

Editorial

Wednesday, April 25, 2018

Threat perception and state media

The advancement in information technology has made today's world a 'Global village' - the term first coined by Canadian-born author Marshall McLuhan. Man born at the extreme corner of Far East Asiatic countries knows, cry and pray for the kind of disasters that happen in Middle East countries or in Latin America. Installation of internet technologies to cell phones which every human being can afford makes the people of our Earth-whose circumference is estimated at about 40,075 Kilometer staying at a communicable distance. Now every human being equipped with cell phone can now talk or stay in touch with any of their friends or relatives staying thousand miles away. Point bringing here is about the changes in the theory of mass media in relevance to today's journalism. The very concept at which the older generation considered 'proximity' as a characteristic of news is somewhat losing its foot.

Professor M.L Stein, the then chairman of Department of Journalism, California State University, Long Beach, California in his book "Shaping the News" in 1974 wrote that people are more interested in what happens in their neighbours. The one time presumption that 'a dog fight on Main Street is of more interest to our readers than fifty thousand foreign troops killed in battle somewhere' seems to have no relevance in today's society. Readers are now interested about happenings at distance places if the subject matters is his or her interest.

However, another characteristic of news - 'Prominence' on the hand is becoming a matter of more interested subjects for almost all readers. People now want to know what had happen to their leaders, celebrity or the bureaucrats irrespective of where they stay or which country they reside. Every news readers are eager to know the story of successful personality.

Points bringing up here are not to lecture on what is news and what should be reported but this is an attempt to make some of our critic to understand on why the newspaper especially the kind of ours often published story about real heroes or events that happen far far away from our state. Sometimes a mere insignificant event at which some people are of vested interested are often left of and the result is not always good for we in the media fraternity of Manipur state in particular. The other kind of pressure that the media persons sometimes remain helpless is their intentions to get publish their story.

Manipur or say Imphal is not a safe place for even VIPs who are escorted by security personnel days and night. It is an open secret that almost all the politicians including MLAs or Ministers or even the Chief Ministers have linked with the UGs, the only thing we don't have is the proof.

So, what would be the security of those working with the media if in case, some of the individuals or rebels force us to publish stories of their interest. Being taken up this profession, we always stand with our ethics and there is no question of compromising our ethics while publishing stories. But when the government said that this should not be published and this should be published then where is the freedom of speech provided under the constitution of our country. Government machineries can invite news editors and can discuss about the content on objectivity reason but should in no way dictate the media on what or what not to publish. Calls of bandh or blockage by any organisation are in some way an essential news items for media houses living in conflict zone - because it is for the safety and security of the common people that the government machineries cannot guarantee safety. We have PCI guidelines, local code of conduct and this should be respected.

Bottom line is that media should not be harassed at any cost for any reason because we chose this profession not merely to earn for living but with full intention to serve our nation.

Letters, Feedback and Suggestions to 'Imphal Times' can be sent to our e-mail : imphaltimes@gmail.com. For advertisement kindly contact: - 0385-2452159 (0)

Perpetual Profession of 7 sisters of Bethany Congregation which was held at St. Joseph Catholic Church Viswema

IT News
Imphal, April 25,

Final Profession was granted on 21st April, 2018 at St. Joseph Catholic Church, Viswema, Kohima Nagaland to seven nuns; Sr. Methasinii Agatha BS of Viswema Village, Sr. M. Charou Elizabeth BS of Poumai Tribe, Sr. M. Marina Therou BS of Poumai Tribe, Sr. M. Roselima Thamei BS of Rongmai Tribe, Sr. M. Roseline Dukru BS of Chakhesang, Sr. M. Line Raymond BS of Poumai Tribe and Sr. M. Silvia Daphrou BS of Poumai Tribe from the congregation of the sisters of little flower of Bethany have committed themselves in perpetual profession. On this profession they become a permanent and full fledge member of the congregation. During the rite, they make vows to remain throughout their lives in Chastity, Poverty and Obedience to their superiors and in their faith.

The rite of perpetual profession was administered by the main Celebrant, Most Rev. Dr. James Thoppil, DD, Bishop of Kohima Diocese accompanied by Rev. Fr. Charles D'Souza SJ, Parish Priest, Mary Help of Christian, Jakhama, Rev. Fr. Nicholas Kamei, Secretary to Arch Bishop of Imphal, Rev. Fr. Victor Renthungo Odyuo, Secretary to Bishop of Kohima and a host of priest, in presence of Rev. M. Lillies BS, Asst. Superior General, Mangalore and Rev. Sr. M. Joy BS, Provincial Superior, North East Province, Guwahati. Apart from the well wishers of the



neighbouring Villages, the programme was attended by delegates from Mizoram and Manipur.

The main celebrant in his speech encourages the professed sisters to remain committed and steadfast to their call and commitment. He further states that love is one of the most important thing after food, as crazy things can be done out of love. Similarly, these 7 sisters out of love for their faith and missionary they sacrifice worldly desire to serve God and Humanity. During the rite, professed sisters have requested the Assistant Superior General to be professed and after which they were examined and profession was granted. The

most heart touching moment of the profession was that they prostrate themselves in front of the celebrants and a traditional shawl was placed over them by their parents symbolizing giving up of worldly interest for their missionary and religious life. As a sign of their profession a ring and a cross was offered to them.

Earlier, the Eucharist programme was presided over by Sr. Sulabele Teresa BS and that of Felicitation programme was chaired by Sr. Melissa BS, a special number on Tati by VCYA enthralled the gathering. Entrance and offertory procession in traditional tune by men and women troupe.

National & International News

Mamata Banerjee slams Congress for moving CJI impeachment motion

Agency
Kolkata, April 25

West Bengal chief minister Mamata Banerjee said in a television interview on Tuesday that she had tried to dissuade the Congress from moving the impeachment motion to remove the chief justice of India (CJI), arguing that the case for the opposition parties wasn't strong enough.

In an interview with *News 18 Bangla*, Banerjee said she had discussed the issue with former Congress president Sonia Gandhi, but she didn't listen. She slammed the move as a wrong political step, from which her Trinamool Congress party had distanced itself, breaking rank with other opposition parties. At the same time, Banerjee said the need of the hour was to forge an alliance among regional parties to take on the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). All forces opposed to the BJP should come together and make sure that in the 2019 general elections, the mightiest candidate is fielded in every seat, regardless of party colour, to take on the BJP in a bipolar contest, she said, echoing Congress spokesperson Abhishek Manu Singhvi, who, too,

spoke of the same electoral strategy in a recent interview with *Mint*.

Asked about her stand on the Congress in respect of the alliance that she is looking to build, Banerjee said the party was welcome to join it. But for such an alliance to work, the Congress has to be more accommodative and "willing to let go", she said, even as she slammed a section of the media, alleging that it was pressuring her to "bow to Rahul Gandhi", the Congress president.

"I will not," she said firmly. Asked if in her view Sonia Gandhi had stepped down as Congress president a little too early, she declined to comment, saying that it was a matter decided between "a mother and her son". "I won't get into it."

Asked about the violence witnessed in West Bengal in the run up to the upcoming panchayat elections, she said workers of the Trinamool Congress were at the receiving end of aggression and intimidation, and that a section of the media was trying to malign her image with a political motivation.

Rubbishing allegations that the Trinamool Congress was obstructing people from opposition

other parties from filing nominations, Banerjee said some 96,000 people not affiliated to her party had filed nominations to contest in 58,650-odd seats. That clearly shows there was no obstruction and the picture created by a section of the media was "completely exaggerated", she claimed.

In a first, she praised her predecessor Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee of the Communist Party of India (Marxist), or CPM, as a "politician with ideology", while using the same descriptor for former chief minister, the late Jyoti Basu—a leader she had turned to at the peak of her strife with the administration over land acquisition in Singur in 2006.

But current leaders of the CPM have no ideology, she said, adding that many of her own supporters are ideologically Leftists. "I have no problem with such people," she said. Though as an opposition leader in West Bengal, she was once a sworn enemy of Bhattacharjee, she has lately had a change of heart: she has visited the ailing former chief minister at his home twice in the recent past.

'Congress hands are stained with blood'

Agency
New Delhi, April 25,

Senior Congress leader Salman Khurshid has said, Congress party's hands are stained with blood.

He made the remark during an interaction with students at the Aligarh Muslim University on Sunday.

Mr Khurshid acknowledged that communal riots and other sectarian acts did take place during Congress rule. He said, it is not a reason why his party should not come forward to protect Muslims in case of attacks against them. Congress has distanced itself from Mr Khurshid's remarks.

Party spokesperson Randeep Singh Surjewala said, the party disagreed with it in toto.

BJP spokesperson Sambit Patra said, the Congress is not only guilty of shedding the blood of Muslims, but Sikhs as well.

Two minor girls raped – one by stepfather for two years, another by aunt's boyfriend

Agency
New Delhi, April 25,

Two disturbing news of crime against girl child have been reported from different parts of Delhi. In one incident, police have arrested a man for allegedly raping his 14-year-old stepdaughter for two-three years. The incident was reported from Jaitpur area in south-east Delhi. The man came under police radar after the child fell ill and she was taken to a government dispensary, police said.

The victim was brought to the police station with the help of a child helpline after Delhi Child Protection Unit was informed about the girl by the government dispensary. According to police, the victim said she was assaulted by her stepfather for the last 2-3 years.

In another shocking incident reported from Shahbad dairy area of

hospital, police said.

The girl is out of danger after remaining hospitalised for 24 hours. Police have arrested the 30-year-old woman while her boyfriend, identified as Mukesh Kumar, who is in his late 30s, is absconding. Police have registered cases under relevant sections of the IPC and POCSO Act. Police suspect the rape of the child was pre-planned by the woman and her boyfriend.

The child's mother has abandoned the family and she lives only with her father in Shahbad Dairy. The accused woman lives in the same area and she was taking care of the family in the absence of the girl's mother.



Delhi, police said a woman had lured and forced her 13-year-old niece to drink alcohol before letting her boyfriend rape the child. The incident took place on Sunday night, according to police.

The victim was rushed to Baba Saheb Ambedkar Hospital by her father on Monday morning after he noticed the child bleeding because of the assault. The rape was confirmed by doctors at the

Get live Stock Prices from BSE and NSE and latest NAV, portfolio of Mutual Funds, calculate your tax by Income Tax Calculator, know market's Top Gainers, Top Losers & Best Equity Funds. Like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter.