

Editorial

Thursday, February 14, 2019

On Govt. inability to present CAB at Rajya Sabha

Smile showing sign of relieve is notice to almost every citizens of the North East people particularly in the state of Manipur as the contentious Citizenship Amendment Bill, 2016 was sidelined and the Rajya Sabha adjourned sine die before the Bill is presented in the floor. As per revise business list of the Rajya Sabha the Bill was supposed to be tabled at the RS either on February 12 or on February 13. Having understood the magnitude of the kind of peoples' uprising almost all political parties representatives including the BJP and almost all Ministers and MLAs including the Chief Minister had flown to New Delhi and remained waited for the outcome. Opposition Congress MLAs including the president of the Manipur Pradesh Congress Party stage sit-in-protest at the National capital for two day preparing to move any agitation if the contentious Bill which had almost burn the entire states of North East India particularly the state of Manipur.

Now the Bill has not been tabled and the Rajya Sabha adjourned sine die, which means that the Bill lapses as Lok Sabha Election is just months to go. The 'accidental Lok Sabha Minister' of Manipur which was chosen to hold the top post not merely because of his political status in the BJP but because of his luck, has been once more rescued from the wrath of the people of the state. That was not because he and his colleague Chief Ministers of BJP from the NE states got blessing from the central leadership, but the ruckus in the house over issue of Akhilesh Yadav being prevented from attending a meeting at Allahabad by the UP Chief Minister and the protest from opposition over passing of consumers related Bill compelled the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha to adjourned the house and later resumed giving no time for presentation of the CAB 2016. Many Bills were passed and as per what Venkiah Naidu, who is the chairmen of the sitting said that those bill already have consensus between the oppositions and the ruling at his chamber were put up. This indicated that the issue of CAB which was supposed to be tabled by the Union Home Minister has strong oppositions.

CAB is important election agenda of the BJP and also some other political parties in the Hindu heartland of Northern India where the number of MP is much higher in number. The inability to table the Bill is perhaps term as a setback for the BJP, some says but it is a win-win situation for the BJP. The campaigned for the upcoming parliamentary election will be this and BJP is likely to take all advantage of the obstruction given by the opposition political party while trying to pass the Bill.

Another conspiracy theory, that could be speculated is that - if the BJP feels it important to introduce the Bill as the bill is an instrument of returning to power in Northern India, there may be possibility of passing an ordinance by a cabinet meeting. Protest over the passing of the ordinance on CAB like Act will face similar protest for those who oppose it but it will gain more vote bank for the BJP.

Well and good normalcy has resume in the entire North Eastern states after the government fails to table the Bill. One thing that we the people have to remind is that it is the peoples' movement that defeat the ruling in their effort to pass a Bill that have tendency to wipe out the entire indigenous people of the region.

And the next drama that we the people will see is speech from both the BJP and Congress trying to take credit of the peoples' movement. As for the congress they have been opposing the CAB since a long time back and as for the BJP, it was recently that almost all workers, spokespersons and supporters support the CAB saying that it would not give any impact to the people (as if they know everything).

A Minister was heard saying that CAB will not give any impact to the state and he even said that he will hang himself if it gives impact after passing in the parliament. Chief Minister N. Biren Singh also first said the similar word but later talk about inclusion of a clause to exempt Manipur and NE from the purview of the CAB. Today he will talk something which will make people by surprise as all was heard on what he had commented regarding the issue through media.

CAB issue seem to be closed, but people still need to remain alert as there is one more means for the center to pass a similar act by passing an ordinance. Because it is all about parliamentary election 2019.

Manipur Tourism Conferred Global Mice Congress and Awards

DIPR
Imphal, Feb 13,

manipur tourism has been conferred the global mice (meetings, incentives, conventions and exhibitions) congress and awards in mumbai for promotion of tourism during the year 2018-19 in an award ceremony held today at the taj lands end hotel, mumbai.

w. ibohal singh, director, tourism, government of manipur received the award at the event attended by global stalwarts in the tourism industry. representatives of international tourism boards from across the world exchanged ideas and business at the two event (feb 12-13, 2019) in the city.



manipur tourism has been at the forefront in organising and promoting mice activities through its events and business summits. starting from 2016, manipur tourism has been organising events like tourism marts and

business summits as part of its annual manipur sangai festival. around 81 countries participated and were honoured in different fields of hospitality, event management, exhibition, travel, tour operator among others.

Not passing Citizenship Bill is defeat for Assam, says Himanta Biswa

Agency
Guwahati Feb 14,

The failure of the BJP-led NDA government to pass the contentious Citizenship (Amendment) Bill 2016 in the Rajya Sabha on Wednesday brought cheers to most protesting organisations in Assam, but the ruling BJP termed it a "defeat" for the state.

The Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, 2016 is set to lapse on June 3, when the term of the present Lok Sabha ends, as the Bill could not be tabled in the Rajya Sabha which was adjourned sine die on Wednesday, the last day of the Budget session.

The All Assam Students' Union (AASU), Citizens' Forum, Asom Jatiyatabadi Yuva Chatra Parishad (AJYCP), Krishak Mukti Sangram Samiti (KMSS) and parties such as the Congress and Asom Gana Prishad (AGP) celebrated the development.

AASU adviser Samujjal Bhattacharyya expressed his

happiness and complimented the people of the region for standing united against the Bill.

"We condemn the BJP government for failing to ascertain the sentiments of the people of the region," he said.

The students' body also celebrated the victory by signing songs and distributing sweets to its members and passersby in front of the AASU headquarters in the state capital.

