

Editorial

Friday, March 9, 2018

It's clear now; the war between the Left and the Right has begun

Demolition of Lenin's Statue by hard core supporters of the Right Wing group in Tripura, soon after the BJP won a thumping majority in the recently concluded state assembly election is triggering wide scale violence across the country. What started with pulling down of Communist icon Lenin's statue in Tripura allegedly by Right Wing supporters has now spread to the entire country with busts and statues of several leaders coming under attack in the last few days. On Thursday, a bust of Mahatma Gandhi was found defaced in Kannur district's Taliparamba town in Kerala. As per report, the spectacle carving was damaged and a garland on the statue was lying nearby. 2 days back Dalit icon B R Ambedkar's bust was targeted in the ongoing vandalisation of statues, in Tamil Nadu. Unidentified people poured red paint on Ambedkar's bust in Chennai's Tiruvottiyur area of the state.

On Thursday the country witnessed clashed between the Left and the Right wings students group in Kolkata. Police were seen helpless as large number of Students protest over the vandalism of Jana Sangh leader Syama Prasad Mookerjee's bust in the Kolkata's Kalighat locality. Students belonging to the right-wing Hindu Jagran Manch clashed with the students of the Jadavpur University and police were seen helpless to put the situation under control.

The Left has been playing vital roles in the running of the country since Independence. The Right Wing group too has also been playing its role. And the centralist always was in the power as India being a country which has the largest democracy in the world.

Now after the Right Wing group succeeded to capture majority in 21 states out of the 29, the real, a new phenomenon in Indian politics is being witnessed. Thanks to the complex Indian society which has strong groups of Left Wing group as this new development is not a fight between religious groups.

Now the fact is that the Left is now in intolerable state. The defeat of CPM in Tripura had already upset them and was left with no choice but to review the party organizational structure until the statue Lenin was vandalized by supporters of Right wing group.

With the Right group in power, and failure to improve the status of the Congress Party with many against the dynastic rules, the Left party is now left as the only group that can emerge as an opponent. So the country now is going to witness war between Left and Right group. This is serious - both the left and right are cadre base group and use similar technique and training for the political strategy.

Let's hope the kind of changes that is going to see in most part of the country does not reach here in the state of Manipur.

Biplab Kumar Deb sworn-in as Tripura CM

Agartala, Mar 9: Biplab Kumar Deb today took oath as chief minister of Tripura, assuming the charge of the first BJP government in the state after ending 25 year rule of the Left Front.

Governor Rathagata Roy also administered the oath of office to BJP leader Jishnu Deb Burman as the deputy chief minister along with seven other ministers, including IPFT chief N C Debbarma. The Indigenous People's Front of Tripura (IPFT) is an ally of the BJP in the northeastern state.

The swearing-in ceremony held at the Assam Rifles ground was attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, BJP chief Amit Shah, Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh, senior BJP leaders Lal Krishna Advani and Murlidhar Joshi.

Chief ministers of BJP-ruled states - Vijay Rupani (Gujarat), Shivraj Singh Chouhan (Madhya Pradesh), Sarbananda Sonowal (Assam), Raghubar Das (Jharkhand) besides others also attended the function. Outgoing Tripura chief minister Manik Sarkar also attended the event.

DRI seizes 23 kg gold smuggled in from Sri Lanka

Chennai, Mar 9: Twenty-three kg of gold allegedly being smuggled into India from Sri Lanka by four people in specially designed waist pouches, was seized by DRI officials, according to an official statement issued today. Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) officials intercepted four passengers when they arrived at

the Egmore Railway Station by the Rameswaram-Chennai Sethu express here on Thursday, it said. During questioning, the passengers admitted that they had gold bars concealed around their waist in specially designed pouches, the DRI statement said. They were carrying 123 gold bars weighing 23.1 kg. The value of the bars is about Rs 7 crore, it said.

Name changed

I, the undersigned, **Joseph Khangousan** of Dorcas Veng New Lamka, Churachandpur Sub-Division, Churachandpur, Manipur, Pin - 795128, Manipur do hereby declare that, I have wholly renounced, relinquished and abandoned the use of old name **Khangousan Valte**, as I have assumed my new name **Joseph Khangousan**

Sd/-
Joseph Khangousan

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National & International News

After 'terroristan', India has a new phrase to describe Pakistan

Agency New Delhi, March 9: After famously conferring on it the title 'Terroristan', and after evocatively describing it as the 'Ivy League of terrorism', India yesterday coined another phrase to denote Pakistan - "special terrorist zone". India was making a play on the title 'special economic zone', which is given to an area within a country that has special business-boosting economic regulations different from that in the rest of the country. In talking about Pakistan at the United Nations (UN) yesterday, India tweaked that title to "special terrorist zone", to describe the country's continuing support for terror and its provision of safe havens for terrorists. "We urge the Council to call on Pakistan to end cross border infiltration; to dismantle special terrorist zones, safe havens and sanctuaries, to take verifiable actions, including on terror financing...", said Mini Devi Kumam, second secretary, India's Permanent Mission at the UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC) in Geneva.

Kumam was countering an allegation made by Pakistan earlier at the forum, about human rights violations in Jammu and Kashmir. She said terrorism "is the grossest violation" of human rights. "The real problem in the State of Jammu and Kashmir is terrorism, which has constantly received sustenance from Pakistan and territories under its control," said Kumam. Last September, at the UN General Assembly in New York, India said "Pakistan is now 'Terroristan', with a flourishing industry producing and exporting global terrorism." This comment made news not just in the South Asian media, but also in the British and US press. Almost exactly a year before the 'Terroristan' comment, India described Pakistan as "the Ivy League of terrorism",

castigating it for financing and supporting terrorist groups it uses as proxies against India. "The land of Taxila, one of the greatest learning centres of ancient times, is now host to the Ivy League of terrorism. It attracts aspirants and apprentices from all over the world. The effect of its toxic curriculum is felt across the globe," said India's representative at the UN General Assembly two years ago. Yesterday, India's representative at the UNHRC said Pakistan has made a habit of misusing the Geneva forum to make misleading references about internal matters pertaining to Jammu and Kashmir. "Pakistan has long been attempting to mask its territorial ambitions and use of terrorism as

a state policy under the guise of concern for human rights," said Kumam. She also pointed out the incongruity of a country that oppresses its minorities talking about human rights violations. "This Council should be mindful that the dubious concern for human rights is coming from a country, which has systematically abused and violated the human rights of the people in Balochistan, Sindh, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa as well as Pakistan Occupied Kashmir," Kumam said. She was referring to the Pakistani state and army killing and enforcing disappearances of political dissidents in its Balochistan Sindh and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa provinces.

JD(U)'s Parveen in RS panel of presiding officers

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Agency New Delhi, Mar 9: Rajya Sabha Chairman M Venkaiah Naidu today nominated JD(U) MP Kakhkashan Parveen on the panel of presiding officers for conducting proceedings of the House. She is the first woman on the panel in recent times. When the House met, Naidu said in deference to the wishes of members expressed on the occasion of International Women's Day yesterday, he is nominating Parveen on the panel with effect from April 3. According to the House rules, the

chairman nominates from amongst the members up to six vice-chairmen or presiding officers who chair the proceedings in absence of the chairman and the deputy chairman. She would replace Basawaraj Patil, whose term expires on April 2, Naidu said. Naidu, who is also Vice President of India, is the Chairman of Rajya Sabha while P J Kurien of Congress is the Deputy Chairman. The panel of vice-chairmen or presiding officers includes Satyanarayan Jatiya (BJP), Tiruchi

Siva (DMK), TK Rangarajan (CPM), Bhubaneswar Kalita (Cong), Basawaraj Patil (BJP) and Sukhendu Sekhar Ray (TMC). Naidu said Parveen has been a mayor and chairman of Bihar Mahila Aayog. When Viplove Thakur (Cong) rose to thank him, Naidu, in a lighter vein, said he wanted to nominate Thakur, but she would have lost her voice as vice chairman. "Viplove, in our language, means revolution," he said. Naidu hails from Andhra Pradesh and his native language is Telugu.

China opposes US tariffs on steel, aluminum imports

Agency Beijing, March 9: China on Friday expressed 'opposition' to the tariffs imposed by the United States on the imports of steel and aluminum, saying the move will undermine normal international trade order, reported the Xinhua. The statement from Beijing came after United States President Donald Trump signed a proclamation that imposes new tariffs on steel and aluminum imports, claiming the revised tariff plans have been introduced to stop "assault on our country".

Trump on Thursday said he had to act to stop the "decimation of entire communities" and insisted there would be a very fair process as the administration would use the next 15-day to negotiate exemptions with allies, including neighbours Canada and Mexico.

The new order will see a 25 percent tariff on imports of steel and a 10 percent tariff on aluminum. This might potentially have huge implications on the international trade front, with many experts predicting it will adversely affect oil prices. The move, which garnered a lot of criticism from China and Europe, has not gone down well with Trump's party members as over 100 Republican House members signed a letter expressing concerns about the damage the tariffs may do to trade and the companies that use cheap steel and aluminum imports in the US.

Karti Chidambaram produced before Delhi court

Agency New Delhi, Mar 9: The CBI today produced Karti Chidambaram, son of senior Congress leader P Chidambaram, before a Delhi court in the INX Media money laundering case, and sought his custody for six more days. The three-day custody granted to Karti by the court ended today. The court also extended the judicial custody of Karti's CA S Bhaskararaman, who was arrested by the Enforcement Directorate in the case, till March 22. Special CBI Judge Sunil Rana is likely to hear the bail plea of Karti Chidambaram today. In his plea, Karti, who was arrested

by the CBI at Chennai Airport on February 28, claimed that he had never attempted to influence witnesses, tamper with documentary evidence, pollute or obstruct the judicial process as was alleged by the probe agency. Earlier, he sought bail from the court alleging that the CBI was acting at the behest of the Centre to malign the reputation of his father during whose tenure Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) clearance was granted to the INX Media group. Karti contended that his arrest was "illegal and arbitrary" but the agency opposed his bail plea, saying the investigation was at a

crucial stage and his custodial interrogation was necessary to unearth the entire conspiracy in the INX Media corruption case. The CBI had lodged an FIR on May 15 last year alleging irregularities in the FIPB clearance to INX Media for receiving overseas funds to the tune of Rs 305 crore in 2007 when P Chidambaram was the Union finance minister. The agency has alleged that Karti had received funds to the tune of Rs 10 lakh in the case. The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has also registered a money laundering case in the INX Media case.

Maharashtra: 3 killed, 12 injured in chemical factory fire in Palghar

Agency Maharashtra, March 9: A powerful blast followed by a massive fire ripped through a private chemical manufacturing company in the Tarapur MIDC area late Thursday night in Maharashtra's Palghar district, killing three and wounding at least twelve others. Some reports suggest that a blast in one of the boiler rooms was the main cause behind the explosion. "Around 11:30 pm, we came to

know about the incident. Police machinery, revenue machinery and health machinery geared together and they contributed their best to extinguish the fire. Our work of rescue is still continuing," Palghar District Collector Prashant Naraware told ANI. During the search operation, three dead bodies were discovered. Names of three persons died are Pintu Kumar Gauta, Janu Adaria and Alok Nath, all from Arti industries, said SP Palghar.

"Fire has come down, but few areas are still burning. Six factories were affected by fire. Novaphene, Unimax, Prachi, Arti, Bharat Rasayan, Darbar. All chemical factories," he said. The five labourers who sustained injuries were rushed to a nearby hospital and are believed to be out of danger. The three persons who lost their lives in the fire have been identified as- Pintu Kumar Gautam, Janu Adaria and Alok Nath.

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