

# Editorial

Monday, February 11, 2019

## The falls of protracted leader Change your mind to remain as the leader

Arranging tight security arrangement for almost all Ministers, MLAs of the ruling government headed by the BJP; ordering government staffs to remain in the office so as to protect from agitators; dispersing democratic protest by even firing tear gas and mock bomb to the lady protestors and deploying large number of security force to suppress the people's movement against the Contentious Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, 2016 is not going help from burning the state. Peoples' anger has crossed beyond limit and the mothers of the state who always stood forward in every movement of the state now stands firm to fight tooth and nail if the Bill is passed. Those who were with the government even pour out their anger against the ruling Chief Minister over failure to address his government's commitment to the passing of the Bill.

It is just today that we will see no bloods in the street but tomorrow the state may witness bloods running in the street if the contentious Bill is placed at the Rajya Sabha and passed if the SP and BSP abstained from voting.

Addition of a clause, granting of the Manipur Peoples' Bill is not going to help in convincing the people from the stand against the Bill. The only way that Mr. Chief Minister, the one time friends of the people could return to his position as peoples' leader is by sacrificing his position in the BJP and joint hands with the people. Resigning from a political party and joining to another or forming another political party is not new. It was already witnessed by the people of the state on how the late Chief Minister of Manipur Wahengbam Nipamacha defected from a National Party and formed the MSCP and become the Chief Minister.

If the Central leadership of the party fails to listen to the state party what is the use of being its member. If the Chief Minister along with all its BJP member threaten resignation, if the Bill is tabled and passed and do as per the commitment the district administration or the police will need no extra security measures to protect the Ministers and some MLAs.

Don't worry, if you joined the people you will remain as the leader always. After all you were elected as DRPP candidate then after joining the congress you were elected again and after leaving the Congress and joined the BJP you were again elected. It was not the political party that you are chosen as the leader of the people but it was your good work that people have trust in you.

This is democracy, join the people and be our leader again.

## RS adjourned till 2 PM amid Opposition protests

**Agency  
New Delhi, Feb 11**

Rajya Sabha was adjourned Monday till 2 PM as Congress and TDP members trooped into the Well of the House seeking to raise various issues. Two bills were introduced before Chairman M Venkaiah Naidu adjourned the House.

Several opposition members, including from TMC and Congress, protested as External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj introduced the 'The Registration of Marriage of Non-Resident Indian Bill, 2019'.

Naidu, however said the bill was just being introduced.

Tribal Affairs Minister Jual Oram introduced 'The Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order (Third Amendment) Bill, 2019'.

Earlier, as soon as the listed papers were laid on the table of the House, members of TDP trooped into the Well demanding special status for Andhra Pradesh.

Several Congress MPs too entered the Well.

The issues being raised by Congress could not be heard in the din but in Lok Sabha they had raked up the issue of alleged horse-trading in Karnataka by BJP.

Law makers from BSP and SP, the two parties which have entered into an alliance for the next Lok Sabha polls, were heard raising the issue of deaths in Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand due

to consumption of illicit liquor.

The Chairman made appeals to the protesting members to return to their seats and not display posters. But his appeals went unheeded following which Naidu adjourned the House till 2pm.

Before adjourning the House, Naidu said he has received several notices under Rule 267, but none have been accepted.

Rule 267 provide for setting aside the business of the day to discuss the issue being raised.

**Agency  
Aizawl, Feb 11,**

Special mass prayer was held in churches across Mizoram for the defeat of the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill in the Rajya Sabha, Presbyterian church's Mizoram Synod sources said on Sunday. Members of 16 major churches of different denominations held prayers on Saturday night.

The appeal made by the Mizoram Kohran Hruaitute Committee (MKHC), a conglomeration of leaders

## 10-hour Nagaland Bandh Against Citizenship Amendment Bill Begins



**Agency  
Kohima Feb 11,**

The Joint Coordination Committee of Civil Organizations, Tribal bodies and Indigenous Citizens of Nagaland is imposing 10-hour statewide bandh today. The bandh commenced at 6AM and will conclude at 4PM. The first hour has been peaceful.

