

Editorial

Saturday, October 20, 2018

The barricade cordoning CMO

On July 7, 2018, large number of college students thronged to the Chief Minister Office demanding immediate intervention to the 39 days old impasse at Manipur University. The students turned up as the strike at Manipur University has severely affected the academic activities of the colleges affiliated to the Manipur University. When those students were prevented from meeting the chief Minister some among them went hostile and even pushed the gate of the Chief Minister's office.

The following day the Chief Minister office was cordoned with barricade from the northern end till the Police head quarter. It was the duty of the law enforcers to cordon the Chief Minister's Office at that time as the momentum of the agitation was on the rise. The matter has been somehow settled with the intervention of the Manipur High Court by appointing an administrator of interim basis. The issues of the Manipur University is yet to be completed but academic activism has been restored as the Manipur University community who have been on strike for over 135 days welcome the court decision.

Potential threat of thronging to the Chief Minister Bungalow by student is almost clear now and after all students of the state may be hostile while demanding justice, but they are not some kind of terrorists or criminal. The student agitators might push the gate on July 7, 2018, but one thing that is needed to understand is that those students were only demanding to have an appointment with the Chief Minister on that day. But it was the police action which turned the students wild. On the other hand the students came only with books and pen and photo evidence showed that no students carry any sort of deadly weapons.

The incident was the first of its kind that people of the state started understanding that Chief Minister N. Biren Singh was not at all a peoples' Chief Minister. Before the incident, people have heard his promise to meet any person in needs and called on people to come to his office anytime.

Now the announcement he made in many public platform after becoming chief minister turn out to be a mere lip service to fool the people. The peoples' meet and Hill leaders' meet that he organised everyday is more like a show to prove his friendly attitude when in reality he his bungalow is now cordoned with barricades troubling people who had to pass the road.

At time of agitation, may be the police need to cordon with barricades, but when everything is normal now what is the purpose of cordoning the barricade in front of the Bungalow. After all police team are present in front of the office 24x7 every day.

The way the office is being cordoned not only created inconveniences to the pedestrians but also showed that the Chief Minister now have apprehension and have lost trust to his people. The way things goes now had surprised on why the Chief Minister who refuse to deliver public speech in bullet proof glass podium at Ukhrul is so much afraid of strikers.

It is time that the police in front of the office should be trained well and that the barricade be removed to once more prove that N. Biren Singh is the peoples' Chief Minister.

Justification for cordoning the area can be done but public will not accept.

BJP sweeps urban local body polls in 4 districts of S Kashmir

Srinagar, Oct 20

The BJP won the urban local body elections in four districts of militancy-infested south Kashmir Saturday, winning 53 of the 132 wards, where polls were held over four phases earlier this month, election officials said.

The unprecedented victory for the saffron party has given it control of at least four of the 20 civic bodies in the four districts of Anantnag, Kulgam, Pulwama and Shopian.

The results of 94 wards of south Kashmir have been declared so far in which the Congress has managed to win 28 seats. The party, thus, will have control of at least three municipal bodies. The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) did well in Shopian where its candidates won in 12 wards unopposed. Five wards in the district did not have any nominations.

In Devsar municipal committee, the party won all the eight seats. The area is represented by Congress leader Mohammad Amin Bhat in the legislative assembly.

The BJP got a simple majority in Qazigund Municipal Committee, winning four of the seven wards. The other three wards had no candidates. In Pahalgam municipal committee, the party won seven of the 13 seats uncontested, while there were no candidates for the remaining six seats.

The Congress, on the other hand, won a thumping majority in Doorn municipal committee, the stronghold of JKPC chief G A Mir. The party bagged 14 of the 17 seats, while the BJP managed to win two seats. One seat remained vacant.

Congress also won in Kokernag municipal committee, bagging six of the eight seats. In Yaripora, the party bagged three seats, while the remaining three seats were vacant due to absence of candidates. Independents bagged 13 seats in the polls.

The counting of votes of Anantnag and Mattan — the other two civic bodies in south Kashmir — is going on and the results are expected later Saturday.