However, state Health and Finance Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma described the development as a "defeat for Assam."

"It is a defeat for Assam. My party and I extended full support to the Bill. We do not have a majority in the Rajya Sabha, so the Bill could not be passed. Bangladeshi Muslims will now occupy 17 constituencies of lower and central Assam. The people of Assam will lose their culture and language," Sarma said.

The KMSS and AJYCP also

celebrated the development and said the people of the region have given a strong message to the ruling BJP governments in Delhi and Assam, saying the party will face the consequences in the forthcoming general elections.

The Congress in Assam also rejoiced at the Modi government's failure to push through the contentious Bill in the Rajya Sabha and said the party has yet again foiled an attempt by the communal forces to convert secular India into a fundamentalist nation.

Debabrata Saikia, the leader of the Opposition in the Assembly, said the Congress honoured the sentiments of the people of Assam and the North-East.

Lauding the effective floor coordination between the Congress and non-BJP parties, Saikia said the Modi government was unable to muster the courage to table the Bill in the Rajya Sabha on the last day of the Budget session.

One civilian injured in J&K terrorist attack



Agency
J&K Feb 14,

In Jammu & Kashmir, unidentified militants fired upon one civilian Lateef Ahmad at Amlar area of Tral in south Kashmir's Pulwama district Wednesday evening.

Security sources said that the person sustained gunshot wounds and was evacuated to nearby hospital for medical treatment where his condition is stated to be stable. No militant outfit claimed responsibility for the attack.

Pertinently, militants generally attack those civilians who work with police or other security agencies in counter militant activities.

Earlier, several videos have gone viral on social media networking sites wherein many individuals including few women were shown confessing to work for security agencies against militants and several videos showing killing of such "informers" have also gone viral.

Former CBI director Alok Verma dropped from list of speakers at SRCC event

Agency
New Delhi Feb 14,

Former CBI Director Alok Verma has been dropped from the list of speakers at the Delhi's prestigious Sri Ram College of Commerce (SRCC) Students' Union Business Conclave 2019, officials said.

An invitation was sent to him on January 9, a day after he was reinstated as the director of the probe agency by the Supreme Court, with a request to speak during the event on Thursday, they said.

The next day, a high-powered committee comprising Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Justice A

K Sikri and leader of Congress in Lok Sabha Mallikarjun Kharge decided to transfer him from the post of CBI director in a split decision, with Kharge giving a strong dissent note to the committee.

Efforts to reach Verma did not fructify but his aides said he was intimidated about the decision to drop him as a speaker. The event is considered a big platform, where leading politicians and other eminent personalities address the student.

Modi had also addressed the event in 2013 in run-up to general elections of 2014. The college prides itself in

having alumni like Union minister Arun Jaitley.

The permission did not come from the college authorities so he would not be attending the event tomorrow, an official in the know of the development said on the condition of anonymity.

The invitation was sent to him on January 9 but that was before his 'resignation', the official said.

Asked whether a clearance was sought from the college authorities before inviting Verma, the official said it was taken. But once the controversy erupted and there were "a few other issues", the organising committee decided to

drop him, the official said. When reached for comments, SRCC Principal Simrit Kaur said she was not aware of the invitation and the subsequent development.

Verma, who was in a bitter tussle with his deputy, Special Director Rakesh Asthana, was first removed from the post of CBI director by the government after he had ensured filing of an FIR against Asthana on corruption charges. The two officers had levelled allegations of corruption on each other.

The Supreme Court had rejected his "transfer" and reinstated him on January 8, 2018.

PM Modi seeks full majority, says India stock up not because of him, but strong Govt

Agency
New Delhi Feb 14,

Making his final speech in the 16th Lok Sabha, Prime Minister Narendra Modi Wednesday sought a majority government again in the next general elections, saying India's growing global image was not because of him or External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj but because of its "poorna bahumat wali sarkar" (absolute majority government).

Highlighting what had been achieved in the House over 17 sessions starting June 2014, Modi fired salvos at Congress president

Rahul Gandhi without naming him. "Pehli baar pata chala ki gale milna aur gale padna mei kya antar hota hai" (for the first time I have learnt the difference between a hug and forcing oneself), he said, taking a swipe at Gandhi who had hugged him in Lok Sabha last July. He also mentioned "aankhon ki gustakhiyan" — a reference to Gandhi's wink after the hug.

In another potshot at Gandhi, Modi said "we used to hear" in Parliament that "bhokamp aane wala hai... par koi bhokamp nahi aaya" (there will be an earthquake but no earthquake came). In December 2016, Gandhi had said that his speech in the

House would trigger an earthquake. Counting the achievements of the 16th Lok Sabha, Modi gave it credit for the laws passed, policies decided and the repeal of unwanted laws. "I have not stood up to count the government's achievements, but the work done by this House in five years," he said. One of the most significant accomplishments, he said, has been that India has "become the sixth largest economy in the world" and is close to being a \$5-trillion economy because "niti nidharan yahin se hua" (the policy was determined here).

Since Independence, Modi said, only Vajpayee's NDA-I and his own

government did not belong to the "Congress gotra".

He said all members present would, in their rallies or books, recall that they were "members of the Lok Sabha that passed laws against black money and corruption". He mentioned laws including the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, the Fugitive Economic Offenders Act among others. He said because of these steps, "coming generations" will be thankful.

He said in eight of the 17 sessions, productivity was more than 100 per cent, while overall it was above 85 per cent. The Lok Sabha passed 203 of the 219 Bills introduced.

Letters, Feedback and Suggestions to 'Imphal Times' can be sent to our e-mail : 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.