

Editorial

Friday, April 27, 2018

Politics on Naga issue - Is this for electoral gains?

Either it is at Manipur the hot spot of Insurgency Theater, or at Nagaland where Naga insurgency have full power to influence the electoral politics, the age old unsettled issue of the Naga always comes up in public domain when general election or parliamentary election is knocking at the door.

A news report, collected from official source, and published at one of the most respected newspaper "Indian Express" says that the Naga Accord is nearly at the final stage. It further added that the accord will not change boundaries of any neighbouring states of Nagaland particularly for the state of Manipur.

Incidentally, the news report appeared when the Election commission of India (ECI) announced the by-election date for the lone Nagaland Parliamentary Constituency.

As per the announcement the election for the lone MP seat will be held on May 28, 2018.

At a time when the recently held Nagaland state assembly election was just some few months talks about a final solution of the vexed Naga issue was the agenda.

President Ram Nath Kovind, who visited Nagaland for inauguration of the Nagaland Hornbill Festival, had announced that the age old Naga issue will be sorted out soon. Before that, in September 2017 Governor of Nagaland PB Archarya had also assured the people of Nagaland that the issue will be solved in two months.

But, Nagaland state Assembly election was held without completing the final solution.

Every people in the entire North East knows that the main stakeholders which is dealing for the vexed Naga issue is the NSCN-IM. It is the way that this main insurgent group who had started peace dialogue with the government of India in August 1997 that has been regarded as most influential when it comes to Naga issue.

In the neighbouring state Manipur, the game was different. A single mistakes committed in the course of solving the issue may result strong uprising witnessed in June, 2001. So it was differently tackled in their own way by every political party.

In 2011, a newspaper reported about the formation of a Supra state for the Nagas as demanded by the NSCN-IM. The report was also published based on highly confidential source from the Union Ministry of Home Affairs. A flare up following the news report compelled the authority to clarify saying that no such agreement has been signed or agreed.

Well, sometimes important documents of this kind seems to be intentionally leaked to check the reaction of the general public. This may be one of the effective ways of the government to study the mentality of the general public for political gains.

After almost 20 years of peace talk and close association, it might not have been difficult for the Indian government to find out the present strength, strategy and every loop holes, weak area of the NSCN-IM. Existence of the various other rebel groups and the present day mindset of the people of Nagaland which have been under analysis by experts for over 2 decades. The government now know that people are fed up of the insurgency movement , yet every Naga people still feel that there is an unsettled Naga issue. People like a solution, no matter, how it does.

Perhaps the news report, published yesterday is an intentionally leaked out report which the government of India is preparing in the backdrop of the upcoming Nagaland Parliamentary constituency election.

As of now, no clarification has been made from the side of the NSCN-IM. May be because the report which said that there will be no change in the boundary of any NE states neighbouring Nagaland is accepted by them.

It may be remembered that 1000s of Naga rebel cadres have died fighting for a sovereign Nagaland. After NSCN-IM enters peace deal with the government of India the demand for separate state had been reduced to formation of a separate state by carving out portion of land from Manipur, Arunachal Pradesh and Assam. If the report appeared is not reacted by the NSCN-IM, it now stands clear that the NSCN-IM have finally given up its earlier stands.

A glimpse of Shirui festival, Tangkhuls in their traditional attires



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Shirock rocks Shirui Lily Festival



SHIROCKFEST, an annual international rock festival of Manipur, is an exclusive to Shirui Lily Festival organised by Tourism Department, Government of Manipur.

Since the day it kicks start on April 24, Shirock , which is being organised as a part of the Shirui Lily festival rocks visitors and tourists at Bakshi Ground of Ukhrul Headquarters.

The festival is ticket-free international music festival which is being organised by the tourism department to promote the conservation of our endangered state flower Shirui Lily and to promote young talented Artists, which will in turn promote ecotourism in Manipur. The last edition- ShiRock 2017- was a grand success with a crowd turnout of 30,000 to 40,000 per day.

