

# Editorial

Tuesday, October 23, 2018

## The unmistakable reflections

The face is said to be the index of the mind since it evidently reflects the inner feelings of an individual. The physical body is regarded as the outward embodiment of the mind and any activity that happens in the mind is therefore manifested through the physical body. It can very well apply to a society as the working of a government is manifested in the appearance of the very state or society as the case may be. The ironclad and unusually heavily barricaded official quarter of the Chief Minister, the frustratingly chaotic traffic, the unsightly litter and untended garbage at various public places tells an unmistakable story of a state that has failed to take up the most basic steps to present any semblance of orderliness or control over the thoughts and actions of its authorities entrusted with power and privileges to dispense their duties. No wonder the state of Manipur has often been described as a functional anarchy where the ground reality is often kept away from the public domain while those at the helm of affairs of the state often presents a tweaked image for the public. To an outsider visiting the place, these unflattering sights and inconvenient experiences would definitely stay with them. Does the Biren-led government really believe that the impressions of the state on these tourists and visitors will be a pleasant and favorable one? Heads of states, state guests and dignitaries on official visits might go back with a good impression, pampered and fawned upon as they are wont to, but for a normal tourist or visitor to the state- one should not get their expectations of impressing them too high.

The third best Chief Minister of the country (as reportedly declared through an India Today Axis My India poll) has repeatedly announced that the law and order situation in the state have improved considerably with facts and figures to back up the claim. Comparisons with the previous government are increasingly being drawn to strike the point home, and while these claims cannot be brushed aside summarily, they are actually not the reality on the ground. For how many of the general public had really managed to shed their inhibitions and hesitations in interacting with the security personnel in uniform- whether of the state or the centre? How many of the common public has managed to access the ministers and elected representatives of the people barring the fixed days allocated by the CM for allowing the public to place their grievances personally, to have their grievances heard and responded upon? Is the iron barricade in front of the official residence of the Chief Minister a sign of welcome for a public in need of an audience? The Chief Minister is concerned with people kicking at the gate of his official residence- a disrespectful gesture according to him. Yet why is he still not able to digest the fact that nobody will simply go and kick the gate without any pressing or serious enough reason because it is public knowledge that the uniformed security personnel manning the have the authority, competency and backing to retaliate with more than necessary force. Simple common sense dictates that it would augur well for the barricades which have come to represent an unapproachable and authoritarian office to be done with and instead convince of the intentions and the limitations of the government as only a true leader would.

### Original Past Port/ Document lost

I, the undersigned have lost my original passport book/ documents issued by Passport office Chennai on the way between my residence and Imphal Tuliha Airport, Imphal Manipur on 6/9/2018.

Finders are requested to handover its to the undersigned.  
SD/

Pukhrambam Tejparti Devi  
W/o Oinam Rajen Singh  
Pishumthong Oinam Leikai  
P.O. Imphal and P.S. Singjamei  
District Imphal West

Letters, Feedback and Suggestions to 'Imphal Times' can be sent to our e-mail : [imphaltimes@gmail.com](mailto:imphaltimes@gmail.com). For advertisement kindly contact: - 0385-2452159 (O). For time being readers can reach the office at Cell Phone No. 9862860745 for any purpose.

## Manipuri Actor Narmada conferred on with National Konkani Madhuri Award 2018



IT News  
Imphal, Oct. 23,

Manipuri actor Narmada Sougajiam, was conferred on with the prestigious National Konkani Madhuri Award 2018 at the All India Multilingual Play, Dance & Music Festival 2018 held recently at Mohan's Carnival MADGAON, Goa. The festival was organised by Mohan's Abhinaya Sanskratik Sansthan. Narmada Sougajiam was attending as an artist of the Southern Manipur Art & Culture Promotion Centre, Kakching . Narmada's authentic performances in Classical Open Dance, Solo Folk Dance and Thang Leitung had mesmerized the audience prompting the

jury member to decide her as winner in all performance. Narmada was born of on February 1998 as daughter of Sougajiam Joyraj and Sougajiam (O) Tombisana. She had acted on various Music Video Album and Manipuri video film. Narmada is looking forward to continue opting acting a dancing as her career in the coming future.



Narmada Sougajiam receiving the prestigious National Konkani Madhuri Award 2018

## Protesters Try To Obstruct Trains Over Citizenship Bill



Agency  
Guwahati, Oct. 23,

Protesters tried to put up blockades on railway tracks this morning in order to disrupt train services across Assam, as part of the 12-hour state-wide 'bandh' or shutdown called by 46 organisations protesting against the Citizenship Bill.

Police officials said that the demonstrators, who were trying to prevent train movement by sitting on tracks, were being evicted. Demonstrators also burnt tyres on roads at various places across the state, the police said.

Police escorts were provided to public transport vehicles to ensure transport services functioned normally during the 'bandh' or shutdown.

The Krishak Mukti Sangram Samiti (KMSS), Asom Jatiyatbadi Yuba Chakra Parishad (AJYCP) and 44 other organisations have called the 12-hour shutdown to protest against the Centre's bid to pass the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, 2016, in the Winter Session of Parliament.

Political parties, including the Congress and the AIUDF, have extended their support to the bandh (shutdown) "in the interest of Assam and its indigenous people." All district magistrates and superintendents of police had been instructed by the BJP government in the state to take measures to maintain public utility services in view of the 'bandh' call.

A government order in this regard called for necessary pre-emptive and preventive measures to thwart the shutdown, saying these must be taken in view of the judgement of the Gauhati High Court.

The deputy commissioners of respective districts had issued orders that all government officials should attend to their duties.

It also said that shops, business establishments, educational institutions should remain open and transport facilities should function normally.

The Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, 2016 was introduced in the Lok Sabha to amend the Citizenship Act, 1955 to grant Indian citizenship to Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists, Jains, Parsis and Christians who fled religious persecution in Bangladesh, Pakistan and Afghanistan and entered India before December 31, 2014.

State Finance and Health Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma had said on Monday that the Gauhati High Court had ruled that calling a 'bandh' or shutdown was an illegal act and so the statewide shutdown called by 46 organisations on Tuesday cannot be allowed as it will amount to contempt of court.

Krishak Mukti Sangram Samiti leader Akhil Gogoi said this was the first time that they had called for a shutdown and they would not call it off as the very "existence of Assamese and their identity was at stake by the Bill".

At least 60 organisations, including the Congress, have called 12-hour Assam bandh today to protest against a meeting of the Joint Parliamentary Committee with the Ministries of Home and External Affairs over the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill 2016. The bill seeks to grant citizenship to non-Muslims from Bangladesh, Pakistan, and Afghanistan, drawing opposition from several organisations in Assam.

## National Integration tour flagged in

IT News  
Imphal, Oct. 23

A 15 days long National Integration Tour (NIT) organised by Thoubal Battalion of 9 Sector Assam Rifles under the aegis of IGAR (South) under "OP SADBHAVANA" was flagged in by Major General KP Singh, YSM, Inspector General Assam Rifles (South) and Mr Paonem Brojen Singh, MLA WangjingTantha at Thoubal on Monday. The tour which comprised of 24 school students from various schools of Thoubal, one teacher and administrative team of Thoubal Battalion, was flagged off from Thoubal on 01st October 2018.

During the course of 15 days, the NIT team visited various places of national, historical and tourist attractions at New Delhi and Pune. The significant highlight of the tour at New Delhi was the children's interaction with the Honourable President of India at the RashtrapatiBhavan on 5th October 2018. The team later visited the Mughal Gardens, RashtrapatiBhavan Museum, India Gate, Red Fort, QutubMinar, Akshardham and Lotus temples in

Delhi in addition to various shopping malls.

During the second leg of the visit to Pune, the children got a first hand chance of visiting the National Defence Academy (NDA), Khadakwasla wherein they were exposed to the various tri-service training facilities to include the Air Force training team, Equitation training team, Indian Naval Ship Ronnie, Weapon Technology Block, Sudan Block and Peacock Bay. The children also interacted with Rear Admiral SK Grewal, VSM, Deputy Commandant of the NDA as well as NDA cadets hailing from Sainik School Imphal. Apart from the NDA, the children also visited the College of Military Engineering and Headquarters Southern Command, Agha Khan Palace, Amanora Mall and E Square mall in Pune. One of the most enjoyable parts of the tour was the journey by the Indian Railways, which was undertaken by the students for the first time.

The children were visibly excited and happy to have been part of the tour. The same was conveyed by Master Bibek Singh of KM Blooming High School during the



presentation made by him at the Flagging in ceremony. Over 300 people including students from eight schools of Thoubal and their parents were present during the event. Mr Paonem Brojen Singh, MLA WangjingTantha, exhorted the children to learn from their experiences, as such experiences help in shaping up personalities. Major General KP Singh, YSM, IGAR (South) congratulated the students on the successful completion of the tour and guided the students to apply the

knowledge and experience gained, in positively contributing to the society and the nation at large.

Souvenirs were presented to all parents of the NIT team by Mrs Rachana Singh and framed photos of the visit were presented to Principals of all the schools whose children were part of the tour. The students and parents expressed gratitude to the Assam Rifles for having provided them the opportunity of touring the country thereby creating memories of a lifetime.