovind, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and the three chiefs of the armed forces, who visited the residence of Indian Air Force Marshal Arjan Singh in New Delhi to pay their tributes, was also present actor and TV personality Mandira Bedi. Air Force Marshal Arjan Singh was the uncle of actor Mandira Bedi, who expressed her grief on the death of the legendary military officer with a Twitter post saying, "Marshall (sic) of the Air Force, #ArjanSingh, my

uncle, passed away this evening. A true officer and a gentleman. Will miss him dearly." Mandira Bedi is related to Marshal Arjan Singh through his wife Teji Singh, who died in 2011. Teji Singh was Mandira Bedi's maternal aunt. Marshal Arjan Singh had married Teji Singh in 1948. Marshal Arjan Singh was the fourth generation soldier from his family. His great-grandfather Sultana Singh was the Naib Risaldar in the Guides Cavalry of the British Indian Army enlisted in 1854. Sultana Singh was martyred during the Afghan campaign of 1879.

AIR FORCE CHIEF AT 45
Marshal Arjan Singh was the first, after three generations, from the family to become a commissioned officer of the Armed Forces. Marshal Arjan Singh is best remembered for his contribution in the 1965 war as the Air Force chief. Born in 1919, Arjan Singh joined the British Indian air force at the age of 19 in 1938 as pilot officer. He rose through the ranks fast and at the time of Independence, Arjan Singh was a wing commander and acting group captain. Arjan Singh led the first fly-past of the Indian Air Force over the Red Fort as part of the Independence Day celebrations on August 15, 1947. Arjan Singh became the Chief of Air Staff in 1964 at the age of 45.

POST-AIR FORCE CAREER
After his retirement in 1969, Arjan Singh took the position of the Ambassador to Switzerland in 1971. He concurrently held the position of the Ambassador to the Vatican. From Switzerland, he moved to Kenya as High Commissioner in 1974 and stayed there till 1977. From 1975 to 1981, Arjan Singh served on the National Commission for Minorities. He was made the Lieutenant Governor of Delhi for one year between December 1989 and December 1990. Delhi did not have a chief minister during that period.

10 persons drown in Assam boat capsized

PTI Goalpara, Sep 18: Ten persons drowned when four boats capsized in Sabon river during a severe storm in Assam's Goalpara district, a senior district administration official said today. About 50 people from the district in four small boats were returning home after witnessing a local boat race in Sabon river when their boats capsized during the storm at Joribabel yesterday evening, said Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Nur Hussain. The bodies of nine persons were recovered yesterday night while one body was recovered today.

Hussain said. As locals claimed that some people were still missing, the ADC said, SDRF rescue teams have rushed to the area and were conducting search operations. Ex-gratia grant will be paid to the next of kin of the deceased as per rules, the ADC informed. The dead were identified as Amzad Ali (55), Abdul Karim (32), Mukadash Alam (10) belonging to, Sumaiya, Jilekha Khatun (41), Sumaya Yasmin (7), Ruhima Begum (40), Sultana Yasmin (6), Selima Yasmi (10) of another family and siblings Syed Ali (8) and Masuma Begum (7), officials said.

Yogi Adityanath and his deputies take oath as Members of Legislative Council

Agency Lucknow, Sept. 18: Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath took oath as the Member of Legislative Council on Monday. Two Deputy Chief Ministers KP Maurya and Dinesh Sharma along with ministerial colleagues Swatantra Dev Singh and Mohsin Raza also took oath besides Adityanath. Adityanath took the oath after meeting the compulsory six-month deadline to get elected to either house of the state after assuming office. Raza, a minister of state, is only Muslim face in the 48-member council of ministers in UP. The five were recently declared 'elected unopposed' to the state

Legislative Council in by-elections to five seats that fell vacant when the sitting members resigned recently. With this, BJP's tally is up to 13 in the 100-member Upper House - the only place where the Opposition still enjoys the majority. The Samajwadi Party (SP) has 61 members in the Legislative Council, the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) nine, the Congress two and the Rashtriya Lok Dal (RLD) one. While 12 seats are held by 'others', two are vacant. The ceremony took place at 11 am on Monday at the Tilak Hall of the legislative building in Lucknow, with Legislative Council Chairman Ramesh Yadav administering the oath.

2 Naxals killed in Chhattisgarh, weapons recovered

PTI Raipur, Sep 18: The police gunned down two Naxals in an encounter in Chhattisgarh's Sukma district, a senior official said today. A team of the District Reserve Guard (DRG) was out on an anti-Maoist operation last night and advancing through Rasantong area, around 500 kms from here, when the Naxals started firing on them. Deputy Inspector General of Police (Dantewada range) Sundarraj P told PTI. This led to a gun battle between the two sides, he said.

FIVE-STAR MARSHAL ARJAN SINGH
On the Republic Day in 2002, the Atal Bihari Vajpayee government elevated Air Chief Marshal Arjan Singh to the five-star rank of the Air Force Marshal. He became the first Air Force Officer and only till date to have been decorated with the five-star rank. However, he was the third military officer to hold that rank. The other two were former army chiefs SHF Jamsheji Manekshaw and KM Cariappa. The rank of Air Force Marshal is equivalent to the Army's five-star Field Marshal and Navy's Admiral of the Fleet grade. Last year, an Air Force station, Panagarh in West Bengal was named after Air Force Marshal Arjan Singh as Air Force Station Arjan Singh. After suffering a massive cardiac arrest, Marshal Arjan Singh breathed his last on Saturday evening at the Army's Research and Referral Hospital in New Delhi.

2 Naxals killed in Chhattisgarh, weapons recovered

"After the exchange of fire stopped, bodies of two cadres clad in 'uniform' were recovered from the spot," the DIG said. The police also recovered a 12 bore gun, a muzzle loading gun, 13 detonators, a radio set, a wireless set, codex wire, a couple of batteries, solar plates and some Maoist-related material from the spot, he said. The identity of the killed ultras was yet to be established, he said. However, preliminary investigation suggested that they were members of the Golapalli local organisation squad of the Maoists, he added.