The major attraction of this festival is the ShiRock Band Competition wherein different bands from the entire Northeast regions will clash for Shirock 2018 title worth Rs 10 Lakh. This edition of ShiRock will feature two internationally renowned

Rock Bands "Steelheart" and "Queensryche" on the opening and closing days respectively. These famous bands will perform in India for the very first time at Bakshi Ground, Ukhrul, Manipur.

Shirui Lily flower is a unique and rare species of terrestrial lily grown naturally, and only found in Shirui peak in Ukhrul, Manipur. This seasonal flower, which blooms in Summer, is famous because it cannot be transplanted elsewhere in the world despite numerous attempts made by researchers and scientists. Hence the name, Shirui Lily.

About Queensryche which enthral audiences :

Queensryche first burst onto the music scene in 1982 with the release of their self-titled 4 song EP "Queensryche". They very quickly gained international recognition and performed to sold out audiences around the world. With the follow up first full length album "The Warning" in 1984, and the ground breaking 1986 release of "Rage For Order", Queensryche continued to prove their worldwide dominance as one of the most respected and creative bands of the 80's. In 1988 the band turned out yet another monumental album "Operation: Mindcrime", which

would go on to become one of the TOP 10 best selling concepts records of all time, and set the stage for continued sold out performances around the world. With the release of the critically acclaimed and commercially successful "Empire" in 1991, the band earned multiple Grammy Award nominations and won the MTV "viewer's choice" award for the #1 chart topping hit "Silent Lucidity". During the next ten years, the band continued to release albums and tour the world to sold out audiences. Queensryche has sold over 30 million albums worldwide and have continued to break new ground and push their creative process.

National & International News

Strike by resident doctors partially affects healthcare services in AIIMS

Agency New Delhi, April 27

The strike called by the resident doctors of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), after one of their colleagues was assaulted by a senior doctor partially affected healthcare services at the premier institute Friday.

In a statement late Thursday night, the AIIMS said the incident in question took place on Wednesday, following which the senior doctor apologised to his junior.

The doctors have demanded immediate suspension of the senior doctor, who also heads a department at the premier institute. The Resident Doctors' Association (RDA) has also urged that the doctor in question should not be allowed to take in thesis candidates and conduct any kind of verbal or written examination.

As a mark of protest, the doctors Thursday worked wearing helmets. They also sought a written apology from the senior doctor concerned.

In the wake of the strike, the hospital has instituted contingency measures to take care of the admitted patients, including those in the ICUs and wards.

Emergency and ICU services remained operational, but all routine surgeries have been cancelled, outpatient clinics being run in a restricted manner and all academic activity and exams postponed indefinitely, a senior officer of the administration said. The hospital administration has put in place a contingency plan for patient care services, as a part of which faculty-on-call in all clinical departments will physically man the in-patient wards.

"OPD services will function on restricted basis till such a time that normalcy is restored. Only follow-

up patients with prior appointment will be registered in OPD. New Patients OPD registration will be done as per availability of faculty in respective OPD as decided by Head of Department/Unit concerned. No walk-in registration (new and old) will be done," the order by the administration said. Routine surgeries will remain suspended and only emergency cases will be taken up for surgery. Diagnostic services will function on a restricted basis as maximum possible for the faculty, it stated.

"Head(s) of all clinical departments will make arrangements for round-the-clock availability of doctors of speciality concerned either from research staff or by the faculty members. Under no circumstances any inpatient ward will function without physical availability of doctors of speciality concerned," the order read.

In a statement late last night, the AIIMS said the incident in question took place on Wednesday, following which the senior doctor apologised to his junior.

In a letter to AIIMS Director Randeep Guleria, the RDA alleged that the senior doctor slapped a senior resident in front of attendees, nursing staff and colleagues, and that the resident doctor was under depression and had gone home.

The resident doctors also raised the reported misbehaviour of the senior doctor towards the female residents. "Dear Director sir, we talk about violence against doctors by relatives of patients, but this act has caused great anguish among residents and shattered the sacred student-teacher relationship," read the letter. "We expect an immediate and strong action from your side so that a message goes out that doctors are not here to be beaten," it said.

