

# Editorial

Wednesday, December 11, 2019

## Beginning with a protective mechanism

A point that has conveniently been missed while reporting the press conference called by the Chief Minister of Manipur was in the reply given to reporters regarding the implementation of National Register for Citizens (NRC) in Assam model. NRC is a mechanism to detect the illegal immigrants who had been mixed and settled in the state before 1971. Recently Assam government had detected over 19 lakhs such illegal immigrants while exercising NRC. One reason why Assamese people vehemently opposed CAB 2019 is because the NRC becomes meaningless and a futile exercise when the revised CAB is implemented. The base year for allowing illegal immigrants who had entered the country due to religious persecution (in their words) is December 31, 2014, which means those detected illegal migrants under the NRC will have more than a probable chance to become Citizen of the country if they are Hindu, Jain, Sikh, Christian, Christian and Parsi from Bangladesh, Pakistan and Afghanistan. The ongoing deadly agitation against CAB 2019 is genuine, from the perspective of indigenous Assamese brothers and sisters who had been struggling for the protection of their own indigenous people and their way of life.

In yesterday's press conference held at the Chief Minister's residence, after expressing gratitude to the Union Government for granting extension of Bengal Eastern Frontier Regulation 1853 to the entire state of Manipur by amending the regulation, Chief Minister N. Biren Singh had stated with extreme seriousness that the state government is in the process of implementing NRC in the state. He also stated that the NRC may begin after the ongoing Parliament session as the implementation of NRC is also the desire of Union Home Minister Amit Shah. That means the centre will have no objection when the state government of Manipur implemented NRC as soon as possible.

Now, with the notification in the gazette of India for extension of "the Inner Line Permit System" under Bengal Eastern Frontier Regulation 1853, it is crystal clear that the so called contentious CAB 2019 will be exempted from the state of Manipur. At section 3, clause 4 of the CAB, 2019, that has been passed in both the Houses of Parliament, it is clearly written that "Nothing in this section shall apply to tribal area of Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram or Tripura as included in the Sixth Schedule to the Constitution and the area covered under "The Inner Line" notified under the Bengal Eastern Frontier Regulation, 1873".

There is no doubt that the Bengal Eastern Frontier Regulation 1853, has its own limitation. From the legal point of view, the regulation was irrelevant for the state of Manipur which was never directly under the British government. When British introduced the Regulation it was meant for the Eastern frontiers of Bengal and when we talk about eastern frontiers of Bengal during that year of British era, they are to certain regions as mentioned in the earlier preamble. It was the district of Kamrup, Darrang, Nowgong, Sibsagar, Lakhimur, Naga Hills and Cachar, that are all neighbor states of Manipur. The so called regulations that existed for the erstwhile Kingdom of Manipur was different - it was more a visa type legislation, that the then Commissioner Himat Singh had abolished by an executive order.

When one question - Is ILP under Bengal Eastern Frontier Regulation 1853 that has been enforced in states like Nagaland, Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh enough to protect the state of Manipur - the unanimous answer from any intellectual, social and political thinkers will be a big and resounding "NO". We all have records of the growing number of non locals in the states where ILP is being enforced. Definitely ILP under Bengal Eastern Frontier Regulation 1853 is not a perfect tool for protection of the indigenous people. It was because of that that scholars, political thinkers, social workers and those activists which demanded implementation of ILPs are adamant for a legislation that would be fit for the state of Manipur.

What we the people of today have to make a clear stand is over the fact that Manipur urgently need a regulation or legislation to make sure that the Contentious Citizenship Amendment Bill 2019 is exempted from the state of Manipur. It has been done by the extension of ILP on December 11 but it is not a lasting solution but rather an interim relief which can be made a lasting one with the implementation of NRC in the state.

The left out portion in the contents of the Bengal Eastern Frontier Regulation 1853, that the people felt insecure can be fulfilled if the state government is committed to do so. Let the law of the land be reformed with some suitable and relevant amendments to go in par with other developing states. If the government want to bridge the trust deficit of the people it has to make sure that all existing laws are being implemented judiciously not only in letter but more importantly in the spirit. The time for tokenism and playing to the gallery is truly over. Only a sincere, judicious and upright government who can connect with the people rather than its masters beyond the hills will be able to win the trust and support of the people of the state regardless of community, caste or faith.

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.

