

## Editorial

Tuesday, December 24, 2019

### From obscured to suppress community

**T**ransgender community of Manipur still gets nothing from the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2019 – reason, the department of Social Welfare, Government of Manipur is not initiating any measures to enforce the act. Before the Bill has been introduced the community remained obscured for quite a long time and even after the passing of the Bill and getting assent of the President of India they are now being suppressed in the state of Manipur. The rights has been suppressed as even the law enforcers cannot assured as no regulations existed for dealing cases involving them.

The Act was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 19 July 2019 by the Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment, Thawar Chand Gehlot, in light of the lapse of the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Bill, 2018. The 2018 bill, which was preceded by a 2016 version, were both met with protests and criticism by trans groups, lawyers, and activists in India. The 2016 bill was sent to a Standing Committee which submitted its report in July 2017. Following which, the Lok Sabha tabled and passed a newer version of the bill in December 2018. However, it did not incorporate many of the committee's recommendations. Members of the opposition in Rajya Sabha criticised the bill and assured transgender persons of not voting in favour of it, although it was passed by the Rajya Sabha on 25 November 2019. On 5 December 2019 it was signed into law by the President of India.

After the law, the government of India gave recognition of third gender in addition to the existing male and female. In school and colleges (even in Manipur) transgender can get their admission quota and some even did it.

However, when it comes to law and order, police often face difficulties in dealing with the transgender, as the state government of Manipur still is yet to establish a board for formation of regulations for implementation of the act. The police department too is facing criticism sometimes as they received criticism from the trans community as there is still yet to regulate legislation on which police force should be assigned when it comes to deal with cases involving trans-community. Besides, in case of arrest or detention, no police station in the state of Manipur has separate cell for accommodating them.

Recent case is about a complaint by a trans-female, who had even undergone surgery and change his sex to she needs serious attention of the government. Report appeared at some of the newspaper and websites said that some male police personnel without any women personnel came to the residence of the trans-female and harassed her. Police side of story in connection with the allegation is yet to be made, but when talk regarding the matter with some legal experts, it is being informed that it is the male police that has to be deal with when it comes to trans – female as of now. As for the trans-male community it is the female police that should be assigned.

Rather than interpreting the news report as that of the violation to the freedom of speech, one need to ponder upon is the issue coming up due to none implementation of the act by the state government authority.

## Letter to the Editor

### Chief Minister is requested to reintroduce Imphal-Silchar Flight Service at the Earliest

Imphal-Silchar air service should be relaunched again to cater to the acute transport needs of the people of Manipur and Assam particularly of the Barak Valley and adjoining areas in the way Imphal-Dimapur flight service was launched to serve the people of Manipur and Nagaland in particular by the Hon'ble Chief Minister on last 7<sup>th</sup> December, 2019 at Tikendrajit International Airport. The launching of RCS-Udan (Regional Connectivity Scheme) to be operated by Alliance Air is welcomed by all, particularly by the people of the two states as it was suspended for a long (about 5-6 years ago) and aims in achieving the objective of "letting the common People/citizen of the country fly" at affordable fare in this region of NE.

Reintroduction of Imphal-Silchar air service is highly needed considering the large number people, including

students, go for studies in Silchar, Bangladesh, Shillong, Tripura, Guwahati and other places, and the poor road conditions of Imphal-Jiribam/Silchar since a long time, among others. Once the flight service is reintroduced the people to people contact between Assam and Manipur, more particularly of the people in Barak Valley, Jiribam and Agartala will be increased interpersonal communication and relations among the people of this region.

In the light of the above circumstances, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Manipur Shri N. Biren is requested to arrange for relaunching of the air service between Imphal-Silchar at an early date.

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## Bangladeshi maid servants go "Out of Range"

By Raju Vernekar  
Mumbai, Dec 24

While the CAA and NRC have stirred the country, most of the Bangladeshi maid servants working in and around Navi Mumbai have proceeded on long leave to go to their native places. According to information, these servants, originally from Bangladesh, had migrated to Navi Mumbai from Eastern states like West Bengal, Assam and Odisha, a few years back and have been working in different households. However they do not possess basic documents like Aadhar card to prove their nationality and due to a fear psychosis, they are rushing back to their "native places" in the hope of getting basic documents. A housewife residing in an NRA Complex in Seawood said that her maid had been receiving constant

### Monetary Help

IT News  
Imphal, Dec 24

Heirok Youth Congress Committee under the supervision of the Moirangthem Ibotombi Memorial Charitable Trust today extended monetary help of Rs. 10, 000/- to Ahongsangbam Manisang of Nongpok Shekmai who has been undergoing treatment at Jawaharlal Nehru Institute of Medical Science (JNIMS). The amount was handed over to him at JNIMS by a team of the Youth Congress led by its General Secretary.

