

Editorial

Friday, August 30, 2019

An opportunity to turn back nature

Manipur received a much needed shot in the arm towards efforts to regenerate green cover of the state with the central government's decision to hand over an amount to the tune of rupees three hundred and nine as Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA) fund to undertake afforestation and other related activities to preserve and regenerate nature and improve the environment. It is an Indian legislation that seeks to provide an appropriate institutional mechanism, both at the Centre and in each State and Union Territory, to ensure expeditious utilization in efficient and transparent manner of amounts released in lieu of forest land diverted for non-forest purpose which would mitigate impact of diversion of such forest land.

Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA) are meant to promote afforestation and regeneration activities as a way of compensating for forest land diverted to non-forest uses. National CAMPA Advisory Council has been established as per orders of the supreme court with the mandates to lay down broad guidelines for State CAMPA, to facilitate scientific, technological and other assistance that may be required by State CAMPA, to make recommendations to State CAMPA based on a review of their plans and programmes, and to provide a mechanism to State CAMPA to resolve issues of an inter-state or Centre-State character.

The amount handed over to the state will be utilized for compensatory afforestation, wildlife management, forest fire prevention, soil and moisture conservation works in forests, voluntary relocation of villages from protected areas, management of biological resources and biodiversity, research in forestry and monitoring of CAMPA works and activities provided in the Compensatory Afforestation Fund (CAF) rules, 2018.

The fund, if and when utilized properly will surely make a marked difference to the overall climatic condition in the state as well as the country as a whole as the funds are disbursed to twenty seven states in the country. The most significant change will undoubtedly be the rapidly soaring temperature each passing year. As in other parts of the country and indeed the world over, climate change has truly started to impact lives in more undesirable ways than the governments would care to admit, and such steps at reclaiming the rapidly declining green cover is a vital and timely step to curb the soaring temperature and the accompanying changes that are already impacting lives the world over. The significance of this step can be gauged by taking into consideration the panicky situation arising right this very moment across the farming sector due to the failure of monsoon this year, and if the past is any indication, the situation is bound to worsen with each passing year if preventive and corrective measures are not implemented in right earnest without further ado. A strict monitoring and constant appraisal of performance for which the funds are allocated need to be put in place with staffs who are well trained and motivated and equipped with the latest technology for the purpose.

There is however a word of caution that needs to be spelled out at this juncture because, either by institutionalized convention or out of personal greed by a few persons entrusted with such funds, the manner of implementation of such funds has always left a bitter taste for the public and are seen as easy sources of personal wealth. The public's perception towards such development funds in the state have so far been pessimistic, and are viewed with suspicion and fatalistic outlook. There is still a big slip between the cup and the lip, and the act of disbursing the fund should be taken as a starting point of a challenge we as a collective cannot afford to lose. The vagaries of climate change has left many parts of the world writhing in misery, and we are having it easy for now as nature has endowed the place with such generosity, but the time to lay back and look the other, expecting nature to heal itself is past. Climate change is a real and present threat which will spare none. We are given a lifeline, and what we do with it will determine the future course of this state, and for those who wields authority for such a vital task, how they perform will decide their future as either a redeemer or a pariah.

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All Manipur Students' Union and Naga Peace Talk

By- Sh Ajit, Khongman

The call of unifying voice against the unannounced Framework Agreement for the 'final solution' of Naga Peace Talk raised by All Manipur Students' Union (AMSU) in the last Manipur Legislative Assembly Election is still remembered by all sections of Manipur. Their deep concern of the integrity of Manipur is understandable and is beyond the geographical integrity. It is not a mere cry for unaltered boundary. Their voice is deep rooted in history, social and political processes of Manipur that goes through ages. Their war cry is for the harmonic relations of different communities living in Manipur. Manipur is not simply a landmass, but a historical entity. The Naga Peace Talk leads to confusion rather than a bright future in North East India in general and in Manipur in particular. The basis and nature of the peace talk is not clear even to the Nagas. This peace talk is meant differently to different nationalities and to different communities or ethnic groups. The 'progressive' peace talk is secretive by nature, is not revealed in Indian Parliament; hence, any other persons or groups cannot express their opinion on the on-going confusion over the Naga Peace Talk. Is it for this secrecy Prime Minister once called the signing the agreement historic? Or is it a deceit to all including ordinary Naga people?

AMSU, on the historic day of Hunger Marchers' Day, reaffirms their views on the ongoing Naga Peace Talk. They express two negotiations to what is perceived by the people as things are leaked through media: first, any



Photo courtesy: Indian Express

arrangement, political or administrative, in Manipur should not be on ethnic line. There cannot be any council or body exclusively for one ethnic group that will bring disturbance to the unity of ethnic groups of Manipur. AMSU denies any appeasing policy to one group and compensation to other groups. The problem of Manipur should be dealt with holistically by considering the unique historical realities of the State. While expressing the negation, AMSU opts for the Oneness of Manipur and wholesome of the problem faced by the State and its peoples. Second negation expressed is any step that will lower down the dignity and status of Manipur and its Legislative Assembly. Any arrangement that will bypass the legitimate Assembly which has hard earned by the people with long series of agitations since its merger to Manipur in 1949 will not be acceptable to the people of Manipur. AMSU will stand for Manipur with a dignity. Any arrangement such as formation of Supra-State Body or any council controlled directly by Centre in the name of conflict resolution is

against the interest of Manipur and its Legislative Assembly. It is part of what is called Integrity of Manipur.

As AMSU is also interested in conflict resolution of the Naga conflict or otherwise, it wants to give some positive inputs towards it. However, it is helpless as anything is revealed about the hurdles and achievements out of the peace talk between NSCN (IM) which was established in 1980 out of the bloodbath after Shillong Accord. The Peace Talk should start or take care of what had been achieved with Shillong Accord. As true lovers of Manipur and its neighbors, AMSU expresses its readiness to give suggestions, opinions or positive designs for a cordial solution of the ongoing conflict between Naga People and India. The only handicap is that AMSU, any Indian for the matter, does not know the intent of both the parties in the ongoing negotiation. Any one in does not know why Prime Minister called Framework Agreement a historic one. Tell us what is achieved so far and what is the point of disagreement as of now, we may

help in solving the problem.

AMSU wonders, as expressed by its President in his speech on Hunger Marchers' Day, of indifferent attitude of Government of Manipur to 'Naga National Flag.' While observing Naga Independence Day on 14 August 2019, a few civil bodies used Naga Flag use of which is not yet finalized in the Naga Peace Talk. The Flag was designed or proposed by NSCN (IM), which is still banned in the State of Manipur. Why did Government of Manipur allow hoisting on the soil of Manipur? By asking the question AMSU shows the debate over the use of a separate flag of Nagalim and inaction of the State in this politically charged debate. Government of India clearly shows its stand over the use of different flags in different States by deoperationalizing the Article 370 in Jammu and Kashmir. Then, why did Government of Manipur allow a separate flag, an invented symbol, for a group of peoples in Manipur? The use of a separate flag is a serious political issue; any one should not misjudge the move.

The voice of AMSU should be heard and discussed so that a new path of conflict resolution in the North East can be identified. The arrogant approach by assuming that NSCN (IM) is mother of all the insurgent groups in the region will not bring any fruit. One should understand who is fathering the insurgency and from where the fuel comes without any bias. The solution should be for the brighter and stronger North East where all including Manipur will find a life with dignity. Over years AMSU showed that it could shape the course of current history of Manipur. The voice of the students should not be underestimated.

Police: A friend or a foe?



By: Sanjebam Jugeshwor Singh Faculty, NIELIT Imphal.

Community policing or community-oriented policing is a strategy of policing that focus on building ties and working closely with members of communities. In fact, community policing is philosophy of full service personalized policing, where the same officers patrols and works in the same area on a permanent basis from a decentralized place, working in a proactive partnership with citizens to identify and solve problems. The central goal of community policing is for the police to build relationship with the community through interactions with local agencies and members of public, creating partnership and strategies for reducing crime and disorder. Although community policing mostly targets low-level crime and disorder "the broken window theory" proposes that this can reduce more serious crime as well. Community policing is related to problem-oriented policing and intelligence-led policing and contrast with reactive policing strategies which were predominant in the late 20th century. It does not eliminate the need for reactive policing, although successful prevention can reduce the need for the latter. Many police forces have teams that focus specifically on community policing, such as Neighborhood Policing Teams in the United Kingdom which are separate from the more centralized units that responds to emergencies. The overall assessment of community-oriented policing is positive, as both officers and community members attest to its effectiveness in reducing crime and raising the sense of

security in community.

Police are a constituted body of persons empowered by a state to enforce the law, to protect the lives, liberty and possessions of citizens and to prevent crime and civil disorder. Their power include the power of arrest and legitimized use of force. The term is most commonly associated with the police forces of a sovereign state that are authorized to exercise the police power of that state within a defined legal or territorial area of responsibility, police force are often defined as being separate from military and other organizations involved in the defense of the state against foreign aggressors, however gendarmerie are military unit charged with civil policing. Police force are usually public sector services funded through taxes. Law enforcement is only part of policing activity. Policing has included an array of activities in different situations but the predominant ones are concerned with preservation of order. In some societies, in the late 18th and early 19th centuries, these developed within the context of maintaining class system and

Protection of private property. These activities are the friendly nature of police.

Police forces have become ubiquitous in modern societies. Nevertheless their role can be controversial, as some are involved to varying degrees in corruption, police brutality and enforcement of authoritarian rule. Police corruption is a form of police misconduct in which law enforcement officers end up breaking their political contract and abuse their power for personal gain. This type of corruption may involve one or group of officers. Internal police corruption is a

Challenge to public trust, cohesion of departmental policies, human rights violations involving serious consequences. Police corruption can take many forms such as bribery, Soliciting or accepting bribes in exchange for not reporting organized

drug or prostitution rings or other illegal activities and violation of law, county and city ordinances and state as well as federal laws. Bribes may also include leasing unlawful access to proprietary law enforcement database and system. Flouting the police code of conduct in order to secure conviction civilians and suspects- for example, through the use of falsified evidence. There are also situations where law enforcement officers may deliberately and systematically participate in organized crimes themselves. In most major cities there are internal affairs sections to investigate suspected police corruption or misconduct including selective enforcement but there are situations where internal affairs also hides departmental and individual corruption, fraud, abuse and waste by individual officers, groups of officers or even unwritten departmental policies. There are also police commissions who are complicit in the same cover-up, often to hide internal and departmental problems both from public view and also from interdepartmental reviews and investigations. Certain officers can be fired then rehired by petition after they accrue enough signatures, often from the very criminals and violations from whom corrupt officers have garnered previous favor in exchange for officers "turning a blind eye" resulting in selective enforcement of violations being deterred but actually promoted. When police officers receive free drinks, meals and other gratuities, because they are police officers, whether intentionally or unintentionally, they convey an image of corruption. Demanding or receiving payment for criminal offenses to overlook a crime or a possible future crime. Types of bribery are protection for illegal activities, ticket fixing, altering testimonies destroying evidences and selling criminal information. Bribery is one of the most common act of corruption. Theft and

burglary is when an officer or department steals from an arrest and crime victims or corpse. Examples are taking drugs for personal use in a drug bust and taking personal objects from a corpse at the scene of crime. A theft can also occur within a department. An officer can steal property from the department's evidence room or property room for personal use. Shakedown is what when a police officer is aware of a crime and the violator but accepts a bribe for not arresting the violator. Fixing is undermining criminal prosecution by withholding evidences or failing to appear at judicial hearings, for bribery or as a personal favor. Besides these police also involved in perjury, direct criminal activities, internal payoffs, the frame-up and ticket fixing etc. Police brutality is one of several form of police misconduct which involves undue violence by police members. Widespread police brutality exists in many countries and territories even those that prosecute it. Although illegal, it can be performed under the color of law.

Police misconduct refers to inappropriate conduct and or illegal actions taken by police officers in connection with their official duties. Police misconduct can lead to a miscarriage of justice and sometimes involves discrimination and or illegal motives of segregation combined as obstruction of justice. In an effort to control police misconduct, there is an accelerating trend for civilian agencies to go beyond review to engage directly investigations and to have much greater input into disciplinary decisions. Using evolutionary psychology as a society's base will result in the public being the enemies of the state. In addition individuals and groups are now filming police in an effort to force police to become accountable for their actions and for their inactions.

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