## December 11, the day of passing CAB in Rajya Sabha is a "Black Day" - NESO

IT News  
Imphal, Dec 12

The North East Students' Organisation - an apex students' body comprising of Khasi Students' Union (KSU), All Assam Students' Union (AU), Mizo Zirlai Pawl (MZP), Twipra Students' Federation (TSP), All Manipur Students' Union (AMSU), Garo Students' Union (GSU), All Arunachal Pradesh Students' Union (AAPSU) and Naga Students' Federation has called December 11- the day of passing Citizenship (Amendment) Bill as "Black Day".

Termining the passing of the contentious Cab as a sinister ploy of the Government of India the NESO said that the measure id to reduce the indigenous people of the North East to a minority in their own land by rewarding the illegal infiltrators from Bangladesh who belong to religious domination of Hindus, Sikhs, jains, Parsis, Buddhist or Christians who have illegally entered North East by granting them Indian citizenship. "The government instead if detaining and deporting these illegal infiltrators from our land is granting them Indian Citizenship,

that will onlu encourage more infiltration from Bangladesh in which the North East shares a long border of about 1,741 km. The approval of this contentious CAM, 2019 by the Union cabinet on Dec. 4, 2019, the passage of this Bill in the Lok Sabha on December 9, 2019 an finally the passage of the Bill in RS on Dec. 11 is spelling a bleak future for the indigenous people of the North East", the NESO statement said and added that this is another political injustice perpetrated by the Government of India on the microscopic indigenous communities of North East.

## Workshop on Scientific Cultivation of Coconut

IT News  
Imphal, Dec 12

One day District Level Workshop on Scientific Coconut Cultivation/Technology/Value addition was conducted at KVK Chandel today. The programme was organised by Coconut Development Board, Regional Office, Guwahati, Assam and Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Chandel. The programme was attended Krishna Kumar, IAS, Dy. Commissioner, Chandel as Chief Guest; Smt. Ts. Gladny Monsang, DAO - Chandel & Shri L. Mohori Singh, DO Horticulture & Soil Conservation, Chandel as Guest of Honour; Dr. N. Prakash, Joint Director, ICAR - Manipur Centre as Functional President and Shri Lunghar Obed, Director, Coconut Development Board, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, Government of India, Regional Office, Guwahati as Special Guest.

## ILP gift is the hard work of the people of Manipur and respecting the voice of the people - CLK

IT News  
Imphal, Dec 12

A press statement released by Chanura Lamchinglel Kangleipak (CLK) President, Ch. Pakpi Chanu highlighted that independent State Manipur (Kangleipak) was annexed by India in 1949 and a merely populated indigenous people has been suffering and losing our indigenous identity day by day by the rule of India and its ideology One country, one religion, one

political aspiration and its divide and rule policy. The statement added that in 1950 November 18, India took out the system of exit and entry of Manipur so that non-Manipuri can easily enter the land. Forcibly taking the works culture and economy of Manipur. The people of the State agitated for years to implement the ILP system again in the State but suddenly on December 9, 2019, Home Minister, Amit Shah took out proposal of ILP system in the parliament and to

implement in the State. The statement further said that Chanura Lamchinglel Kangleipak had appreciated the works of the government and the gift of ILP in Manipur is by the hard work of the people of Manipur.

## Contd. from Page 1

### YACPIP condemn North East MPs for supporting CAB

"Now is the time to stand shoulder to shoulder with the people of Tripura and Assam as it will have a serious impact on the Indigenous People of Tripura, Assam and its neighboring states", the statement said.

The statement of the YACPIP further said that the committee will continue to stand in solidarity and support the movement against the CAB, 2019 and shall stand united to fight against the system which goes against the interest of the Indigenous People of the region. YACPIP called upon the Government of India to act accordingly with the interest of the Indigenous People but not against the interest of the people. We fear that the interest behind the CAB is Genocidal in nature after prolonged violence committed by the state armed forces under the AFSPA, 1958.

The YACPIP also appealed the people to stand firm and resist with

*"We condemn the action of MANPAC for fooling the people by weakening the movement of the CSOs and giving a wrong impression to the general public which is of serious concern and a serious attention needed"*  
- YACPIP

the "Elected Dictatorial System" to protect the IPs and initiate non cooperation movement with the outsiders from capturing our administrations and others.

