

Editorial

Friday, September 28, 2018

Seriousness with sincerity matters

“Where a society has chosen to accept democracy as its creedal faith, it is elementary that the citizens ought to know what their government is doing.” - Justice P N Bhagwati

Easier is said than done - the saying still stands true. Like the nail float in water with the plank, a rowdy sometimes saves his or her life from being spoiled. Saying so, it is always the wisdom of the captain of the ship that the crew managed to sail their ship to the destiny amidst storms and whirlpools. But then had the crew member lacks discipline Columbus could never have landed in America's soil to discover the country which becomes the most powerful country in the world today.

The state is more like a ship in the vast stormy ocean. In democratic state like Manipur, Chief Minister is similar to the captain of the ship. It is his wisdom that will sail towards a better direction. It is his command and qualities that will make his crew member follow rules and regulations frame by him. It is only at the time that all the crew members go by their respective assignment that the ship will reach destination. Similar, is with the running of the state, whether it goes upwards or falls, depends on the wisdom of the Chief Minister and his team.

But then, it is the Indian electoral system that stands as a hurdle to decide on which way to chose for a better society. Every elected representative needs a second thought to say no to his electorate. Particularly, the system practice in India showed that without some clique of strong supporters, it will become difficult for one to become Chief Minister as first thing that is important is to get elected as an MLA.

The ongoing impasse which cross over 100 days and which is worsening day after another need to be tackle with extreme seriousness and sincerity. This is an issue of the highest educational institution. People with less education might be easier to handle but handling the educated people need seriousness with sincerity or else the consequences may be a frustrating one.

Good governance is perhaps the single most important factor in eradicating poverty and promoting development. But sometimes the effort to bring good governance remains as a dream with the kind of hurdles from his supporters whom the man in the top post cannot deny as without them it will be difficult to get elected again.

Numbers of middle men including relatives are now the talk every people of the state. What more prove is required than checking the bank balance and the properties of these people in this 8 months? We have seen in the earlier days on how a pharmacist in the state health department became a millionaire just because he was a close relative of the then Chief Minister. Can anyone deny the fact that the pharmacist who became millionaire is a clean person because there is no evidence on how dirty is him?

Good leader falls, not because of his personality but because of those around him.

Coming back to what is going on in the state; everybody knows the amount being asked by these middlemen for the recruitment of Police constable. On the other hand some of the promises are still yet to be fulfilled as stated by the Chief Minister himself. The more the promises are delayed the more people will criticize.

Well, instead of defending, it is better checking the middlemen so that what has been assured remains true.

Let's make our state free from corruption.

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One's love for the post of the vice-chancellor of Manipur University has snatched away our right to education

By : Ms. Marina Konsam
A Student of DM University

As we know the former Vice-chancellor of Manipur University, Aadya Prasad Pandey loves his post of being the Vice-chancellor of Manipur University. He isn't willing to accept the fact that he did something wrong. Regardless of his suspension order given by the Ministry of Human Resources Development (MHRD), he is shamelessly spreading notice of appointing Prof. K. Yugindro as the Pro Vice-chancellor and Prof. M. Shyamkesho to be the Registrar in-charge of Manipur University. The fact which is making a joke is that one suspended person have appointed Prof. K. Yugindro as the Vice Chancellor of Manipur University and the MHRD simply approved him to be the Pro Vice-chancellor. What the MHRD is thinking? Beside knowing the fact that Prof. Aadya Prasad Pandey is on suspension. Meanwhile Prof. K. Yugindro surprisingly came into the A-Block of Manipur University to take the charge of Vice chancellor which created confusion among the MU fraternity. It could be noted that during the period of inquiry the students weren't able to accept anyone as the VC until the inquiry against Prof. AP Pandey was completed. As learned, both the students and the Prof. K. Yugindro came to a negotiation table wherein he did signed that he could not accept the post of Pro Vice-