In a release, the Joint Coordination Committee while stating that the bandh has been called in pursuance to the resolution adopted in the Consultative Meeting protesting against Citizenship Amendment Bill

2016 held at Dimapur on 6th of this month has earnestly appealed to all the citizens of the state to observe the Bandh. It said that the Bandh is expected to be democratically peaceful and voluntary participation by every citizen knowing that the implementation of CAB will have immense ramifications of both direct and indirect adverse impact on one's future.

It said that the Centre is hell bent to impose its political agenda as the CAB 2016 was passed by Lok Sabha on 8th of last month. Maintaining that the peo

## No moral right of state govt to appeal for bandh withdrawal: NVCO

**Agency  
KOHIMA, Feb 11,**

Extending its full support to the statewide bandh called by the Nagaland GB Federation (NGBF) on Monday, the Nagaland Voluntary Consumers' Organisation (NVCO) asserted that the state government had no moral right to appeal to civil society organisations to reconsider the proposed bandh. Lone Lok Sabha member from NDDP had also voted in favour of the controversial Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, 2016, which the federation believes is against the interest of present and future generations of Naga society.

Alleging that the PDA government had been pleasing its master by not opposing the Bill with silly excuses that the Nagas were protected by Article 371(A) of the Constitution of India and Inner Line Regulation (ILR) of the Eastern Frontier Regulation (BEFR), 1873, NVCO president Kezhokhoro Savi questioned the government how it was protecting rights of the indigenous Naga inhabitants under Article 371(A) when so much lands were owned by non-Indigenous inhabitants of Nagaland.

It asked the government to what extent it had been effectively enforcing BEFR when the non-Nagas and illegal Bangladeshi immigrants had almost controlled the markets in Nagaland.

A statement issued by the organisation's press and media cell regretted that though the State government had come up with drafts several times, it had never come to a conclusion, which showed its "insincerity and indifference towards the interests of its citizens". It pointed out that the government was still silent on the people's demand to apply the ILR to State's commercial hub Dimapur.

Pointing out that the Nagaland and Revenue Regulation (Amendment) Act, 1978 had clearly stated that the entire "surface of the earth's crust within the territory of Nagaland" was to be owned by the indigenous Nagas and not by non-Indigenous inhabitants of Nagaland, NVCO also opposed Prime Minister Narendra Modi's statement on Saturday at a public rally that the Bill won't harm interests of the Northeast. It also expressed its gratitude to groups protesting and fighting for the interests of the Northeast.

## Two from West Bengal brutally murdered; 2 injured after hands allegedly chopped off

**Agency  
Guwahati Feb 11,**

In an incident, two persons from East Midnapore who went to work as masons were brutally murdered in Assam's Dum Dum police station area on Saturday night

The other two workers were also seriously injured after miscreants chopped off their hands while they were trying to rescue the two victims.

The police is investigating the matter.

The two victims have been identified as Seikh Idris Ali (52) of

Gopalnagar area and Seikh Muhammed of Garh Purusottampur.

The duo, both under Paskura police station had gone to Assam a month and half back to work as masons with the help of a local contractor along with the two fellow workers Seikh Sona and Seikh Jahar, who are residents of Paskura police station area.

East Midnapore SP V. Solomon Nesakumar said that all arrangements were being made to bring back the two victims and the two injured. The matter has been informed to their respective family

members. Police said on Saturday night both Seikh Idris and Seikh Muhammed had returned from work and was cooking some meat on a road side stall when some youths came at the spot and asked them to stop cooking.

An altercation occurred between them as suddenly the miscreants entered into the stall and dragged both Seikh Idris and Seikh Muhammed to a corner before surfacing with a sharp weapon and slashing their throats. Their two fellow workers, Seikh Sona and Seikh Jahar tried to

rescue them when the miscreants also attacked them and chopped off their hands before escaping from the spot.

Officers of Dum Dum police station in Assam rushed to the spot after the incident and rushed to the hospital with the injured.

Seikh Sona and Seikh Jahar were admitted at a hospital in Assam and were stated to be in critical condition.

The bodies of Seikh Idris and Seikh Muhammed were sent for post mortem. It was not yet clear as to who were involved with the murders. A probe is on.

