

# Editorial

Monday, November 12, 2018

## Nothing seems change; everything remains same

The spurt in developmental activities in the state is a positive sign of the Government gearing up to meet the challenges of the increasing needs of the people in all spheres of life. But this quickening pace of development entails an inherent risk of doing more harm than good.

Mindless removal and destruction of natural resources and altering the social setup through these activities could create an irreversible and permanent change to the very identity of this land. The results of this haphazard and impulsive rush towards development are beginning to show- roads littered with stones and dust, left untended for months with the resulting protests and roadblocks becoming an everyday affair- something that has entered the realm of a basic procedure.

The steps that followed suit - that of laying the long neglected roads are even more frustratingly interesting, sometimes with even carpets of tar that can be rolled up, but more frequently turning out to be works of art- an illusion of a road with the same bumps and rolls that was there before the whole exercise began. The plight of the people residing along these roads while all these are happening, or rather not happening can only be imagined.

Another manifestation of development can be better experienced with the nose. Garbage being dumped along roadsides, drainage systems being filled up even before they are completed and the peculiarity of the stench in different parts have actually served as a landmark of sorts. Zero garbage than Swaach Bharat campaign turned out to be utter rubbish when it comes to the state of Manipur. Lack of proper waste management system have turned half of Langol and Lamphel area into a dumping ground that will one day spread out to cover even the Capitol building. With the Waste management plan at Lamdeng making its own rules troubling those picking the garbage, each and everyone of us are facing a smelly haul.

Parking, or the lack of it is another outcome of development- construction of malls and multi-storied markets without giving a thought about the facility who comes shopping to park their vehicles. Should we also add the lack of subways and footbridges along busy intersections and junctions, as a result of which everybody is using the landing of the flyover to cross over, playing the dodging game, the prize- one's limb and life intact. All these can be remedied and reversed, if the Government puts a holistic and sustainable plan of action and acts upon it in earnest.

What is of greater concern is the danger of our ecosystem being changed irreversibly case in point- construction of Ithai Barrage. The tag of the largest freshwater lake in northeast India being given to Loktak Lake may soon be history, as is the threat to the last remaining natural habitat of the "Sangaï" in the world- Keibul Lamjao being perished gradually. Development does not equate commercialization. We have a greater duty to preserve and build up our ecosystem. Development should complement and evolve around the unique natural identity of a place and not the other way round.

## Interaction by assam rifles officers with members of Youth committee of machi sub division

IT News  
Imphal, Nov. 12

Officers from Chandel Battalion of 26 Sector Assam Rifles under the aegis of IGAR (South) carried out interaction with Youth Committee Members of the Machi Sub Division, Tengnoupal District, Manipur on 11 November 2018. It is part of the initiative and campaign of Youth Development Program of Assam Rifles which aimed to keep the youth of the nation residing in remote villages of North East connected with the mainstream India. The interaction involved discussions on educational assistance for children of remote villages

including joining Sainik Schools, guidance pertaining to joining Armed forces and identification of potential candidates for recruitment, assistance for upliftment of sports facilities and identification of potential athletes and sportsman. The Youth committee of these remote villages had a major role in changing the mindset of people and supporting the national agenda of development by rejecting the path of insurgency. The members appreciated the continuous support of Assam Rifles towards their cause of upliftment and for acting as their voice to various authorities and forums.

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## Bangladesh captain Mashrafe collected nomination paper to contest parliamentary election

Siam Sarower Jamil,  
Dhaka, Nov 12

Bangladesh ODI captain Mashrafe Bin Mortaza today collected a nomination paper from Awami League to contest the upcoming 11th parliamentary election of the country.

Mashrafe went to the AL's election conducting office in Dhaka's Dhanmondi around 1:30pm.

Later, AL General Secretary Obaidul Quader told reporters that although Mashrafe participated in politics, it will not come any effect on his cricket career.

Earlier in the day, Mashrafe took blessings from Prime Minister and President of Awami League Sheikh Hasina before collecting the nomination form.

Mashrafe went to the Gono Bhaban



around 11:30am, an official of PM's press wing told Imphal Times. After emerging from the PM's

residence, Mashrafe went to Awami League office in Dhanmondi. Yesterday, it was published in

different media that Bangladesh National Team cricketers Mashrafe Mortaza and Shakib Al Hasan will collect nomination papers today (Sunday) to contest the upcoming general election with Awami League ticket from Narail and Magura.

Md Abu Naser, senior information officer of the Ministry of Road Transport and Bridges, yesterday said Mashrafe will contest the 11th parliamentary elections to be held on December 23 with Awami League ticket.

Although the party spokesman had informed Shakib Al Hasan's bid for elections, the all-rounder backtracked on his decision. He informed late last night that he would not be buying nomination paper for the upcoming election.

## Remembrance Sunday observe to commemorate WW-II soldiers



IT News  
Imphal, Nov 12,

Remembrance Sunday was held in the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth of Nations as a day to commemorate the contribution of British and Commonwealth military and civilian servicemen and women in the two World Wars and later conflicts. It is held on the second Sunday in November or the Sunday nearest to 11 November, Armistice Day, the anniversary of the end of hostilities in the First World War at 11 am in 1918.

This year, 2018, also is the centenary of the end of First World War and completion of 100 years since the end of the war.

During the First World War, many Manipurites participated as labour corps and as regular soldiers.

