

Editorial

Monday, April 23, 2018

A thought on paying tribute to our martyred forefathers

The people of the state today paid fitting tribute to the martyrs who had sacrificed their life fighting to safeguarding the freedom of the erstwhile kingdom at the battlefield of Khongjom in 1891. The courage and spirit of our ancestors is worth remembering and paying tribute to those martyrs is our pride to prove the world that we the Manipuri were courageous, hardworking people who had always wanted to live life with dignity. It is a known fact that, our ancestors of that time knows well that there was no possibility of winning the war against the huge army of the British Empire, but they still fought knowing that they will defeat in that war. Those ancestors like Paona Brajabashi, Bir Tikendrajit and other unknown soldiers of the erstwhile kingdom would certainly dream of a nation at which people from across the world have great respect.

Points wanted to make here is that, have we paid enough respect to our ancestors who had sacrificed for the cause of the nation's freedom. Seeing the state of affairs of present Manipur, it is sceptical on whether our ancestors who had sacrificed for the cause of the erstwhile country are happy or not. The so called leaders of the present state and those who had been elected with thousands of hopes have been completely depending to the money sanction from the central government for running the state.

A change in the government of the state which is now similar had promised a lot and rumours are talking around state will not face financial crisis. Central government blessing is the only hopes for those running the state.

However, lack of proper administration has always been a matter of reality that the present day people face. Lack of sincerity among those responsible elected representatives as well as the bureaucrats have made so many poor still suffered from hunger. Many children still are deprived of what they are suppose to get, many farmers face hardship due to improper utilisation of fund meant for their development.

People faced draught in non-rainy season and flood during rainy season. Well some action to fight flood is seen taken up this time, but what is being seen is just .5 % short term measures as a proper documented policy. The drainage system constructed in and around Imphal city by spending huge amount of many do not serve its purpose. And every one of us knows that these moneys meant for construction of the public properties are hijacked by people who are near and dear ones of those in the government.

This situation is not what our ancestors had wanted. They might now feel shame of what we are no. A simple offering of floral tribute is really not enough to pay respect to our ancestors, we need to build a strong state if we really wanted a fitting tribute to our leaders.

Education

Classes 9th to 12th to have mandatory health and physical education class every day: CBSE

Courtesy - AIR New Delhi, April 23,

Students from Classes IX to XII of CBSE schools will have to attend a mandatory health and physical education class every day.

This will be a qualifying subject for which grades will be offered and is mandatory for students to be eligible to appear for the Class X and XII board exams.

A senior CBSE official said, the move is a step to prevent growing obesity among school children. The board has prepared a 150-page manual detailing sports guidelines and methodologies.

The CBSE has asked all schools to reserve one period for Health and Physical Education while preparing the time-table for the 2018-19 session. The process of Health and Physical Education will be school-based and will be evaluated and

implemented by school teachers only.

The marks or grades will have to be submitted by schools on the CBSE website. While assessment will be mandatory to be eligible for appearing in Board exams, the marks will not be added to the final result.

According to new rules issued by the board, the schools will have a daily sports period for all classes. The students will have to go to the playground during the Health and Physical Education period but will be free to perform any physical activity listed in the manual and will be graded on the same. Schools have been given freedom to decide what kind of activities they would like to introduce during this period. However, Physical Education (PE) as an academic elective will be continued to be offered to Classes X and XII.

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CM urges public to obey traffic rules

DIPR Imphal, April 23,

Chief Minister N. Biren Singh has urged the public to cooperate and extend support to the Government in containing road accident fatalities by simply obeying the traffic rules while driving and crossing the roads. He made the appeal in his message broadcasted today on All India Radio and Doordarshan Kendra Imphal in connection with the observation of the 29th Road Safety Week (April 23-30, 2018) under the theme 'Sadak Suraksha - Jiban Raksha'.

The Chief Minister expressed concern that there was steep rise of 67.9 per cent in the number of road accident fatalities during 2017 when compared with 2016.

The Supreme Court Committee on Road Safety (CoRS) seriously viewed the matter with deep concern and directed the State

Government to formulate an Action Plan to reduce accident fatalities at 50 per cent by 2020, the Chief Minister said.

Stating that the State Government has started taking up necessary steps to check using of fake driving licenses, Shri N. Biren Singh informed that 10,000 driving licenses (manual/form 6) and smart card driving licenses had been seized/verified so far, and out of which 400 driving licenses were found to be fake licenses.

Further investigation is being carried out by the CID Crime Branch to book the involved miscreants/anti-social elements under the law, he added.