chancellor and leaves the Manipur University. As a result of the same he met the Chief Minister and an F.I.R. was lodged at the Kakwa Police Station against some of the teachers and students alleging that the students have mentally harassed him, threatened to kill him and he is now under psychological fear as spoken to the media persons on September 21, 2018 at Manipur University. It could be learned that those students and the teachers mentioned in the FIR are booked under a case of Kidnapping, Attempt to murder, Wrongful Confinement, Punishment for Criminal Intimidation, punishment for extortion and common intention of the Indian Penal Code. The police forces acting under the order of Chief Minister of Manipur raided the Manipur University's boys and girl's hostel at the midnight of September 20 and 21, 2018. During the raid Manipur Police along with the Para military forces picked up more than 80 students and 5 faculty members of Manipur University which the same action could be recall as similar as the series of incidents which took place during the peak of counter insurgency in the 80s acting under AFSPA, 1958 with impunity killing and arresting many students and the civilians. To control the spread of news of the ferocious midnight raid the Government of Manipur ordered to shut down the mobile internet service in Manipur for 5 days, however, the spread of the incident were not able to curb.

Responding to the haughtiness action of the Government of Manipur, various Meira Paibis, CSOs of Manipur rushed to the Manipur University and made an intervention and observed that huge number of Armed State and Central Forces were deployed within and outside the campus of Manipur University. The interveners were stopped outside the main gate and not allowed to enter the campus of the MU. Many of the hostellers including boys and girls who were preparing for the examination were frightened and were restricted to move out from the campus of the MU. Herethe question arises is that "Is the Pro Vice-chancellor K. Yugindro giving the same psychological fear to the students which he claimed to have been given by the students!?" The girl hostels were also raided by the armed male forces of central and state which shows a clear sign of discrimination of women and created an undeclared emergency-like scenario. If the Pro Vice-chancellor K. Yugindro is under psychological fear which leads him to a traumatic situation, then is he fully conscious right now? Didn't he need treatment? Is it reasonable for a person who is semi-conscious to be the Vice-chancellor of Manipur University? Who broke the normalcy of the Manipur University? Who broke the Law and Order and created stir turbulence to the society? What crimes the arrested students and the teachers

have done and are kept behind the bars with a Trump Up charges and tagging as criminals?" "Is it reasonable for the students preparing for the exams are tagged as a criminal?" "Do the students deserve to be abused physically leading them unable to cope with their senses?" "Which type of criminal are they, who are the real criminals, the students fighting for justice or those who committed atrocities to the students and the civilians?"

If the Pro Vice-chancellor K. Yugindro is really concerned about the students' career and the academic atmosphere of the students, then why did he created such chaos? Is it because of his love for the postof Vice-chancellor of Manipur University even though he claimed that he is not after the post. What kind of normalcy and academic atmosphere did the Prof. K. Yugindro far-sighted? Did the students deserve being a potato whom the state government, the central government and those who wants the chair of Vice-chancellor of Manipur University like A.P. Pandey wishes to kick whenever wherever they like? "To destroy a nation, an atom bomb is not required but to destroy the educational institutions", same theory is being used by the Government of India through Government of Manipur to suppressed the prolonged self-determination movement of the people of Manipur.

Policy to Alleviate Water Problems in Manipur

By Chingakham Dina; Arambam Karamjit

Continued from yesterday.....

The main problems of water shortage are directly or indirectly related to:

1. No proper water management
2. Deforestation- destroying trees and forest. Depleting rain catchment areas which leads unable to hold rain water longer in the soil.
3. Pollution- dumping garbage in the rivers and canals.
4. Chemical pollution- contamination of overground and underground water by pesticide, insecticide etc.
5. Bad culture and bad habit of water usage. People wash and take a shower inside the source of water. The same water is used for drinking and cooking, mainly in valley areas.
6. Corruption among planners and contractors that didn't use project money fully on construction work.
7. Destroying natural pond, lake, stagnant water area for construction and residential area.

There are some water supply plants such as at Koirengkei, Porompat, Eroiembha, Canchipur, Singda dam etc. These cover only some small areas of Manipur and most of the villages of Manipur don't access to running-pipe water. Water is so much important than some other resources and one cannot live without water and this basic need is important for everyone till the end of our lives. However, this resource is being neglected by everyone from government authorities to common people. The quality of water supplied in

pipe could not be high enough to drink in Manipur comparing with other countries. In Singapore, their government uses high technology water treatment plant. The quality of water is amazingly high but her citizens do not drink it directly from pipe water as people are very aware of health. In the same way, in Thailand people don't use running pipe water for drinking even though the water is very high quality. People drink bottled water. We don't have modern water treatment plants in Manipur. The quality of pipe used is not as high standard as of Thailand or Singapore. Rusting in pipe, leakage on supplying pipeline and contamination with disease causing germs and bacteria, poor quality of water treatment are fearsome to consume but this is what people drink and consume directly.

Health, hygiene and people's appearance are very much directly related to water quality. The smoothness of our skin, the quality of our hair is very much understandable by using strong saline water, high iron content water, and muddy water without any further investigation.

To solve the issue of water scarcity, we need water revolution involving local people and government together. People don't mind drinking water from canal and muddy water from roadside ponds. Affordable people are proud of parking private water-tank vehicle in front of neighbours to show that they can buy supplied water. This is kind of symbol of social status and sign of richness in Manipur. But this is not long lasting solution. We need good plan for water management to have this basic need, accessible to every citizen-rich or poor. There should not be water scarcity in a place like Manipur

with proper annual rainfall if we take up proper plans. Only the possible reason is lack of management and mismanagement. The following points will solve the problems of water shortage in Manipur.

1. Cleaning rivers and canals: We need projects to clean up the heavily polluted rivers such as Nambul river, and Imphal river. Use these rivers for water harvesting project. People's involvement and awareness are very much needed. Set a proper rule so that nobody is allowed to throw garbage into the rivers. Impose heavy penalty to those who dump garbage. We need this strong rules like in other countries such as Thailand and Singapore.

2. Rain water harvest: We need to construct dams and reservoirs for rain water harvesting for home use and agricultural purposes. No single country will have enough water without constructing dam and reservoirs. It is not exception for Manipur. We need enough numbers of dams and reservoirs not only for city dwellers but also for village people.

3. Modern water treatment plant: Keeping public health as priority, planners and authorities in concerned department should take up cost effective modern water treatment and purification plants for home usage. Compared with Singapore, we are still lucky enough with large land and forest coverage that we shouldn't have any problem if we manage well without going extremity to recycle the sewage water like Singapore. Lately, there was in the news that hospital sectors in Manipur earn large income, which is a direct reflection of people's poor health, and spent more money to hospital. This is not good sign for

public health.

3. Use project money efficiently: Development of a country depends much on the sincerity of the people. It is open secret in Manipur that project money hardly reaches the target areas fairly which shows by the results of construction, such as breaking of Sekmai dam one year ago. If we use every single rupee sanctioned for the project, we are going to be nearly developed like as Singapore and Thailand.

4. People's involvement: We need more people's involvement in construction and water management projects such as construction reservoirs, not only waiting for government money. People are not willing to spend money for water and people still prefer to spend money on non productive activities. Local people should come out to monitor the quality of water reservoir construction so that the public property will last many years to come.

5. Pay water bill on time: Water scarcity is both responsible by government and people. People should clear water bill on time. The money comes from this bill will help to run government's expenditure. When people don't take responsibility of paying their bills, government can't run smoothly. People are less aware this issue in our society. However, we should not point finger to people only for this issue. There is great responsibility for government to supply water regularly, maintaining broken pipeline without delay to make people also satisfy with the service, as well as install prepaid water system like prepaid electricity to make people use water more carefully.