

# Editorial

Tuesday, October 6, 2018

## Completing bigger task

If one is asked to think of two words that would best describe the present working system of the Government and its various Departments, more often than not, the words would be "Confusion" and "Corruption", but this does not mean that there is no other word that can be used.

Well and good at least some tools to fight the corruption has been re-commission by appointing authorities. The idea of introducing the Lok Pal Bill is perhaps a good step that the government should have done long time back. But one wonder why when parliamentary election is knocking the door. Whether for political purpose or not things seem taken up is a good sign. But is the government sincere?

Miscommunication, inefficiency, favoritism, mismanagement, absenteeism- attributes that has come to be synonymous with Government functioning. Yet we have seen at times that the Government and its Departments have, in spurts, managed to accomplish seemingly impossible tasks and projects in record time that they can rise to any challenge and face it successfully. For a society to develop, a holistic approach is very essential. Making things work in fits and bounds would only make a farce of whatever precious little progress we have managed to accomplish. It would require a very proactive and prominent role from the judiciary if we ever aspire to bring in real change in our society. Curtailing the brash attitude of the often high-handed nature of the security forces or fighting the rampant corruption being practiced in almost every sphere of public domain needs the support and encouragement of the judicial system to become effective. A swift and stern justice system would surely deter many from tempering with the law, if not altogether contain it. Such a scenario would also revive the will of the common people to demand their rights and dispense their duties without fear or apprehension.

The Government, on its part should come clean on various issues and try to make a clean start. The unspoken nexus of power and fear will not augur well for anybody, least of all for those who use them in their pursuit of personal advancement. Until and unless those at the helm of affairs have the integrity to discharge their duties and responsibilities, no law or directives will make any sense or serve any purpose. In this age and time when any information can be accessed with the touch of a button, trying to fool the people and underestimating their intelligence will surely prove to be a costly mistake. One does not need to draw up grand designs and mammoth schemes to initiate development. When each and every arm of the Government have done their bit, then the big picture will emerge itself as it ought to be. All everyone need is a sense of belonging, of responsibility and a spirit of participation, and the public should join in with an open mind instead of sitting back and being mere spectators waiting to point out every little mistake and make it out into a mountain, to complete the picture.

## PM Modi says success of indigenous nuclear submarine INS Arihant gives fitting response to those who indulge in nuclear blackmail

New Delhi, Nov. 6

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has said that success of indigenous nuclear submarine INS Arihant gives a fitting response to those who indulge in nuclear blackmail. Receiving the crew at his official residence in New Delhi, Prime Minister said, a credible nuclear deterrence is the need of the hour.

Mr Modi said, a strong India will be an important pillar for global peace and stability, especially in a world full of uncertainties and concerns. He said, India's nuclear programme must be seen with regard to the country's efforts to further world peace and stability. Prime Minister said, India remains committed to the doctrine of Credible Minimum Deterrence and No First Use. INS Arihant has

successfully completed its first deterrence patrol. This completes establishment of the country's nuclear triad.

Expressing happiness at the Navy's feat, President Ram Nath Kovind said, the successful mission of the submarine is a landmark moment in the nation's security preparedness. Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, said INS Arihant places India in the league of a few countries that can design, construct and operate Strategic Strike Nuclear Submarines.

Home Minister Rajnath Singh, Finance Minister Arun Jaitley and BJP President Amit Shah also praised the achievement. Information and Broadcasting Minister Rajyavardhan Rathore said it marks the completion of India's nuclear triad and ensures nation's safety and security.

## Protests at Sabarimala Over Reports of Woman's Entry, Media Attacked

Agency  
New Delhi, Oct. 6

Protests are again the order of the day at the famous Sabarimala shrine. The protesters clashed with police over reports of a woman devotee, suspected to be in the menstrual age, trying to enter the temple. A video journalist was injured in clashes that followed. News18's camera crew too was pushed around.

Those protesting claim that a female devotee, identified as Lalitha, trying to enter the shrine was under 50 years of age, while the police maintain that she was well over 52 years. She was able to offer prayers at the temple under police

protection. She had come along with her family.

The Sabarimala shrine opened yesterday for the second time in three weeks for a two-day special puja amid unprecedented security over fear of protests by those opposing the Supreme Court's order allowing women of all age groups into the temple.

