

Editorial

Monday, March 11, 2019

Traffic woes

The state of Manipur, and Imphal city in particular has been witnessing a phenomenal increase in the amount of vehicles- an indication of the rising social status of the public and improving economic conditions in the state. While these factors are a welcome sign, the fact remains that the concerned authorities have failed to keep pace with the times and the changing social scenario in the state resulting in heavy traffic jams and delays which needs to be addressed immediately.

The short term policies and systems being implemented from time to time in an attempt to ease the congestions and traffic jams have not been able to alleviate the problem in any way, on the contrary these ad-hoc measures have managed to confuse the public and compound the problem the authorities have been trying to solve. The formation of Traffic regulation and parking committee has not been of much help, and one can only wonder if they are functioning at all. Queries put up to the concerned departments have only resulted in more bewildering responses- a classic example of the effectiveness of passing the buck around that has been at work in all government set ups.

While formulation of policies and systems to control and regulate traffic may be a beginning in the right direction, the fact remains that the increasing number of vehicles need additional space to accommodate them and juggling acts of the traffic system by the experts, however efficient and experienced they may be, will not bear fruit.

Construction of additional parking spaces at strategic locations, bypasses and flyovers, and most importantly providing subways at important and crowded junctions will go a long way in reducing these problems. Construction of public utilities does not automatically guarantee improvement- their proper usage is as important- an obvious example being the use of footpaths by the vendors and shopkeepers to stock and ply their goods forcing the pedestrians to walk on the road.

The need to streamline and re-orient the traffic police personnels is also being felt by the public. Turning a blind eye to the irregularities being committed by the drivers of various public and commercial transport vehicles in consideration for a "quick handshake" has been well documented- despite the dangers and inconveniences such greedy acts causes. The present government ministers and high ranking officials may not be feeling the burden such traffic jams causes as they seem to have a prerogative of the right of use of the road over the common public but unless some concrete steps are taken up very soon, the only option that would be available to them would be to use their feet with their retinue of escorts and assistants wading through the impossible traffic- surely a distracting relief for the stranded common public on the road.

Seminar on Social Media and Judiciary organized by Aryans College of Law

From Correspondent
Imphal March 11,

Aryans College of Law, Rajpura, Near Chandigarh today organized a seminar on the Need for Balance on "Rising influence of Social Media vs Present Judicial System" at its Campus. Dr. Vijay Nagpal, Prof. Department of laws, Panjab University, Chandigarh was the Chief Guest while Dr. Bhupinder Singh Virk, Prof. Department of Laws, Punjabi University, Patiala was the Guest of Honour on the occasion. Dr. Anshu Kataria, Chairman, Aryans Group presided over the session. The seminar was attended by LL.B, BA-LL.B students.

Dr. Vijay Nagpal while speaking said that For the police, social media has given them unprecedented access to the public, and vice versa. Via Facebook and Twitter, police and the public can communicate in real time about incidents and events. This has proven invaluable not only during times of crisis but also on a day-to-day basis and at the local level. Furthermore, the social media "broadcasting" of criminal trials has added an extra level of transparency



to criminal proceedings. Dr. Bhupinder Singh Virk said that social media has been accused of posing risks for many users, particularly young people. Social media has been used to facilitate "new" crimes such as revenge porn, prompting calls for harsher punishment. Also, the ability for criminals to use social media platforms to track potential victims

Hansraj Arora said that previously, it's been thought that people form their opinions about crime from what they see or read in the media. But with social media taking over as our preferred news source the understandings of the crimes have been changed now. People follow and accept the trends of social media without even knowing the actual facts.

Law, Sh. SP Verma speaking about the future said that social media will continue to provide challenges and opportunities for criminal justice officials, as well as change the way the public perceives and engages with issues of crime and victimization. Capitalization on its benefits, and preventing or minimizing its negative effects in relation to crime and the criminal justice system is required.

Indian boxers assure five berths in the finals of GeeBee Boxing Tournament

From Correspondent
New Delhi, March 11,

Former Asian Championship gold medalist Shiva Thapa and Mohammed Hussamuddin led the march as six Indian boxers assured berth at the finals of the 38th GeeBee Boxing Tournament in Helsinki, Finland.

The youngest Indian to play in Olympics, Thapa outclassed Russia's Mikhail Varlamov to notch up a unanimous 5-0 victory. The three-time Asian medalist will next take on local favourite Arslan Khataev in the summit clash. Following suit was Commonwealth Games bronze-medallist Hussamuddin. In a thrilling contest, the Indian held on to his nerves to get the better of Kazakhstan's Zhanbolat Kydyrbayev in a narrow 3:2 win.

It will be an exciting all-Indian final in the 56kg category with Hussamuddin taking on Kavinder Singh Bisht, who got the better of Frenchman Jordan Rodriguez to make the summit showdown.

Also advancing to the last-two stage were Dinesh Dagar (69kg) and rookie Govind Sahani (49kg). Dinesh Dagar, who defeated former Olympic bronze medalist Evaldas Petrauskas earlier in the tournament continued his impressive run, producing a gritty 4-1 victory over



Sergei Sobylnski of Russia in his semis clash. He will be facing Commonwealth Games gold-medallist England Pat McCormack in the finals, a two-time European silver-medallist. The final berth was secured by Govind Sahani who produced a flawless performance to outclass

Russia's Artysh Sojan 5-0. He will square off against Thailand's Thitisan Panmod in quest for the gold. Finishing off with bronze medals were Sachin Siwach (52), Sumit Sangwan (91kg) and Naveen Kumar (+91kg) after their respective semi-final loss. The

former world youth champion, Sachin incurred a 1-4 defeat against Kyrgyzstan's Azat Usenaliev while Sangwan suffered a similar fate after a 0-5 loss to England's Chevon Clarke. In the Super Heavyweight category, Naveen Kumar lost 1-4 against Australia's Justis Huni.

Apprehends Prepak Cadre AR Conducted Pulse Polio Drive For Tengenoupal And Chandel District Cum

IT News
Imphal March 11,

On receiving information of movement of an active cadre of PREPAK in the hill district of Ukhrul, Shangshak Battalion of 10 Sector Assam Rifles under the aegis of IGAR (South) launched a search operation and apprehended the cadre on 09 March 2019 at New Heaven on NH-202.

The apprehende was identified as No. 3705189, Thamgminlein alias Nongban, aged 38 years, resident of Goboh village, Chandel. As per the individual, he joined the proscribed UG outfit in 2010 and

received his training at Mon district in Nagaland. He was handed over at Porompat Police Station for further proceedings. Chandel Battalion and Tengenoupal Battalion HQ 26 sector Assam Rifles of IGAR (South) on 10 February 2019 facilitated the pulse polio immunization programme by establishing various medical Camps at Pallel, Chandel, Tengenoupal, Shaibom, Sita, Laibi and RRC.

The event included establishment of immunization booth and free medical consultation to the locals. The team of Army and Assam Rifles doctors alongwith nursing assistants established the camp

with an aim to provide free immunization to children below 5 years of age from remote villages of Shaibom, Sita, Laibi, RRC, Tengenoupal, Chandel and Pallel. During the drive polio vaccine was administered to all children, even if they had already received oral polio vaccination or inactivated polio vaccination. The camps also catered for free medical checkup of the local populace, especially low income group and weaker section of society.

The vaccination drive had commenced from 10:00 am and continued till 5 pm in the evening during which a total of approx 1450 children were administered with the polio drops in Tengenoupal and Chandel districts. With vaccination of such an overwhelming strength of children the event was a huge success and a stepping stone in eradication of polio from the country.

IT News
Imphal March 11,

Units of 9 Sector Assam Rifles under the aegis of IGAR (South) organised a series of activities under the Mega Pulse Polio Campaign in various parts of the Imphal and Thoubal Districts on 10 March 2019 as a contribution towards the National aim of 'Polio Free India'.

As part of the Campaign, Keithelmanbi Battalion established a series of Pulse Polio Booths at Keithelmanbi Garrison, Lapauchun, Manamjang and Langthabal villages alongwith Singjamei and Lilong Company Operating Bases (COBs). A Medical Team under the Unit Medical Officer, Capt Susan Nelson carried out immunization of over 500 children in these areas. Likewise Thoubal Battalion established three Pulse Polio Booths at its Battalion Headquarter in Phundrei, Community Health Centre (CHC) Yaripok and

Chandrakhong Company Operating Base. The campaign by the Battalion was a great success and over 750 children were administered with polio drops at various places in the area of Thoubal during the event.

The mega event would not have been a success in case the Battalions had not pre-planned the entire campaign. The Battalions with their foresight had prepared detailed blueprints of the activities to ensure a successful Pulse Polio Campaign. The Unit Medical Teams had visited the Primary Health Centers (PHCs) located in their respective areas of responsibility in the month of February to obtain the demographic statistics, based on which a detailed plan was formulated for establishment of the Polio booths at various venues. Ministry of Health, Manipur also provided necessary assistance in terms of provision of polio vaccines which came

handy in undertaking the massive immunization event. Wide Publicity was carried out in the last week of February and in the first week of March alongwith distribution of banners and posters as well as announcement of venues of Polio Booths.

Aimed at eradicating Polio from Manipur and to ensure maximum benefits to the locals of the area, a separate Mop-up Campaign has also been planned by the Keithelmanbi Battalion on 11 March 2019, wherein a number of Medical teams of the Battalion accompanied by respective area PHC teams, will be visiting various villages to ensure wide vaccine coverage.

The series of activities undertaken by both the Units of the Sector received overwhelming response from the local populace. All the attendees conveyed their heartfelt gratitude to the Assam Rifles for facilitating the outreach of the National programme and for successful conduct of the Pulse Polio Campaign.

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