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Wrong to hold railways responsible for Amritsar Tragedy: Board Chairman

Amritsar, Oct. 20:

Hours after the Amritsar train accident, Railway Board Chairman Ashwani Lohani on Saturday said it would be wrong to say that the Railways is responsible for the tragic incident, adding that people need to be more alert.

Speaking to ANI, Mr Lohani said that the Railways administration was not informed about the Dussehra celebrations taking place near the main line. He said that the two manned level-crossing on the track, where the accident took place, was closed.

"It would be wrong to say that Railways is responsible for this accident. There are two manned level-crossing on that track, both were close. It is the main line and there is no speed restriction there," he said, adding that the Railway administration was not informed about the Dussehra celebration near mainline. People were

watching Dussehra celebrations from railway tracks.

"People need to be more alert; they must not trespass on railway tracks," he added.

Punjab Governor VP Singh Badnore called the incident "unfortunate" and ensured that proper medical aid is being provided to all those injured.

"This is a very unfortunate incident. An inquiry will be done and those who need to be punished will be punished and accountability will be fixed. I am here to ensure that proper medical aid is provided to the injured," Mr Badnore said.

Punjab Chief Minister Captain Amarinder Singh on Friday had set up a Crisis Management Group to monitor the relief and rehabilitation efforts in wake of the tragic train accident in Amritsar.

The group, led by Health Minister Brahm Mohindra and comprising Revenue Minister Sukhbinder Singh Sarkaria and Technical Education Minister Charanjit Singh Channi immediately rushed to the accident site to assess and tackle

the situation. State mourning has also been declared for today, and all offices and educational institutions will remain closed in view of the tragedy, an official spokesperson of the Punjab government said.

Relief and rehabilitation efforts have been mounted by the state government on a war footing, with all the necessary administrative and police personnel ordered the Chief Minister to be mobilised. The injured are undergoing emergency treatment in various government and private hospitals across Amritsar.

The accident took place in Choura Bazar near Joda Phatak area of Amritsar where a large number of people were watching the Ravana effigy in flames while standing along the railway tracks when a Jalandhar to Amritsar train crushed them. 60 people have lost their lives in the accident while 51 others have sustained injuries.

The public gathering standing on the track reportedly could not hear the hooting of the train due to the sound of the exploding firecrackers.

Punjab Chief Minister immediately ordered an investigation into the incident and directed senior officials to rush to the accident spot, while Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved ex-gratia of Rs. 2 lakh for the families of those killed in the Amritsar train tragedy. He also announced a compensation of Rs. 50,000 for the injured.

FOOTGAL 2018 ends in a vibrant note

Churachandpur, Oct. 20:

FOOTGAL 2018, the sole initiative of the Churachandpur District Administration with a focus on awareness and advocacy campaign for Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) and changing the mindsets of the Electors for inclusive elections with the theme "No Voters Left Behind" which is being played from October 8 ends tonight in a vibrant note. Hangkhanian Valte, Minister (Vety & AH, Agriculture) said, It is the first time that I have this opportunity to witnessed FOOTGAL FOOTGAL being played under the auspices of the District Administration to empower the womenfolk and as such, even women have a very important role in Games & Sports. It is a training field to reap good team spirits, strategy, discipline, talents and vision, maintained the Minister. The Minister then congratulated and encourages the participating teams for development and harmony of the community as a whole and visual

development of the District in particular.

The programme was attended by Shyam Lal Poonia, IAS, DC Churachandpur, Pawan Yadav, IAS, DC Bishnupur, Lunkhohomang Khongsai, MPS, i/c SP Churachandpur and other DLOs.

Indian wrestlers upbeat; undergoes optimum training sessions at Budapest

New Delhi, Oct. 20

Indian wrestling contingent led by Asian Games Gold Medalist, Bajrang Punia have undergone extensive training in Budapest for the last 20 days in run up to the World Championship. With less than 24 hours to go for the start, the training hall at the Papp László Sportaréna in the Hungarian capital is buzzing with activities as more than 850 wrestlers from 97 countries are sweating it out to catch the attention and make themselves and their country proud. Though Bajrang Punia is one of India's best bet for a medal at Budapest, will enter the arena only on the second day of his bout in 65kg class, three of our grapplers—Jitender (74 kg), Pawan Kumar (86 kg) and Sumit (125 kg)—will be on view on the opening day of the championships.

Punia, leading the 30-member Indian challenge, said he was in a good shape and was looking forward to the bout day. "We have had very good training sessions since the past couple of weeks followed by quality sparring. We also had the chance to take a good look at the opponent wrestlers and I am confident that we will not fall short on the mat," said the CWG gold medalist.

Echoing his views, chief coach Jagminder Singh said that he was happy with the preparations so far. "All the boys have put in that extra bit. The acclimatization and arriving here in advance have helped the wrestlers to not only helped to adjust but the optimized training sessions have ensured our grapplers are in all in good shape. We have prepared well and are confident we can create history at this Championships."

Rio Olympics bronze medal winner, Sakshi Malik, who will lead charge in the women's category was equally upbeat about India's chances; "We have been sparring



regularly and the mood in the squad is really great and positive. The sparring with wrestlers from other countries have also helped us and we are ready for the challenges but we will put up our best efforts saved for the bouts," said the determined **Shakshi**.

Ritu Phogat, had won a silver medal in the under-23 world championships last year, was optimistic her performance. "We have been working hard and each one of us would want to win a medal. I personally want to win gold and am mentally prepared well," the confident Phogat said as she replaced Vinesh Phogat, who was injured during the trials.

India has a moderate performance record registered at the World Championship with 7 medals, so far. Sushil Kumar is the lone gold medalist in 2010, Moscow and Bajrang Punia won a bronze medal in 2013 in Budapest.

World Championship Squad:
Men's Free Style: Sandeep Tomar (57kg); Sonba (61kg); Bajrang Punia (65kg); Panjaj Rana (70kg); Jitender (74 kg); Sachin Rath (79kg); Pawan (86kg); Deepak (92 kg); M a u s a m

CM Inaugurates Canchi Leihao Galvanized Products



DIPR Imphal, Oct. 20:

Chief Minister N. Biren Singh inaugurated Canchi Leihao Galvanized Products at Langthabal Phumlou Loukon in Imphal West District yesterday. Health Minister L. Jayantakumar, CAF and PD Minister Karam Shyam and former Chief Minister Radhabinod Koijam also attended the function among others.

Speaking to reporters, Chief Minister N. Biren Singh said that the new Government is committed to extend help and support to entrepreneurs.

Khatri (97kg); Sumit (125kg).
Women's Free Style: Ritu Phogat (50 kg); Pinki (53 kg); Seema (55 kg); Pooja Dhandal (57 kg); Sangeeta (59 kg); Sakshi Malik (62 kg); Ritu (65 kg); Navjot Kaur (68 kg); Rajni (72 kg); Kiran (76 kg).

Men's Greco Roman: Vijay (55kg); Gyanender (60kg); Gaurav Sharma (63 kg); Manish (67 kg); Kuldeep Malik (72 kg); Gurpreet Singh (77kg); Manjeet (82kg); Harpreet (87kg); Hardeep (97kg); Naveen (130kg).

DRAW Dates & Timings for each category (Local Time)

- October 19 @ 7.30 PM - Draw FS-61/74/86/125 Kgs
- October 20 @ 7.15 PM - Draw FS-57/65/79/92 Kg
- October 21 @ 7.15 PM - Draw FS-70-97 Kg - Draw Women-55-59 Kg
- October 22 @ 7.15 pm - Draw Women-65/68/72/76 kg
- October 23 @ 7.15 pm - Draw Women- 50/53/57/62 kg
- October 24 @ 7.15 pm - Draw GR-55/63/72/82 Kg
- October 25 @ 7.15 pm - Draw GR-60/87/130 Kg
- October 26 @ 7.15 pm - Draw GR-61/77/97 Kg