It is set to open again on Tuesday for the "Sree Chithira Thirunal" puja to mark the birth anniversary of the last king of the princely state of Travancore Chithira Thirunal Balarama Varma.

Meanwhile, the Kerala High Court has said that pilgrims should not be harassed under the guise of implementing the Supreme Court

judgment.

"You can't cause hardships to pilgrims," the court said while hearing a petition seeking its direction to the government not to interfere with day-to-day affairs of the shrine.

The doors of Sabarimala had opened for six days on October 17 but no female devotee has been able to make it to its hallowed precincts amid a welter of protests and violent clashes.

Valiant attempts by around a dozen women, including activists and journalists in the 10-50 years age group, to script history came to nought as frenzied devotees of Lord Ayyappa heckled and hassled forcing them to retreat.

## Two terrorists killed in encounter with security forces in Shopian district of J&K

Srinagar, Nov. 6

In Jammu & Kashmir, two terrorists were killed during a gunfight between security forces and the terrorists at Saffnagri Zainapora in south Kashmir's Shopian district in the early hours today.

Both the terrorists were cadres of Hizbul Mujahideen outfit. Security sources said that arms & ammunition were also recovered from the spot.

## Silchar-Imphal Gas Pipeline soon: CM

DIPR  
Imphal, Nov. 06

Chief Minister N. Biren Singh opened the 1st Manipur International Textile Expo (MANITEX) - 2018 at Manipur Trade and Expo Centre, Lamboikhongmangkhang in Imphal West District yesterday.

Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Minister said that the Centre had approved laying of a gas pipeline from Silchar to Imphal to ensure disturbance-free gas supply to the State. Survey works for the said project would begin soon, N. Biren Singh informed.

Stating that the State Government is there for the wellbeing of the people, the Chief Minister said that the State Government was distributing 1815 looms at the function. Maintaining that it was an important step towards enhancing the economic condition of weavers, he said that distribution of such a large number of looms to weavers in a transparent manner without any partiality was happening for the first time.

The Chief Minister said that weavers need not worry for market because the Government would purchase their products apart from providing yarns at their doorsteps. He also assured that the State Government is also ready to provide all the requirements of weavers to begin their venture.

N. Biren Singh also expressed happiness that a private company

working under PPP model with the Government had started producing high quality ladies apparels using raw materials from Guangzhou (China).

Stating that corruption can be rooted out only when the elected leaders and those in the Government take a proactive role, the Chief Minister said that initiatives like digital payment and DBT of the Central Government are important steps towards this end. He also said that the State Government had started Loktak Livelihood Mission with an aim to be self-sufficient in fish production by 2020.

Maintaining that Manipur had started witnessing many positive changes in the past one and a half year, N. Biren Singh expressed hope that Manipur would become a leading State in the country within ten years if this improvement sustains.

Deputy Chief Minister Y. Joykumar Singh and Textiles, Commerce and Industries Minister Th. Biswajit Singh attended the function as the special guest and functional president respectively.

Y. Joykumar Singh said that MANITEX was organised for the first time in the State, it would prove to be a path-finding venture in the textile industry of the State. He expressed hope that the event would open a chapter of economic prosperity for weavers. Joykumar said that the Centre may provide more support to the textile industry of the State if the event is

successful.

Th. Biswajit Singh said that as per National Handloom Census Report 2010, Manipur has 2.04 lakh weavers. The Minister said that MANITEX was organised with an aim to strengthen and promote the handloom industry, which is a traditional cottage industry of the State, to international standard. He said that around 16 firms of other States and countries are taking part in the expo. Manipuri handloom products are of international standard though the equipment used by Manipuri weavers are not that good, Th. Biswajit said.

Stating that it is known to everybody that the Prime Minister and many Union Ministers had visited maximum number of times to the State during the tenure of NDA-II, Th. Biswajit said that Minister of State for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Giriraj Singh is likely to visit the State to launch Solar Charkha Mission in the State soon.

In addition to the existing project known as Mission for Economic Empowerment of Traditional Artisan and Craftsmen (MEETAC) of the State Government, another integrated development project for artisans is going to be launched soon in the State with financial assistance from the Centre, the Minister informed.