The AIIMS director had also instituted a five member committee to be chaired by the Dean-Research to enquire into the incident.

The director has appealed the RDA to call off the strike in the interest of patient care.

Technology moving faster than the law: cybercrime expert

Agency New Delhi, April 27

Technology is moving "much faster" than the law, making it necessary to understand why cybercrime happens and who are the people behind it, says a global expert, warning that everyone is at risk of becoming a target.

According to Dr Vasileios Karagiannopoulos, Senior Lecturer of Law and Cybercrime at the University of Portsmouth, it has become important for people to know how to protect themselves from cybercrime, particularly in light of the recent Cambridge Analytica controversy. His comment comes amid growing concern about online privacy in India, after Facebook recently admitted that data of over 5.6 lakh Indian users was harvested by an app that shared its records with UK-based analytics and consulting company Cambridge Analytica.

"We have developed quite a few laws, but technology has a way of bypassing law. So the pattern has been to constantly to bring new laws to regulate technology, instead of regulating behaviour," Karagiannopoulos told PTI.

"This is what makes it necessary for students to understand why cybercrime happens, and who are the people behind cybercrime," he said. Hoping to equip the new generation

with the skills to fight the global rise of cybercrime, Karagiannopoulos has launched a new graduate level course in Criminology and Cybercrime at the University of Portsmouth.

"Both the young and the older generation, along with small organisations and businesses, don't really know how to protect themselves. But everyone is at risk of being targets of cybercrime," said Karagiannopoulos.

His concerns were shared by another expert, Sandeep Mittal, joint secretary of Parliament Security, who cautioned that constantly sharing travel plans, locations and photos of our homes on platforms like Facebook makes us easy targets for criminals.

"We are our own enemies when it comes to social media," Mittal said at a panel discussion on 'Human and Social Dimensions of Cybersecurity here last week.

He added that it was important for people to know how to keep their private family lives separate from their professional lives.

"Is there need to 'check-in' every time we go to the airport?" he asked, referring to a popular feature on Facebook that allows users to easily share their current location.

The internet, he added, is being used to commit serious crimes like drug trafficking. The discussion was followed by the signing of a

Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the University of Portsmouth in the UK and the Raksha Shakti University in Gujarat.

The MoU aims to exchange knowledge on how India and the UK are dealing with cybercrime.

These include the lack of admissibility of digital evidence in courts, the sale of cheap, unregulated off-the-shelf products that could have malicious codes, as well as low reporting of such crimes due to the lack of confidence of the general public in the police force.

The anonymity and the sheer reach of internet across the world makes it difficult for law enforcers to nab the criminals, the experts said.

The MoU between the two universities will support aspiring students from both institutions in placement opportunities along with student and faculty exchange programmes.

The collaboration will include the development of joint academic programmes, student exchanges, conferences, seminars and workshops.

"We want to encourage academics from India and our country to work collaboratively. It would benefit our researchers as well as Indian institutes to understand how the other side works," said Chris Chang, Pro Vice Chancellor of University of Portsmouth.

Govt collects Rs 7.41 lakh cr from GST in FY 18

Agency New Delhi, April 27

The government mobilised Rs 7.41 lakh crore from the Goods and Services Tax (GST) during 2017-18, according to the finance ministry. The government rolled out the GST regime from July 1 last year.

"During the year 2017-18, total revenue collections under GST in the period between August 2017 and March 2018 has been Rs 7.19 lakh crore. Including the collection of July, 2017, the total GST collections during the 2017-18 stands provisionally at Rs. 7.41 lakh crore," the Finance Ministry said in a tweet.

"This includes Rs 1.19 lakh crore of CGST, Rs 1.72 lakh crore of SGST, and Rs 3.66 lakh crore of IGST (including Rs 1.73 lakh crore on imports) and Rs 62,021 crore of cess (including Rs 5,702 crore on imports)," it said.