## After Dhaka, Oinam Gautam's Pandam Amada selected for Competition of 18th Third Eye Asian Film Festival 2020



IT News  
Imphal, Dec. 12

National Award Winning Film Director Oinam Gautam's Manipuri feature film-Pandam Amada (In Pursuit of) produced by Sarokoms under the banner of Takhel Films has been selected for competition of 18th Third Eye Asian Film Festival to be held at Mumbai in March 2020.

Sudhir Nandagaonkar, the Festival Director of the Third Eye Asian Film Festival, Mumbai has communicated to the film director Oinam Gautam on December 11, 2019 regarding the selection of his film in the competition section of the festival. The festival has been

posponed from December 2019 to March 2020 due to delay in formation of new ministry of the Government of Maharashtra which releases major funding.

The Manipuri film was already selected among 15 films for competition in the Children's Film Section of the 18th Dhaka International Film Festival 2020 to be held at Dhaka in Bangladesh from January 11 to 19, 2020. After world premier in Dhaka, the film will have its Indian premiere in Mumbai.

The film revolves around a boy who is innocent, sporty and kind hearted. In pursuit of his father's wishes of getting good education in a reputed school after Class X, he was accidentally exposed to an unfavourable academic atmosphere as he falls into the group of bad company or friends.

The film tells how parental skills are important - to give children a sense of security, acknowledge their feelings, be approachable, to give quality time to them. Bonny Takhelmayum is the lead character of the film.

The film is the fifth Manipuri Feature film certified by the Central Board of Film Certification as Digital Film.

## Maharashtra demands immediate refund of GST compensation; Eight non-BJP states may move Supreme Court

By Raju Vernekar  
Mumbai, Dec 12

Maharashtra government in a letter to Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, has sought immediate release of Rs 15,558.05 crore comprising Goods and Services Tax (GST) compensation up to November 2019 from the Centre. As per copy of the CM's letter made available to media by CM office on late Wednesday evening, "The pending

dues include Rs 6946.29 crore of tax devolution and Rs 8611.76 crore towards GST compensation".

"As per the Union budget 2019-20, the tax devolution to Maharashtra was Rs 46,630.66 crore which was 11.15 per cent more than Rs 41,952.65 crore received by the state during 2018-19. But, the state received only Rs 20,254.92 crore till October 2019 (25.53 per cent less compared to the budget estimate of 2019-20). The CM also expressed fear of a

shortfall in GST collections compared to the benchmark growth of 14 per cent due to the slowdown in the economy.

"During the current financial year, we have received Rs 5635 crore as GST compensation for the first four months only. However, an amount of Rs 8611.76 crore is due towards the GST compensation up to November 2019.

"The state is also suffering due to the shortfall in tax devolution. Timely release of GST compensation and tax devolution amount will help my state to manage finances efficiently," the CM stated. The letter further stated that Integrated GST (IGST) settlement was done during 2017-18 based on tax devolution formula of the Finance Commission, instead of the formula adopted for such settlement. "As per the latest CAG report, for the year ended March 2018, the IGST settlement for many transactions is not happening," it stated.

Thackeray heads a coalition government of the Shiv Sena, NCP and Congress, which came to power last

month. The BJP-led NDA government headed Maharashtra prior to the October 21 assembly polls.

In the meanwhile, amidst muted GST revenue growth and worries over delayed allocation of compensation cess, a few state governments are considering legal recourse against the Centre if their dues are not cleared immediately. States like Kerala, West Bengal, Punjab, Delhi and Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Union Territory of Puducherry - all non-BJP states - are planning to knock at the door of the Supreme Court if their concerns are not addressed.

Finance ministers and representatives of these states had met Sitharaman last week, urging her to release the pending compensation cess since August. States get an average cess compensation of about Rs 7,500 crore per month (as per the last fiscal's numbers), which means the Centre is yet to release funds worth over Rs 30,000 crore to these states.

## Corrigendum

I, the undersigned have change my name in my passport as Heigrujam Puspa Devi instead of Moirangthem Puspa Devi. And that the name of my father which is written on my passport earlier is to be corrected to Heigrujam Bisweswar Singh, likewise the name of my mother and my spouse are also to be corrected to Soubam Roma Devi and Moirangthem Rameswar Singh and my date of birth is to be corrected as 2/11/1975

Sd/-  
Heigrujam Puspa Devi  
Thangmeiband Sinam Leikai,  
Imphal West 7951004