### Security Meet

IT News  
Imphal, Dec 24

Thoubal Battalion of 9 Sector Assam Rifles under the aegis of HQ IGAR (South) organised a security meet at Thoubal Company Operating Base. The security forum was attended by village Pradhans, ward members, councilors, members of village youth club and locals of the area. During the meet the locals were sensitised and updated on current situation existing in the area of responsibility. There was also an interaction carried out on necessary measures required to be undertaken by locals in synergy with Assam Rifles for maintaining a strict vigil against illicit activities in the area. In addition to the security issues, future action plan in respect of civic action projects like medical camps, recruitment in Assam Rifles and Army and career counseling for youth were also discussed during the meet. The locals expressed their gratitude to Assam Rifles for conduct of such security meetings.



Bangladeshis recently arrested at Nalasopara

phone calls from her native place to return home for the last few days and now all of a sudden she has stopped coming to work and her phone has also been switched off. Another housewife said that her maid servant has proceeded on a month long leave with a request that she be employed back, when she returns. Most of the Bengali-speaking Muslim from a border town in West Bengal in large number have been working at Digha, Rabale, Turbhe, Shirvane, Vashi, Karave and adjoining areas right up to Panvel for the last few years. Since they are prepared to work on low salary, they are given a preference by local populace. For example if a local maid demanded Rs 700 to Rs 800 per month for domestic work like washing clothes, cleaning utensils, rearing children etc, these Bangladeshi maids are prepared to work for the salary as low as Rs 500-Rs 600 per month. They also

found it easy to get rented accommodation in the villages adjoining Navi Mumbai at cheaper rates. The waves of fears have also affected hundreds of Bengali-speaking people living in Mumbai. The stretch between Mumbai Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus and Wadala, which is also known as the "harbour railway route", has metamorphosed into contiguous, larger settlements for Bengali-origin Muslim migrants who have moved to Mumbai for work. Neela Limaye, Secretary of Maharashtra Mahila Parishad said that there is a fear psychosis not only among maids, but also among workers working in construction and other sectors. They fear that they would be arrested under new legislations. The raids are periodically carried out across Mumbai, Navi Mumbai and the adjoining Thane district,

as a concerted exercise between the local police and the intelligence bureau of the state CID. As per the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) data, around 245 cases were registered in Maharashtra alone between 2014 and 2016. While according to data provided by the Union Ministry of Home affairs, as many as 1,770 "Bangladeshi nationals" were deported, between 2015 and March 2018.

The recent arrests include: 14 March 2018-Panvel- (5 Bangladeshis arrested), 17 March 2018-Pune-(three Bangladeshis arrested), 17 November 2019-Dhakt Khandat (Panvel)- (10 Bangladeshis arrested), 14 December 2019-Arnala (Virar)- (7 Bangladeshis arrested), 12 December 2019-Nalasopara- (16 Bangladeshis arrested). While the Foreigners Act and the Passport Act apply to any foreign nationals entering and residing in India without proper legal documentation, the Maharashtra has been seen using it primarily against illegal immigrants who crossed over from Bangladesh from 1990s onward. The arrested persons are tried in a special court located in Tughlakpur in South Mumbai. In the meanwhile the state government is already in the process of setting an Assam-like detention centre in Nerul, in Navi Mumbai, to deal with illegal immigrants. The centre will be equipped to accommodate at least 50 persons.

