

Editorial

Saturday, May 11, 2019

Mercury rise: Is it the common men fault

Its May, 20 years back , favourite outfit for the people in the state of Manipur was either a jacket or Jersey. Today, we can't even wear a full man's casual shirt or a long pant. Reason - the mercury is rising, by next year the temperature is likely to reach 40 degree Celsius.

In during late 90's, when people, particularly the environmentalists showed serious concern to the rise in the mercury, the temperature recorded in Manipur On April 14, 1999, was 36 degree Celsius. That was the hottest day people.

April normally was most of the pleasant days during 80s. The climatic condition was excellent. The temperature those days was much lower than 30 degree Celsius. Months with Maximum temperature was during June and July. Everyone who are in the 40s know that the mercury level during the hottest month here in the state did not exceed 35 degree Celsius. Summer in Manipur was equivalent with those of the Indian states close to the Rajasthan cities.

Today, the May 11, the temperature recorded at morning is 31 degree Celsius and is expected to rise at noon. June July is yet to come and one wander the mercury reach in the hottest month of the year. People will be left with no choice but to stay indoor to escape the scorching heat.

As of today there are no report of any dead due to the rise of temperature, but for sure news paper of tomorrow will have to reserve space for news story about dead of human by the scorching heat.

Well whom are we going to blame for the kind of happening? Is the drastic change in the climatic condition a natural phenomenon or is it because of the kind of crime committee by the human being? - A matter everyone needs to ponder.

Leaving aside the environmentalists, it now becomes a fashion for the ministers and bureaucrats to talk about environment. A selfie while planting trees in their best outfit seem to be pride for them.

As according to environmentalists, the geographical character of the state is perhaps a boon. The climate of Imphal and other valley districts are maintained by the hills surrounding the valley. As for the Imphal Valley, it the Langol Hill Range and the number of trees on it that has been controlling the carbon emission. The Khoubru Hill range, the Baruni etc. too are also important factor that control the climate of the state. Saying so it was the number of wild trees that grows on those hills that actually controlled the climate. When there is no trees in the mentioned Hill range they are too helpless in maintaining the climatic condition of the state.

Is it the common men that has to be blamed for cutting of the trees? Wel common man always struggle for live and they do whatever available to feed themselves as well as their family. Those in the village are left with no choice but to cut down the trees for earning their livelihood. As for holding top job in the government and those ruling the state, they know that trees should be saved. Crore and crore of rupees have been spent to make plant grows at barren land of the state. They also know that until a proper planning is taken up by framing a policy for those who are depending on the forest product, the hills of the state which had been controlling the Imphal valley will look barren. So, it is definitely the government that is responsible for the kind of destruction of forest that has been taking place in the state.

Seizure of truck loads of woods is also a means to help in protecting the forest, but if it is done for photo session and publicity matters, then Manipur may perhaps become a desert like state someday.

Government authority's commitment is reminded as the recent plantation of saplings by volunteer of Manipuri Students' Federation at the peak of the Koubru Hill will make no sense.

Villagers of Koubru should be rehabilitated so that they themselves started protecting trees in the hill range. On how to change the mindset of the villagers, it is left upto the bureaucrats to think on it, or what is the use spending so much public money for each of them in the form of paying salary and allowances.

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.

GS Score Organizes 'Shower of thoughts' with IAS Topper

2017 IAS Topper emphasizes preparation strategies for clearing CSE

From a Correspondent
Kolkata May 11,

Pioneers in the field of preparing students for Civil Service Examinations, GS Score in association with SAMARTH (The civil Services aspirants Club of TMSL Kolkata) organized an interactive session at G-Series Auditorium today.

Being an open session, it was open for all to share and exchange their ideas and quench their thirst of myths and doubts related to clearing CSE. The session was addressed by none other than IAS topper Suman Saurav Mohanty (AIR-9, 2017) who focused on encouraging the aspirants to realize their dreams, bring out their true potential and internalize administrative qualities in their thoughts and actions.

"This is a unique approach taken by the GS score team, and such platforms are a place where many aspirants with a dream to be an IAS one day can clarify their doubts and share their personal way of motivation to inspire the other students. This was an awesome opportunity for aspirants to interact with a person who has already crossed the milestone of the road on which they have started their journey to get well experimented method to reach their destination. Sharing my words of wisdom and tested



approach for leading a successful life, I hope this will surely help you all to realize your inner potential and utilize them in your favor." Said IAS Topper Suman

The aspirants who attend the seminar were mesmerized by the simple approach Mr. Suman Sourav Mohanty gave to the students while preparing for the Exam. IAS topper Suman guided the

audience and interjected indomitable enthusiasm into them, for getting all success in future by narrating many inspirational stories and strategies. This session was an attempt to spread awareness about Civil Services so that students who have the caliber and the dream to be part of Indian Bureaucracy can pursue their dreams ahead.

The session addressed the Civil

Services aspirants with an aim to encourage and empower the aspirants with the right zeal and approach to crack Civil Services Examination and lead a well-accomplished Life.

Participants through this very thoughtful interactive session also received insights on Civil Services Exam, UPSC syllabus, stages of the exam, subject wise preparation strategy, right time management and Services allotted thereafter.

Continued from Yesterday issue

Reverend William Pettigrew And Modern Education In Manipur

Both the school and dispensary became one of the best centres for learning and medical treatment later on. In 1919, Pettigrews left for furlough and they joined the work of Crozier in 1921. But Dr. Crozier resigned from the American Baptist Foreign Mission Society in 1932 and joined Baptist Mid-Mission for reasons best known to him. With the growth of Christianity, education also developed largely due to the efforts of missionaries.

The influence of Christianity perhaps brought awareness of better standard of living among the tribal people of Manipur. Mrs. Pettigrew also extended great help to the women-folk giving them training in nursing, knitting, weaving, cleanliness etc. which stood in good stead in their future life. The impact of christianity, undoubtedly, advanced the socio-economic life of the tribal of Manipur. As the local churches rapidly grew along with the advancement of modern education among the hill people, higher theological trained leaders were also urgently required for the churches. William Pettigrew made adequate arrangement for the supply of theological manpower.

Reading materials were essentially required for the spread of modern education among the people of Manipur. To meet this requirement, Pettigrew prepared text books in Manipuri, Tangkhul and Thadou Kuki. Other instructional materials-primers, books on Arithmetics were also prepared either by him or under his supervision to meet scriptures and christian literatures not only in Manipuri language but also in Tangkhul, Thadou and Kom Kuki dialects. Pettigrew's linguistic studies and

researches had given him a position of unique authority on the language of Manipur. In 1923, Sir George Grierson, Director of the Linguistic Survey of India, asked him to collect relevant materials for the publication of a monograph on archaic Manipuri. He undertook the assignment in collaboration with W. Yumjao Singh and a Meitei Maichon, collecting a vocabulary of over 600 words thereby preparing a skelton grammar, a translation and transliteration of two selected scripts. In 1931, a rough statement of the work was sent by Pettigrew to the general secretary of the Asiatic Society of Bengal.

Reverend William Pettigrew's work has been recognised and appreciated not only in Manipur but also outside the state. In recognition of his distinguished public service, he was awarded the Kaiser-i-Hind Silver medal by the British government in 1918. He was also awarded a war medal in 1920 for military service in the British Army during the First World War. He had also been made a member of the educational standing committee of the state of Manipur since 1926 in recognition of his work in developing modern education in Manipur as well as his own interest in uplifting the masses of Manipur through education. In 1928, In recognition of his scripture translation work in Manipuri language, Tangkhul and Thadou Kuki dialects, he was made honorary member of the British and Foreign Bible Society. Pettigrew carried out systematic and consistent research work among the various tribes of Manipur and useful research in archaic Manipuri also

found recognition in his election to membership of the Asiatic Society of Bengal in 1930. Thus he held many positions of trust and respect within the Christian mission and served in a number of committees of the state government in various capacities. The value of the work done by him for forty years (1894-1933) of his life in Manipur cannot be described in words as he dedicated his life for the cause of Christianity and modern education in Manipur. He was a dedicated field worker of education and linguist. He has also taken all assignments given to him with a spirit of team work with the people and government officials. The educational and religious development of hill-districts of Manipur may be attributed to the selfless and dedicated service of Reverend William Pettigrew. Modern education was for the first time introduced to the tribals of Manipur by him and as such he is rightly called the father of modern education for the tribals. He successfully experimented the monitorial system of Andrew Bell in the village schools of Ukhrul utilizing the service of class 6 students for teaching lower classes. This method of entrusting teaching work to brilliant students had a great educational value.

He secured the confidence of the people at the grassroot level and paved the way for the development of girls, education in the valley and hill areas of Manipur. It may not be out place to point out that the history of the development of modern education in Manipur would have been different without the dedicated service of Reverend William Pettigrew in various

capacities. To commemorate his valuable service in developing particularly the people of Ukhrul by all possible means, Pettigrew College was established in Ukhrul with the local initiative in 1965. The college is at present functioning as a co-educational Arts degree college. The colleges gives an edible indelible impression in the mind of the people of Ukhrul about the contribution made by him.

In concluding our discussion, it may be pointed out that Manipur had only one primary school in 1885. But the whole scenario of education had been completely changed after the arrival of Pettigrew and his stress on introduction of modern system of education. Now, the state has 3,225 primary schools, 687 Junior High Schools, 394 High Schools, 27 Higher Secondary Schools, 60 colleges and 2 Universities including Central Agriculture University, Iroisemba. The literacy percentage of the state in 1991 is 60.96 in the break-up of 72.98 for male and 48.64 for female.

The state is now an educationally advanced state of India even though the country has 10(ten) educationally backward states. The state may not have the present status if Reverend William Pettigrew did not start his educational exploration in 1894 and 1897 In both valley and hill areas with a missionary zeal. He worked not only for the spiritual welfare of the various tribes of Manipur by means of propagating Christianity but also the role of Reverend William Pettigrew in the field of modern education in Manipur is of great significance. He combined religion with education successfully.

(Concluded)