

Sunday Special

Poetry Section

In between

By- Dr Nunglekpam Premi Devi
Independent Scholar

Life isn't shine bright, happy and smooth;
Living's a dream; rich too materialistic;
Weak as poor, downtrodden as straight forward;
Courage's power and power's a maneuver;
Money! Money! Spoils the innocent, if I may say,
Understanding always a mistaken, priority always a fake;
Evidences not proven, lies standing tall true;
How may I? I understand little, a small lot;
You know! Circumstances aren't that easy going;
One after the other; shout after shout;
Fight after fight; Anger overcomes anger;
Right and wrong, there isn't judgment;
Deal me with care! Standing in between bribes,
I lay eyes upon the two, one to the other;
Still my heart beats equally, one a son two a father.

Listen to me! I try managing all cool,
Isn't the way 'you' talk? Child's a learner, learning;
'Listening' all that important; 'Forgive' is rewarding;
Brave as lion, stand tall front to front, son and father;
Family isn't enemy; house isn't a war field;
None lesser in pride, both equal in footage;
Nothing stopping, all Eye to eye; arm to arm;
Words to words, blame after blame;
Heavy as I carry, fearing my heart what may I do?
Oh hale! I stand in between, Weak as glittering glass,
How fearless I'm? Consoling and lecturing either,
Shaken and upset and disturbing and jiggling;
I beg, 'no' 'no' to all!
Hard as I deal! Not a wall has fallen,
Hear me! I lay thin murmuring in between.

Living's a sacrifice, Hope isn't a memoir;
Small and big isn't finding different;
Equip 'him' I pray hard,
'Maturing and understanding and forgiving';
'Bordering' isn't loving, Father to son;
And son to father, and 'I' in between a wholly entity;
Fair 'me' enough, 'I' a woman, a mother and a wife;
See 'me' through in between, 'Kind' enough I pray;
Stop! I request, 'it's your father' feel enough;
Listen and be listening, good as I care;
Never! I coach 'him', beating's a sin;
Say a word feels a hug;
'Fasting' isn't a solution, hear me my dear;
Tired and exhausted I compromise in between;
Feebly I slay angers,
Strong I stand tall in between favors.

What does moonlight want?

By- Parthajit Borah

If I would know what moonlight wants,
I may swing in the cosy womb of Phalguna.
Every careful sights often trouble
To find me at a long distance.

If I would know what the spring says on my ears,
I may sleep at the new leaves
To whisper the lost song of my blue tongue.

If I would know what Nymph smells at my salty bosom,
May be the insipid juice of late winter.
Echoes of grief nest a black cabin
To sing the song of late night ethos.

Name changed

I, the undersigned, **Lamneichong Haokip**, of Tuibong, Churachandpur district, Manipur do hereby declare that, I have wholly renounced, relinquished and abandoned the use of old name **Hajneichong Haokip** as I have assumed my new name **Lamneichong Haokip**.
Sd/-
Ruth Mungrei

Land Plots for sale

Land Plot bearing Patta No. Agricultural land Taothabi class 2.50 acre Covered by C.S Dag No. 3044/3144 under patta No.973 (New) of Revenue Village No.74 Uchiwa covering an area of Sub Division Wangoi Imphal West district Registration Number 2669 (V) is on sale. Interested party who want to buy can contact at 8732004469 or 9436038417.

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International & National News

Air quality in Delhi improved due to meteorological factors: Green body

Agency
New Delhi, July 29

Noting that air quality in the national capital had improved due to meteorological factors and not by addressing the "source of pollution", a green body stressed the need for taking comprehensive action to contain such sources for sustained clean air days. Authorities had said that Delhi's air quality turned "good" yesterday for the first time this year due to continuous rains that washed away the pollutants in the air.

Greenpeace India said instead of being euphoric about few improved air quality days, the Environment Ministry along with Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) should prioritise to immediate enforce the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) by setting up time-bound emission targets.

The ministry has prepared a draft NCAP with an objective to come up with a comprehensive plan for prevention, control and abatement of air pollution, and to augment the air quality monitoring network across the country. Various green groups have submitted their recommendations to the ministry on the draft.

"The 'so called' improvement in Delhi's air quality is governed by the meteorological factors, not by addressing the source of pollution. This much talk about improvement is a natural phenomena as rain washes out the dust particles leading to improved air quality," said Sunil Dahiyia, senior campaigner Greenpeace India. "This is momentary to have few clean air days. The fact is that air

pollution is present all year around, irrespective of seasons. More comprehensive actions on sources of pollution are required for sustained clean air days," he said.

The Air Quality Index of New Delhi was recorded at 43 which falls under the "good" category. An AQI in the range of 0-50 is considered "Good", 51-100 "Satisfactory", 101-200 "Moderate", 201-300 "Poor", 301-400 "Very Poor" and 401-500 "Severe".

The PM10 level (presence of particles with diameter less than 10 mm) was recorded as "good" at 39 in Delhi-NCR and 32 in Delhi. The PM2.5 level (presence of particles with diameter less than 2.5 mm) was 39 in Delhi-NCR and 21 in Delhi, according to the Central Pollution Control Board data.

"The government must realise that air pollution has become a health emergency not just for India but globally as well," Dahiyia said.

"China has released its second clean air action plan, though it still has long way to go to solve its air pollution problem, the progress of the past few years shows what works: region-wide, time-bound targets that hold decision-makers accountable, strong emission standards and strong enforcement, as well as a shift away from polluting energy sources," he said.

He added that the draft version of NCAP had missed out on timelines, emission and sectoral targets, which has defeated the purpose to have an action plan.

Indonesia earthquake: 10 killed, 40 injured in tourist island near Bali

Agency
Indonesian, July 29

A 6.4 magnitude earthquake on Sunday struck the Indonesian island of Lombok, a popular tourist destination next to Bali, killing ten people and injuring 40 others, Reuters reported quoting government authorities. Authorities have issued a yellow alert, suggesting there is a chance of casualties. However, no tsunami alert was issued, said Hary Tirtjo Djatmiko, spokesman for Indonesia's geophysics and meteorology agency.

The quake hit Lombok island early in the morning at 6.47 am when many people were still sleeping and damaged dozens of single-story houses. Even though tremors were felt in Bali, which is about 200 km away, there was no damage or casualties.

The epicentre was located 50 km north-east of the city of Mataram on the island of Lombok, which has a population of 3,19,000. Around 43 quakes were recorded after the initial 6.4 magnitude tremor. The largest aftershock was recorded at 5.7 magnitude, said Indonesia's disaster mitigation agency.

CBI takes over probe into Muzaffarpur shelter home case

Agency
New Delhi, July 29

The CBI has taken over investigation into the alleged abuse of minor girls at a shelter home in Bihar's Muzaffarpur district, an official said today.

The case relates to mental, physical and sexual exploitation of the girls residing at Balika Grih, Muzaffarpur.

The CBI has booked officers and employees of the shelter home. "It is alleged that officials/employees of girl's children home run by Seva Sankalp Evam Vikash Samiti used to mentality, physically and sexually exploit the children residing there," a CBI spokesperson said. The matter had come to light earlier this year when the Bihar Social Welfare Department filed an FIR based on a social audit of the shelter home conducted by a Mumbai-based institute.

The audit report stated that many girls at the shelter home had complained of sexual abuse. A special investigation team was formed to probe the complaints.

The NGO running the shelter home in Muzaffarpur was blacklisted and the girls were shifted to shelter homes in Patna and Madhubani.

Women staff members of the shelter home and Brajesh Thakur, who ran the NGO, were among those who were arrested by the local police in connection with the case.

Environmental Protection & Internal Displacement in Manipur

By- Homen Thangjam

(Contd. from previous issue)

In the face of the despoliation of the Loktak Lake, the Government of Manipur came out with the Loktak (Protection) Act 2006 subsequently amended in 2007. Salient features of the Act are given below.

This is an ACT "to provide for administration, control, protection, improvement, conservation and development of the natural environment of the Loktak Lake and for matters connected with as incidental thereto".

Chapter - I. 1. (3) of the Act states: The Manipur Loktak Lake (Protection) Act, 2006 shall extend to the whole of 236.21 Sq. Km, comprising of large pockets of open water and marshy land formed at the southern part of the Imphal valley upto the confluence of Manipur river and Khuga in the districts of Imphal West and Bishnupur, Manipur located between 93 degree 46 minute & 93 degree 55 minute E-longitude and 24 degree 25 minute & 24 degree 42 minute N-latitude... Provided that the Act shall not apply to the Keibull Lamjao National Park covering an area of 40 Sq. Km. and Takmu Fishery Farm covering an area of 5 Sq. Km.

3. Division of Loktak Lake- For the purpose of this Act, the Lake shall be divided into two zones, namely:

(i) "Core Zone" which will be the No-Development Zone or Totally Protected Zone consisting 70.30 Sq. Km. Affected areas include: North, Mayang Imphal, Imphal West, Northeast, Hangul, Imphal West, East, Phubakchao, Imphal West, Southeast, Phubakchao, Imphal West, South, Keibull Lamjao National Park & Takmu, Bishnupur, Southwest, Sunusiphai Bishnupur, West, Ningthoukhong Bishnupur Northwest Khoijuman Khunou Bishnupur (italics added)

(ii) "Buffer Zone" means the remaining area of the lake excluding Core Zone area (italics).

4. Prohibition of alienation of Loktak Lake: No part of Loktak Lake whatsoever standing within the Loktak Lake together with all additions thereto or alterations thereof which may be made after the commencement of this Act, shall be sold out or leased out or let out on hire or exchanged or mortgaged or otherwise transferred or conveyed or allotted or converted in any form whatsoever to any person or organization or society or agency or trust.

CHAPTER - II REGULATIONS OF ACCESS TO LAKE RESOURCES

5. Previous approval of the Authority. - (1) No person shall without the previous approval of the Authority obtain any lake resources or knowledge associated thereto for research or for commercial utilisation or for bio-survey and bio-utilisation.

(2) No person shall, without the previous approval of the Authority, transfer the results of any research relating to lake resources.

Explanation: - For the purpose of this section, "transfer" does not include publication of research papers or dissemination of knowledge of any seminar or workshop if such publications are as per guidelines issued by the State Government or Authority.

CHAPTER - IV: FUNCTIONS AND POWERS OF THE AUTHORITY

17. Power and functions of the Authority:- Subject to such rules as may be made under this Act, the powers and duties of the Authority (Loktak Development Authority) shall be

(a) to administer the affairs of the Loktak Lake and to protect and improve the natural environment of lake;

(b) regulate by granting of approvals or otherwise requests for commercial utilization or bio-survey and bio-utilisation of any lake resources (italics

added).

19. Prohibition of the following activities within the Buffer Zone :- The following activities are prohibited within the Buffer Zone, namely:

- (i) Setting up of new industries and expansion of existing industries.
- (ii) Setting up and expansion of fish processing units
- (iii) Setting up and expansion of units, mechanisms for disposal of wastes and effluents.
- (iv) Discharge of untreated wastes and effluents from industries, cities or towns and other human settlements.
- (v) Dumping of city or town waste for the purpose to land filling.
- (vi) Land reclamation, bunding or disturbing the natural course of drainages, lake water with similar obstructions except those required for control and erosion and maintenance or cleaning of waterways.
- (vii) Construction activities in ecologically sensitive areas as specified in the notification, and
- (viii) Dressing or altering of hills, natural features including landscape drainage for beautification, recreational and other such purposes.

20. Prohibition of certain activities in Core Zone :- No person or occupier shall:

- (i) discharge or emit any sewage or domestic waste into the lake;
- (ii) plant or cultivate athaphum;
- (iii) deposit or fix any stones, bamboo, log, net etc., into the lake for the purpose of rearing fish;
- (iv) build any hut or house on phumdis inside the lake.
- (v) engage in athaphum-fishing in the lake;
- (vi) use any fishing feeds and pesticides into the lake; except with the prior permission of the authority constituted under this Act.

CHAPTER - VI FINANCE ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT OF THE AUTHORITY

2. Loktak Lake Development Fund :- (1) The Authority shall establish a fund to be called "Loktak Lake Development Fund" there shall be credited thereto (b) Any grants or donations that may be made to the Authority by any other person/institution including external funding agencies / Central Government for the purposes of this Act (italics added).

CHAPTER - VII MISCELLANEOUS

Right to fisheries :- The Authority may, with the approval of the State Government and by notification in the Official Gazette, declare any part of the Lake, to be a fishery, and no right in any fishery so declared shall be deemed to have been acquired by any person or group of persons, either before or after the commencement of this Act, except as provided in the rules framed under this Act (emphasis added).

Development under plan Scheme etc :- The Authority shall, subject to previous sanction of the State Government, be competent to undertake and execute plans, Scheme protection and improvement relating to or in connection with the matter to be financed wholly or partly by the State Government or any other funding Agency.

35. General superintendence and direction of this State Government: Non-application of the Act: The provisions of this Act shall not apply to the Department of Power, State Government of Manipur dealing with electricity generation in pursuance of any Memorandum of Agreement or similar agreement entered into between the Department of Power and the National Hydro-electric Power Corporation Limited or any similar establishment. (To be contd.)