## CM flies to Delhi to seek support against Citizenship Bill

**Agency  
Shillong, Feb 11,**

Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad Sangma on Sunday flew to New Delhi to seek support of various political parties in opposing the Citizenship Bill, which is likely to be tabled in the Rajya Sabha on Tuesday.

"I am leaving for New Delhi to meet leaders of those political parties who have promised us of their support... to oppose the Bill if it is tabled in the Rajya Sabha," Sangma told Agency

He said the national general body meeting of his National People's Party (NPP) on Saturday had resolved to snap ties with the Bharatiya Janata Party-led National Democratic Alliance, if the bill is tabled in the Rajya Sabha.

The Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, 2016, which was passed by the Lok Sabha on January 8, seeks to remove hurdles for eligible migrants from six minority groups from Bangladesh, Pakistan and Afghanistan in getting Indian citizenship.

"I have impressed upon the Central

government about the northeast's people opposing the Bill. The party cannot go against the wishes of the people. Moreover, the citizenship bill, once it becomes a law, will change the demography of the region and ethnic communities in the region will be reduced to a minorities," Sangma said.

He and his Mizoram counterpart Zoramthanga had earlier met Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh to express their opposition to the Bill. Sangma's NPP, along with other northeast-based regional parties

including the Asom Gana Parishad - which had already severed ties with the BJP in Assam - had sought support of several political parties to prevent passage of the bill in the Rajya Sabha.

Sangma had earlier hinted at snapping ties with the BJP if the latter goes ahead with the bill. The NPP is supporting the BJP-led government in Manipur and Arunachal Pradesh and the People's Democratic Alliance government in Nagaland and has the BJP's support in Meghalaya.

## Mass prayer held across state churches for the stalling of CAB in RS

**Agency  
Aizawl, Feb 11,**

of major churches, had asked the local churches of all the denominations to pray so that the bill gets stalled in the Rajya Sabha. The MKHC had earlier appealed to members to hold mass prayer on the night of February 16, but issued another circular on Friday last to conduct the mass prayer on February 9 or February 10.

A press statement issued by the MKHC said that the bill is "harmful" for Mizoram and Christians. "Passage of the amendment bill can result in suppression of the freedom of religion and is against the spirit of secularism," the MKHC statement said.

It appealed to the church members to pray for religious freedom in India so that the people can continue to worship God freely.

## Women protesting against Citizenship Bill refuse to return home

**Agency  
Imphal, Feb 11,**

Hundreds of women vendors from the four women's markets in the Imphal city, who staged a sit-in protest in the main market complex from Saturday morning, have refused to return home.

The activists said that they shall stay in the market complex until Wednesday when it is expected that the contentious Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, 2016 will be passed by the Rajya Sabha. The Lok Sabha has already passed it.

This has become a headache for the police and paramilitary personnel maintaining law and order in the city areas. There are problems in procuring potable water, and even toilets and bathrooms do not have running water. Inakkhunbi, a vendor, said: "We buy bottled water since there is no water

supply." The initial plan was to stage a routine sit-in by the women vendors. "But we decided to stay in the market complex till Wednesday since the Central government is firm on passing the Bill," said a woman vendor. Several women vendors participating in the sit-in protest said that they are facing the chilly nights without sufficient warm clothes. Health officials fear that some of them could take ill if they stay in the wintry nights for some more nights.

The activists said that the government should give a written assurance to the effect that the Bill shall not affect the northeastern region in general and Manipur in particular. Manipur Chief Minister N. Biren said that his government is against the bill if a clause is not inserted to

safeguard the people. On Saturday Biren said: "The government shall continue to oppose the bill unless a clause is inserted."

Opposition Congress has been demanding a special session of the Assembly to take a resolution in this regard. MLA and state unit Congress president Gaikhangam said: "The BJP-led coalition government has been refusing to summon a special session though some other NE states had taken a firm stand on the issue".

There have been numerous daily protests in other parts of the state. Effigies of Narendra Modi and Rajnath Singh are also burned here and there.

Meanwhile, the People's Alliance Manipur formed by 131 civil society organisations is calling a total shutdown from 5 a.m on Monday till 5 p.m on Tuesday in protest against the citizenship bill.

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