The Chief Minister further said that the Government is also trying to contain re-registration of stolen vehicles purportedly brought from other States.

In this regard, a dedicated Anti Theft Vehicle Cell has already been established under the overall in-

charge of IGP Zone-I, he said while adding that the Cell is verifying the documents of pre-used vehicles in collaboration with the Transport Department before allowing registration.

Furthermore, in compliance of the Supreme Court Orders of dated 12th May 2015 and 21st January 2016, the State Transport Department had already notified the guidelines relating to protection of Good Samaritans on 22nd July 2016 requesting all stakeholders as well as general public to strictly abide by the guidelines framed by the apex Court, he said.

The Chief Minister also urged the public to evacuate the accident victims to the nearest hospital without any fear of risk.

The State Health Services Department had been advised to make available its ambulances to accident victims through a common toll free number which must be

adequately publicized besides taking up necessary steps to complete and make operationalisation of the Trauma Care Centres which have been approved by the Union Ministry of Health, he added.

N. Biren Singh also said that the Government had issued an office memorandum on April 17, 2018 wherein Government officials had been advised to provide their official vehicles to victims in shifting them to nearby hospitals when any accident occurs near Government offices or if any official happens to come across any road mishap while they are travelling.

The Chief Minister also appealed to the people of Manipur to obey traffic rules, rules of road regulations besides other laws relating to helmet/seatbelt/mobile phone etc. so that valuable lives/properties could be saved besides reducing menace of social trauma to a great extent.

CORCOM pays respects martyred forefathers of Khongjom War

IT News Imphal, April 22,

Conglomerate of rebel group operating in the region - CORCOM pay tribute and revolutionary homage to the martyrs who had laid down their lives in the Anglo-Manipur War 1981.

In a statement released by media coordinator of the group, Ksh. Yoiheiba, the CORCOM elaborated on how the war had occurred.

"The British colonisers back then, had their eyes on Manipur not because they had development in their mind, but wanted to gain a strong foothold towards the land and its neighbouring countries" the statement said.

Manipur being situated on a strategic location between China and India, the place was important to the British, it said. There were many reasons as to why the British wanted to keep the place as a buffer zone, the release informed. They wanted to set up trade relationships with British India and Burma and considered the place as important in making confrontations with the communities like Naga, Kuki and Mizo etc which were settling at the borders of the colonised land, it further informed.

The wanted to make Manipur as their own fortress in defence against Burma that was making challenges to their agenda and power, and to make confrontations with France that had started showing strong interests at Indo-China borders, it said.

Manipur's existence as independent kingdom that lied between the colonised India and Burma, was a thorn in their side, it further said adding therefore, they made attempts to colonise Manipur by any means.

1890 gi September 21 da thokhiba Palace Revolution adugi khudong chaba louduna 1891 gi 24 March ta huraaan lanna da Manipur(Kangleipak) gi mathakta British na laandasillkhi.

The first attempt was made in 18th century during a time when disputes existed amongst the royal family and there were invasions from the neighbouring countries that led King Bheigyachandra to seek the help of British, it said. They took advantage of the situation when the kingdom was facing a weak point, and tried to take over it slowly, the release said adding they further tried to take over the nation with force. Taking advantage of the palace revolution that took place in September 21, 1890, the British invaded Manipur from the backdoor on 24 March 1891, it continued. As a result, five British officers including James Wallace and Grimwood were killed by the soldiers of Kangleipak, it said. From that incident, a massive force of British army invaded the nation from

three sides.

Subedar Paona Brajabashi and Chongtha Mia were appointed as major and with 400 soldiers; they were made to help defend the British invaders that came from Tamu side.

Major Paona and Major Chongtha Mia barricaded the western side of Khongjom River and fought the final battle of the war. The battle at Khongjom sealed the fate of Kangleipak, and it showed how much brave forefathers of Manipur loved Kangleipak. Many brave

soldiers including Major Paona Brajabashi and Chongtha Mia laid down their lives at the battle, the release added.

"The bullets of our enemies can reach us but ours cannot reach them. We will not survive by turning our backs to flee, and we will not turn our backs," these words stated by Paona Major express the patriotism of the brave forefathers and their love for the motherland, it said.

More than 128 soldiers of Manipur

gave their lives in the battlefield. Knowing that there was no way of winning the battle as the enemy outnumbered both in soldiers and weapons, the khongjom war was such a battle in which the soldiers chose to fight instead of losing their independence, it further said. The publicity committee, CorCom appeals the public to join hands and try to follow the ideal of the ancestors so that the colonial rule of India can be completely rooted out from Manipur, it added.

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