## Medicine

### Men are three times more likely to die from Sudden Cardiac death

By a correspondent  
Guwahati, Dec 24

Even though heart diseases in India are on a rise, men are three times more likely to suffer from sudden Cardiac Death (SCD) than women. Sudden cardiac arrest is a medical emergency and if not treated immediately, it causes death. Sudden cardiac death is the sudden, unexpected loss of heart function, breathing and conscious due to a cardiac cause occurring within 1 hour of onset of symptoms. Sudden cardiac death usually results from an electrical disturbance in the heart that interferes with its pumping action, stopping blood flow to the rest of the body. It usually causes death if it's not treated within minutes. "The major risk factor for SCD is coronary heart disease (CAD). This is especially true if somebody recently had a heart attack. However, people may not know that they have coronary artery disease until SCD occurs. Their CAD is

"silent"—that is, it has no signs or symptoms. Some people can have heart attack without any signs, and they don't even realize that they've had one. Other risk factors for SCD include: A personal or family history of SCD or inherited disorders that make you prone to arrhythmias, a personal history of arrhythmias, heart attack, heart failure and drug and alcohol abuse." Said Dr. Viveka Kumar, Senior Consultant - Interventional Cardiology & Electrophysiology, Max Super Speciality Hospital, Saket, New Delhi. With fast, appropriate medical care, survival is possible. Rapid treatment with a defibrillator and cardiopulmonary resuscitation — or even just compressions to the chest administration can be lifesaving. A defibrillator is a device that sends an electric shock to the heart to try to restore its normal rhythm. However, a heart attack can sometimes trigger an electrical disturbance that leads to sudden

cardiac arrest. During a heart attack, some heart muscle cells die and are replaced with scar tissue. The scar tissue damages the heart's electrical system. As a result, electrical signals may spread abnormally throughout the heart. These changes to the heart increase the risk of dangerous arrhythmias and SCD. The chances of having SCD are higher during the first 6 months after a heart attack. "Following a healthy lifestyle can help to lower the risk for CAD, SCD, and other heart problems. Other treatments for CAD, such as angioplasty or coronary artery bypass grafting, also may lower the risk for SCD. Doctor may recommend an ICD if somebody are at high risk for SCD. An ICD is a device similar to pacemaker surgically placed under the skin in chest. The device has wires with electrodes on the ends that connect to heart's chambers. If the ICD detects a dangerous heart rhythm, it gives an electric shock to restore the heart's normal rhythm." Added Dr. Kumar.

## Opinion

### The choice of constructive criticism

By : Joyshree Heisnam  
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The present BJP government is manufacturing the consent of many radical Hindus, and imposing it to the minorities, ethnic communities of NORTH EAST and all over INDIA.

India apart from all her laurels is a land where caste determines the winner, the identity politics being played brutally on those weak and small numbers of people to dominate, and exercise their power. The vote bank politics, the unconstitutional nature of CITIZENSHIP AMENDMENT ACT, the anti secularism nature, the ethnic cleansing policy all have made the whole nation storm against

it. The large scale tortures, brutal killings, beatings of the students from across the nation are really a sad sight to see. From Arundhati Roy, a respected infamous writer, Ramachandra Guha - the biographer of Gandhi, the famous historian, and many have stood against CAA. We are really in a critical state where the country has been obeying the colonial master RSS who is imposing it's fascist regime to everyone. And trying to bring One Nation, One language, One Religion. It's now high time to stand against authoritarian govt where the freedom of expression, dissent, freedom to assemble, has been all denied. The fundamental principle of Democracy where a person could protest in non violent manner is again restricted, the students either

got arrested, the media are even given threats by this regime. This saffron Terror has brought the highest unemployment rate in the history of India. India ranks 103 in Hunger Index, 78 in CORRUPTION index, and one of the highest in crime against women, 11 out of 15 most polluted cities are in India. Instead of focusing on such agendas to development they are busy on other notorious bills to safeguard their voting politics. The basic income, the mass illiteracy, poverty need to be addressed. The GOVT has also done nothing just change name, introduce new bills with no scope of implementing it well to the people. The govt has done little to the huge mandate given by the people. The police, the state force are used as toys, for killing people, beatings

in a thriller movie called "MODI'S INDIA". They are really confident with words and smooth talks, to sabotage the whole nation. India is no longer what our constitutional father AMBEDKAR imagined it to be, even GANDHI would cry. I am a strong believer and I believe there should always be room for constructive debate or criticism. "Be the change you wish to see in the world". Let's protect our own fundamental rights for a change we wish to see. And let's forget about everything. "WE THE NORTH EAST WILL NOT GIVE UP OUR LAND, RIGHTS, CULTURE, LANGUAGE, FOR THE GODFORSAKEN IDEA OF AN IMPRAGMATIC NATION CALLED HINDUTVA"