

Editorial

Saturday, March 10, 2018

Some good , some bad ; but you can't stop small newspapers whether you give support or not

Hectic preparation is going on for official inauguration of aged old projects in the state during the visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi this March. As per announcement by the Chief Minister N. Biren Singh Union Home Minister Rajnath who is also visiting the stat will inaugurate the Integrated Check Post (ICP) constructed at Border town Moreh. The government led by BJP under the Chief Minister N. Biren Singh will be a year old by March 15. Inauguration of the project which remain unfinished for quite a long time will not only prove the efficiency of his government but is also will make the people happy thinking that Manipur is changing with the coming of a new government.

Well and good, the state now sees some changes even though it is still early to say whether the projects that is going to be inaugurated in March month will certainly do good for the state, as the people had witnessed many inaugurated projects useless in the past regime.

Social media is flooded with thanksgiving words to the new government under the leadership of Chief Minister N. Biren Singh over his high skill in resolving issues which might cause inconveniences to the people. Words of appreciation for making the state a bandh free and for bridging the gap of misunderstanding between various ethnic communities is perhaps worth mentioning here. Now the N. Biren Singh regime is going to complete a year by March 15. He had launched an Anti Corruption Cell to fight the menace of corruption and later was converted into a full time police station. Many seems to be happy with the kind of initiative, but the fact is that level of corruption is higher today comparing with the last regime. Questioning about proof or evidences of this truth is irrelevant, as every bodies knows that nobody provide a received for money paid as bribe. It is easily understood on the way that some top functionaries in certain department or statutory body including the MCPCR etc. are appointed.

Exposing of the high level corruptions is done through media. Being from the background of journalism, Chief Minister N. Biren Singh is using all means to control the media and he also seems to understand that existence of to any newspapers and media houses in the state would be a headache to his government.

Perhaps this is the reason that the N. Biren Singh led government is trying everything it could to minimize the number of newspaper publication in the state. Since this paper has started writing some critical editorial to his government, the DIPR now have stopped issuing of government advertisement some few months back. Not only to this newspaper but to other small newspaper which cannot be controlled by his government also stopped receiving the government newspaper.

On the other hand, bill amount submitted for earlier advertisement are also put to halt as the Chief Minister understand that without support from the government small newspaper like the Imphal Times will not be able to survive if they cut off the advertisement or halt the payment.

May be this government may succeed in abolishing the existence of this newspaper , as running a paper particularly the smaller newspaper depend on government advertisement for payment of salary to staffs.

But one thing Imphal Times will make it clear is that no matter, we get advertisement from the government or not we will survive till our last breath and will keep on writing the wrongs in the government as well as in the society.

No government had ever succeeded in suppressing media in the History of the World.

DEPLOYMENT AS A VOLUNTEER

The Nehru Yuva Kendra under Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports Govt. of India Senapati will select some youths from Senapati District for deployment as a National Youth Volunteer for the year 2018-19 under Nehru Yuva Kendra, Senapati District, Manipur. The age of applicant should be between 18-19 of age on 1st April, 2018 and the minimum educational qualification is class X passed. The selected youth will be given Rs. 5000/- (Rupees five thousand) only per month as an honorarium of the selected volunteers. Last date for submission of prescribed application form is 16th March, 2018. For details information and prescribed application form may contact Nehru Yuva Kendra, Old D.C. Office Complex near SBI, Senapati District, Manipur.

Sd/-

S. Gourakishwor Singh
District Youth Co-ordinator
Nehru Yuva Kendra,
Senapati District, Manipur

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

National & International News

Arvind Kejriwal takes Delhi sealing grouse to PM Modi, Rahul Gandhi

Agency

New Delhi, March 10: Delhi chief minister Arvind Kejriwal has written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Congress president Rahul Gandhi, seeking time to meet them for resolving the issue of sealing of shops in the national capital. In his letter to the prime minister, he stressed on bringing a Bill in Parliament to remove anomalies in the law which are the reasons behind sealing of commercial establishments, and warned that unemployment caused by the drive could impact law and order situation in the city. "The reason behind sealing is anomalies in the

law. It is the responsibility of the Central government to remove these anomalies," the chief minister said.

Kejriwal had yesterday threatened that he would go on hunger strike if the sealing drive is not stopped by March 31. "Traders earn their livelihood honestly and pay tax. But, they are suffering due to sealing. There is only one solution now. A Bill has to be brought in Parliament to remove anomalies in the law and save traders from unemployment, he said. In his letter to Modi, the chief minister said, "The traders are on

the verge of starvation and each shop is means of livelihood for many people. If all of them are rendered unemployed (due to sealing) then it may impact law and order situation."

Seeking an appointment with the prime minister, Kejriwal demanded that a Bill should be brought in Parliament immediately to stop the sealing drive.

In his letter to Rahul Gandhi, the chief minister sought an appointment with him and said sealing of commercial establishments is driving lakhs of people unemployed. "A solution to this problem

should be found by rising above politics. This issue needs to be strongly raised in Parliament and pressure should be exerted on the Centre to bring a Bill over it," Kejriwal wrote to the Congress president.

The sealing drive was undertaken by the municipal corporations of the national capital on the directions of a Supreme Court-appointed committee in December last year.

Under the drive, hundreds of commercial establishments have been sealed so far due to non-payment of conversion charges and violations of Delhi Master Plan.

Gunman and three hostages found dead at US veterans' home

Agency

California, March 10: Three women and a gunman who held them hostage at a California veterans' home were found dead on Friday evening local time, bringing a tragic end to an all-day siege at the sprawling facility for ageing and disabled former members of the US military, police said.

A state senator earlier told reporters that the gunman was a member of the Pathway Home, a program for veterans suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder, and that the hostages were believed to be employees of the facility.

The gunman had slipped into an employee going-away party at the largest veterans' home in the United States and took three people hostage on Friday morning in a shootout and standoff that kept the sprawling California grounds locked down for hours, authorities and family members said.

Nearly eight hours after the standoff began at about 10.30am, authorities said they still didn't know what was

going on inside the room where the gunman and the hostages were. Police evacuated the property and closed off nearby roads. An armoured police vehicle, ambulances and several firetrucks were at the facility, which has about 1,000 residents.

Napa county sheriff John Robertson told reporters Friday that "there was an exchange of gunfire by both our deputy and the suspect" and that "many bullets" were fired, but that police weren't injured.

California highway patrol Sgt Robert Nacke told reporters that evening that negotiators had not been able to reach the gunman by phone after trying for several hours. Nacke said the situation remained "dynamic and active" during the brief news conference and that police tactical teams were deciding how to proceed.

By 6pm, they had confirmed the fatalities, after entering the room where the hostages had

been held.

Authorities said they knew who the gunman was but didn't reveal his identity or motive for the attack at the state-run Veterans' Home of California-Yountville, in one of Napa Valley's most upscale towns in the heart of wine country.

Army veteran and resident Bob Sloan, 73, was working at the home's TV station when a co-worker came in and said he had heard four gunshots. Sloan sent alerts for residents to stay put.

"People are starting to get concerned because it's been going on for so long," he told AP by phone from inside the lockdown.

Except for helicopters buzzing overhead, the home was eerily quiet, Sloan said, adding that he could see police with "long-barrel assault-type weapons" crouching around the building, some taking cover behind trees.

Jan Thornton of Vallejo, California, was among hundreds of relatives worried about how their loved ones were coping with the lockdown.

Thornton said her 96-year-old father, a World War II fighter pilot, was inside a hospital wing and that she had reached one of his friends who said he was safe.

Still, she worried about the stress of the lockdown, considering her father's age and that he has PTSD and some dementia, but that her heart was bleeding for those who were held hostage.

Sheriff Robertson said a group of about 80 students who were on the home's grounds were safely evacuated after being locked down. The teenagers from Justin-Siena High School were at a theatre rehearsing a play.

"They were a distance away from the shooting situation," he added. California highway patrol assistant, Chief Chris Childs, said all three hostages were found dead inside the veterans' home.

He added that a bomb-sniffing dog had been alerted to the suspect's car but no bombs were found in the vehicle. He noted that there is "no threat to public safety."

Sri Lankan police ask who promoted violence against Muslims

Agency

Sri Lanka, March 10: Sri Lankan police said on Friday they were investigating whether 10 suspected ringleaders of a wave of attacks on Muslims by Sinhalese Buddhists had outside funding or foreign help.

The suspected leader of the group, Amith Jeevan Weerasinghe, and nine others were detained on Thursday on suspicion of involvement in attacks on mosques and Muslim-owned properties in the central Kandy district by nationalist crowds.

At least two people have been killed in the clashes, which began on Sunday.

"We are investigating who funded them, their future plans, and whether they have any local political leadership and whether there was any foreign involvement behind this," police spokesman Ruwan Gunasekara told reporters in Colombo.

He said all 10 suspects had been remanded in custody for 14 days and brought to Colombo for questioning. He said three were from Kandy and the other seven from outside the district.

In the 24 hours to 6 a.m. (0030 GMT) on Friday, six properties were reported to have been damaged while 65 people were arrested across Kandy, Gunasekara said. A Reuters reporter saw a house in a suburb of the town of Kandy that had been gutted by fire after the owner and his family left in fear of an attack.

Cabinet spokesman Dayasiri Jayasekara said police in some places had failed to carry out orders to curb the violence.

Sri Lanka's Muslims make up about 9 percent of its 21 million people and mostly live in the east and centre of the island. Buddhist Sinhalese account for about 70 percent and ethnic Tamils, most of

whom are Hindus, about 13 percent. Some Buddhist nationalists have protested against the presence in Sri Lanka of Muslim Rohingya asylum-seekers from mostly Buddhist Myanmar, where Buddhist nationalism has also been on the rise.

However, in some areas, Sinhalese have helped Muslims to protect mosques, Muslim community leaders told Reuters.

Hundreds of Sinhalese including monks held a rally against the violence in Colombo on Friday, while many Muslim shopkeepers closed their doors in protest at the attacks.

Police reimposed a curfew in Kandy from 8 p.m. on Friday until 5 a.m. on Saturday.

However, foreign visitors to the town, a prime tourist destination, were to be allowed out in the curfew if they had their passports with them.

Sri Lanka was for decades plagued by war between government forces and Tamil separatists. The government defeated the rebels in 2009.

6 members of gang involved in robbery arrested

Jammu, Mar 10: Six members of a gang involved in a robbery were arrested and Rs 7.40 lakh of the looted amount was recovered from them, the police said today. The gang members used to commit robbery dressed in police uniform, they said. Acting on a complaint of robbery in Sunjwan, the six persons were arrested and besides the cash, two sharp-edged weapons and two cars were seized from them, a police officer said. Investigation into the case is underway and more arrests are likely, he said.

WHENEVER YOU SEE CONSTRUCTION AND MINING EQUIPMENTS, JUST THINK OF US



Automobile Engineering Works

New Checkon Road Purana Rajbari, Imphal East

Authorised Dealer: Case New Holland Construction Eqpt. (I) Pvt. Ltd & Kirioskar Engines Oil Limited (Kirioskar Silent Generator)

Contact No.: 0385-24520117, 9862566601



Faster and Fuel Efficient Construction Solutions Are Here.