Maintaining that the new Government had done many things which the past Government could not do in 15 years, the Minister

said that launching of helicopter service, revival of hill-valley oneness, introduction of direct flight between New Delhi and Imphal can be mentioned among many activities.

The expo is organised with an aim to showcase the entire textile products of Manipur and also to provide a common platform to exchange knowledge among different participants coming from different countries and States.

Earlier, the Chief Minister opened the expo with the cutting of ribbon and lighting of ceremonial flames.

Hordes of Ministers, MLAs and high ranking officials of the State Government also attended the opening function as dignitaries. They distributed 1815 looms to weavers of 162 handloom clusters. The State Government also inked a memorandum of understanding with Big Concepts Foundation regarding production of high quality apparels on PPP model at the function. Another MoU regarding geo-tagging of looms in Manipur was also signed between the State Government and Karvy Data Management, Hyderabad. A 15-minute short film on the achievements of the Directorate of Handlooms and Textiles was also screened. The event will conclude on November 15. The 11-day expo will be held on different themes every day. Cultural and entertainment programmes including fashion parade will also be held in the evening sessions daily.

## US, China to Hold Security Dialogue to Resolve Trade Dispute

Singapore, Nov. 6

The US and China will hold a delayed top-level security dialogue on November 9, the latest sign of a thaw in relations, as China's vice president said Beijing was willing to talk with Washington to resolve their bitter trade dispute.

The resumption of high-level dialogue, marked by a phone call last week between Presidents Donald Trump and Xi Jinping, comes ahead of an expected meeting between the two at the G20 summit in Argentina starting in late November.

It follows months of recriminations spanning trade, US accusations of Chinese political interference, the disputed South China Sea and self-ruled Taiwan.

China and the US have both described last week's telephone call between Xi and Trump as positive. Trump predicted he'd be able to make a deal with China on trade.

In a concrete sign of the unfreezing, the US State Department said secretary of state Mike Pompeo, defence secretary Jim Mattis, Chinese politburo

member Yang Jiechi and defence minister Wei Fenghe will take part in diplomatic and security talks later this week in Washington.

China said last month the two sides had initially agreed "in principle" to hold the second round of diplomatic security talks in October but they were postponed at Washington's request amid rising tensions over trade, Taiwan and the South China Sea.

Mattis had been due to hold talks with Wei in Beijing in October, but those plans were upended after Washington imposed sanctions on China's People's Liberation Army for buying weapons from Russia.

Mattis did meet Wei in Singapore on October 18 and told him that the world's two largest economies needed to deepen high-level ties to reduce the risk of conflict.

Speaking in Singapore on Tuesday, Chinese vice president Wang Qishan, who is close to Xi, reiterated China's readiness to hold discussions and work with the US to resolve trade disputes as the world's two largest economies stand to lose from confrontation.

"Both China and the US would love to see greater trade and economic cooperation," Wang told the Bloomberg New Economy Forum in Singapore.

"The Chinese side is ready to have discussions with the US on issues of mutual concern and work for a solution on trade acceptable to both sides," he said.

"The world today faces many major problems that require close co-operation between China and the US," Wang said.

Wang echoed comments made by Xi on Monday at a major import fair in Shanghai that Beijing will embrace greater openness.

Trump has railed against China over intellectual property theft, entry barriers to US business and a gaping trade deficit, which US data showed reached a record \$402 billion in September.

The trade war, which has seen both sides impose tariffs on billions of dollars worth of the other's imports, is beginning to hurt China's economy and has battered Chinese shares and the yuan currency.

It has also brought purchases of US soybeans by China to a virtual standstill. Soybeans are the

largest US agricultural export to China.

Jim Sutter, CEO of the US Soybean Export Council, told Reuters on the sidelines of the Shanghai import fair that both countries understood the need to maintain their relationship.

"I think both sides are optimistic... more optimistic after the call last week that took place, that some kind of a solution can be reached," he said.

## Farmer commits suicide over debt burden in UP

Muzaffarnagar, Nov 6

A 55-year-old farmer allegedly committed suicide by consuming poison, with his family claiming that he was under stress due to debt burden in the district, police said. According to Subdivisional Magistrate Inder Kant Dwivedi, an inquiry has been ordered into the incident that took place Monday. His body has been sent for post-mortem, he said, adding that an investigation is underway.

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