To mark their importance and to remember on this 100th anniversary of their participation in European

theater, 2nd World War Imphal Campaign Foundation has organised a commemoration function at Imphal War Cemetery, Dewlahland, Imphal on Sunday the 11th of November 2018.

Members of 2nd World War Imphal Campaign Foundation along with Foreign Tourist who visit the state paid floral tribute at the memorial cross of the men and women who gave their lives in the two World Wars (1stWW and 2ndWW) and subsequent conflicts with a 2 minutes silence at 11 am, as respect.

On the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month in 1918, the guns of the Western Front fell silent after more than four years of continuous warfare of the First World War.

This day of November 11, marks the centenary of the First World War year. In many parts of the world, people also observe this day for the fallen heroes who died in the line of duty during the war.

## Celebration of Ningol Chakouba festival at Sugnu and Pangaltabi post of Kakching battalion



IT News  
Imphal, Nov. 12

Kakching Battalion of 28 Sector Assam Rifles under the aegis of IGAR (South) celebrated Ningol Chakouba festival at Sugnu and Pangaltabi post on 11 November 2018. Women folks from all section of society were invited to strengthen the bond of brothers and sisters and also highlighting the significance of family values of the Manipuri culture.

True to the traditions a befitting lunch was org and sweets were distributed to the women folk who

attended the celebrations and gifts were exchanged. A total of 100 ladies and 20 gents were part of the celebrations. The idea behind celebrating this auspicious festival is to acknowledge the efforts of local Manipuri women in fostering peace and unity in the state along with Security Forces. All the women folks who attended the celebrations expressed their gratitude to the Assam Rifles for inviting them. The women folk wished Assam Rifles fraternity personnel's happy, content and prosperous life.

## Union minister Ananth Kumar dies of lung cancer in Bengaluru hospital

Agency  
Bengaluru, Nov 12

Union Parliamentary Affairs Minister and long-time BJP leader Ananth Kumar died at a private hospital here in the early hours of Monday after battling lung cancer for several months. He was 59.

The Bangalore South MP, who returned home in October after undergoing treatment in the US and Britain, breathed his last around 2 am with his wife Tejaswini and two daughters by his side, B R Nagaraj, chairperson of the board of trustees of Sri Shankara Cancer Foundation, told Agency.

The Union minister, who passed away from complications following cancer and infection, had been on the ventilator in the Intensive Care Unit for the last few days, his office said in a statement. His mortal remains will be kept at his residence here the entire day Monday and the last rites will be performed Tuesday, the Karnataka unit of the BJP said.

The body will be taken to the state BJP office and the National College ground, which falls in his constituency, before the funeral at Chamarajapete crematorium, it said. The national flag will fly at half mast

throughout the country on Monday as a mark of respect to Kumar, the Home Ministry announced in Delhi.

The Karnataka government has declared three-day state mourning and a holiday on Monday as a mark of respect to the leader, a staunch RSS ideologue who was the first person to speak in Kannada in the United Nations.

President Ram Nath Kovind, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Congress president Rahul Gandhi and leaders across the political spectrum condoled the death of the death of the six-time parliamentarian.

Expressing his condolences, President Kovind said, "This is a tragic loss to public life in our country and particularly for the people of Karnataka. My condolences to his family, colleagues and countless associates."

Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu described Kumar as a "colleague for years together, from students' movement to Parliament" and hailed him as a "dedicated statesman". The prime minister said he was extremely saddened by the passing away of a "valued colleague and friend" and described him as a remarkable leader, who entered public

life at a young age and went on to serve society with utmost diligence and compassion.

"Ananth Kumar Ji was an able administrator, who handled many ministerial portfolios and was a great asset to the BJP organisation. He worked hard to strengthen the party in Karnataka, particularly in Bengaluru and surrounding areas," Modi said in a tweet.

He said he had spoken to Kumar's wife to express condolences. "My thoughts are with his entire family, friends and supporters in this hour of grief and sadness. Om Shanti," he said.

"I'm sorry to hear about the passing of Union Minister, Sri Ananth Kumar ji, in Bengaluru, earlier this morning. My condolences to his family & friends. May his soul rest in peace. Om Shanti," Congress chief Gandhi said in his message.

Karnataka Chief Minister H D Kumaraswamy described Kumar as a "value based" politician who made significant contribution to the country as a parliamentarian and a union minister.

"Kumar's pro-people attitude and activities made him apple of the eye of Bengalurians," Kumaraswamy

said. Kumar steadily climbed up the political ladder, beginning as an RSS worker to becoming a Union minister who was only in his 30s. He enjoyed the credit of being the "youngest" minister in the Atal Bihari Vajpayee's cabinet in 1998.

He remained in the inner circle of the central leadership of the BJP — be it during the heyday of Atal Bihari Vajpayee or Narendra Modi now.

Kumar first got elected to Lok Sabha in 1996 from Bangalore South, the constituency which remained his bastion till his death.

He joined the BJP in 1987 and never looked back, holding the posts of state secretary, state president of the Yuva Morcha, party general secretary and national secretary.

Along with state BJP chief Yeddyurappa, Kumar is among the few party leaders who can be credited for the growth of the BJP in Karnataka, bringing it to power in 2008 and making it the first saffron party government in the South.

Senior BJP leader R Ashoka said Home Minister Rajnath Singh has confirmed that he would be in the city to pay his last respects but the party was yet to receive any intimation about Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit.