

Editorial

Thursday, March 7, 2019

Climate change matters

Initiative taken up by the Directorate of Environment, Government of Manipur to bridge the gap of understanding between common people and those experts working in the field of controlling the climate change by utilizing media is perhaps a laudable effort. India's commitment to control the climate change across the globe has well been known.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi had stated - "We want the world to act with urgency. We want a comprehensive, equitable and durable agreement in Paris, which must lead us to restore the balance between humanity and nature and between what we have inherited and what we will leave behind" - urging the leaders of more than 190 countries during the largest gathering of world leaders while speaking to World Climate Change Conference 2015.

The summit, popularly known as the COP (Conference of the Parties) 21 Climate Change Summit in Paris is the result of the realization that climate change is a very real and serious threat to the very existence of the world, and leaders of the world must come together and share responsibility in a united effort to reverse the impending catastrophe. The problems of environmental degradation have been on the rise, and the increasing threat to the very survival and continuity of the world has been staring us in the face for long. The manifestations can no longer be ignored- upto 17 degrees rise in temperatures in frozen Antarctica, floods in the arid Atacama desert of Chile, four concurrent cyclones in the eastern hemisphere, and closer home, the worst flood in more than a century in Chennai. The year 2015 saw the hottest year in the history of the planet, but will almost certainly be beaten by 2016. There had been reports of experts predicting droughts in the North-Eastern region of the country in the year 2016, and further deterioration in the amount of rainfall and availability of water with a concurrent rise in temperature. The warnings are dire and consequences unthinkable.

According to experts, a 2-degree Celsius increase in global temperature from the current level will be catastrophic, but at the current rate of emission, the world will be warmer by 3.6 degree Celsius by the middle of the century thereby making Global warming irreversible.

The vital question that begs an answer, then, is: what-if there ever is one- can we, as individuals do to mitigate and reverse climate change? The answer, unfortunately, is not so simple or straightforward. More importantly, we need to delve deep into the details and understand the genesis, the present scenario and the consequences of the rapidly changing climate and the increasing imbalance of nature and ecology. However, simple everyday acts do go a long way in reducing emissions which are the biggest cause of climate change and Global Warming. Some of them are: switching off unnecessary electrical and electronic appliances, reducing use of cooking gas, coal, fossil fuels etc, switching to LED bulbs, adopting solar energy harnessing equipments, planting trees and greeneries, reducing trash, using hybrid vehicles if affordable, buying energy-efficient gadgets and appliances, using public transport or bicycles whenever possible etc. We can sow the seeds of positive change if we consciously make small yet consistent efforts on our parts without waiting for the government or the authorities to act. In closing, the following line might just spur us to sit up and start acting today: "We don't have a Plan B to save the earth"- Prince Charles.

Not everything is losing. With the government stakeholders new initiative Manipur can now contribute something to the nation's dream in controlling the rise of temperature across the globe. Lets make every people aware of the climate change.

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Yaoshang festival be observed as 'sports movement week'

By:- Seram Neken

It is high time the state government declared the five days of Yaoshang Festival as 'Sports Movement Week' with a view to encouraging the local clubs across the state in their efforts to explore young sportive talents and organize sports festivals spontaneously at their own cost. The focus of the Manipur Chief Minister's deliberance during the Sportspersons' Day celebration on 25th February last at Khuman Lampak Sports Complex was the stress laid on encouraging local clubs, which groom and nurture the herds of reputed players from the grassroots level. In fact, all sports celebrities of today have originated from the roughed and unadorned playgrounds in their home localities. Although their journey from the small grass-fetched local fields to the enormous well-equipped stadia is full of challenges, all sports luminaries should always remember their first-feeds by the local groomers. Apparently acknowledging this sense of gratitude to sports lovers at the ground level, the Chief Minister of Manipur who is both a sports enthusiast and a football player himself, expressed his commitment towards assisting local clubs that take the herculean tasks of nurturing sports persons. Thanks to Shri N. Biren Singh, who has rightly been termed as the 'People's Chief Minister' for the much-awaited focus on local level bodies of games and sports. Greeting my readers with the coming of Yaoshang Festival and wishing all to enjoy a constructive Yaoshang Sports extravaganza, this writer takes the privilege to propose the Government of Manipur to declare the five days of festival of colours as 'Sports Movement Week' all over Manipur. Festivals are an indispensable component of human life. Without them, life would have been monotonous and invaluable. Hence, every community on earth has its own festival in their varied designs and compositions. Manipuris have a rich heritage of festive celebrations, among which the Lai Haraoba is a major one. Lai Haraoba, since the pre-historic times, has changed its style and facets to suit the changed perception of people from generation to generation. Constructive devotion of the celebrations and observances occurs in almost all festivities belonging to different communities inhabiting this Earth. Taking into account the increasing replacement of Yaoshang festival by a variety of games and sports in the nook and corner of Manipur, we may optimistically presume that 'Yaoshang Festival' of the Manipuris has gradually become a constructive event day by day. This writer terms it "an intellectual transformation from festival of colors to festival of sports", which has been occurring in modern Manipur during the last five decades. Yaoshang Sports has become an institution of socialization with multifaceted benefits. It serves as a school for cultivating personality development and hunting young talents. Kids get the opportunity to expose to various competitive events. It inculcates discipline among youths. Besides recreating the ageing people, it promotes organizational skills among the locals, increases social cohesion and reduces crimes & unwanted behavior in society. Every locality must endeavor to tap the inherent potential of Yaoshang Sports in the making of a strong Manipur. Looking back to its recent history, Yaoshang Sports

has a unique purpose of its birth. The addition of a variety of games in the Yaoshang festivities began as early as during the pre-independence period. Although there is obscurity on the exact origin of Yaoshang Sports, it is believed that the organization of sporting events during Yaoshang in 1946 at Akampat in the present Imphal East district was the first of its kind in the state. As part of Yaoshang festival, the local adults of that time organized the Yubi Lakpi event by selecting a King. Written accounts named one Thokchom Bhubon from Singjamei Kshetri Leikai (Irengbam Leirak) who acted as the King. He was made to sit on a bullock cart that staged a procession from Thiayam Leirak of the locality via Kongba road to reach Akampat. A number of men, women and youths accompanied the procession and witnessed the Yubi Lakpi. Programmes in the form of Fancy Dress were also conducted. This may be considered the pioneer in the Yaoshang Sports movement which was witnessed and participated by locals of Singjamei Kshetri Leikai, Khongnam, Beigiyabati Leikai etc. The second edition of the games was held in 1947 at Akampat again. More events like Arithmetic Competition for children, Chaphu Pubi Race, Laphu Kabi and Blind Hit were added to the meet. One who was known as Maiba Amuba who had hailed from Kabo Wakching Nambol and had been staying along with Yunnam Komol (said to be the driver of Budhachandra Maharaj) at Yunnam Leikai took the role of King in Yubi Lakpi that year. Thus, born the Yaoshang Sports of today. The Annual Yaoshang Sports being organized at Bamon Leikai Basketball Ground is also one of the oldest of its genre, with its 66th edition held this year. (Reference: Souvenir, Silver Jubilee Celebration of Yaoshang Sports, 2008, SEYO, Singjamei Kshetri Leikai). Meitei 'Yaoshang' is believed to have its ancestral origin from the 'Ougri Hangen Chongba' of pre-historic times. When the two sons of Godly King 'Atiyu Guru Shidaba' were asked to complete the 'Nongkhong Koiba' for succession to the throne, the elder son 'Sanamahi' started the journey. However, the younger son 'Nongda Lairen Pakhangba'

being a small boy was apprehensive that he could not complete the journey. Meanwhile, with the invaluable advice of his mother, 'Pakhangba' went round the royal throne of the King in no time and claimed to have completed the 'Nongkhong Koiba' before his brother 'Sanamahi' came back after going round the whole land physically. When the elder brother came back, he was so furious that he swore to avenge the person who revealed the modus operandi to 'Pakhangba' in order to be the king of the land. If it were a man, he would be killed and if it happened to be a woman, he would marry her - this was Sanamahi's promise. Surprisingly, 'Sanamahi' realized that it was none other than his mother who had stealthily helped the younger brother to become the king. 'Sanamahi' had to keep his promise by marrying the mother. In every Meitei household we now see 'Sanamahi' and 'Leimaren' residing together, but with a wall separating them. The furious 'Sanamahi' after coming back from 'Nongkhong Koiba' chased 'Pakhangba' to beat him while the women of royal palace defended 'Pakhangba' by joining hands and singing the song "Ke Ke Ke Mo Mo, Yangen Samba Sao Sao, Tokpaga Kambaga Keiga Yenga, Yenkhong Phate Chasillu, Laigi Yenni Chaphade, Ke Ke Ke Mo Mo ...". It is believed that 'Thabal chongba', 'Phee Munbi', 'Sen Munbi' etc. which are parts of contemporary 'Yaoshang' had their origin from the tradition of 'Nongkhong Koiba'. Hence, Meitei Yaoshang had its own origin as different from the 'Holi' of the Hindus. As time goes by, 'Yaoshang' changes its facets year after year, decades after decades and centuries after centuries. To the present generation, 'Yaoshang' is synonymous with games and sports. It is indeed a mini Olympiad particularly in the valley districts of Manipur. All the ugly scenes and traditions of earlier 'Yaoshang' have been subdued to bring in constructive sports festivals in almost all Manipuri localities. Various games including indigenous events such as Mukna and Laphu Kabe are seen to be popular during Yaoshang sports. Apart from

sporting programmes; academic events like debating competitions, Ex-tempore speech, symposium competitions, Essay writing, song competitions, mathematics competitions, recitations etc. are organized in the interests of students. 'Yaoshang' has today become a festival of sports in Manipur. Apart from being a festival, 'Yaoshang' has served as a useful platform for promoting sporting spirit and hunting talents of young people in varied fields of personality development. The children are given enough opportunity for exposure to various competitive events. For the elders who are at the dusk of their lives, 'Yaoshang' serves as a valuable recreation item by breaking the monotony of ageing life. It is a meaningful rendezvous where local people of all ages meet, interact, share, exchange views and ideas among themselves. It helps in reducing unwanted behavior, crimes, substance abuse and drugs. May the Yaoshang Sports festival continue to play its constructive role in the making of a unified and strong Manipur. It would be wise enough for the state government of Manipur to declare the five days of the festival as "Sports Movement Week" in order to make the festival a constructive event for the state. The following suggestions may be noted for future growth and fruitful results: 1. Yaoshang Festival may be declared as "Sports Movement Week" by the state government. 2. Schedules for various examinations may be made so as not to coincide with this festival. 3. Local Sports Events be organised under strict guidelines prescribed by Sports Department in the form of a policy. 4. Unwanted scenes such as water spraying, dancing etc. may be prevented by Government. (During previous years, at some places in Imphal city, young boys and girls danced in water by using even Fire Brigade vehicles of the government without any intervention by Police) 5. Police should be alert to prevent adolescent youths from indulging in undesirable acts such as 'Aber Teinaba', Pichagari Kapnaba, etc. 6. Elected MLAs, and representatives of local bodies may be advised to involve in organizing sports events in localities. Only then, the festival will be constructive and fruitful for future generation. (The writer is a Imphal-based Columnist)

IN THE COURT OF SPECIAL JUDGE (ND&PS) (FTC), MANIPUR

Schedule 1 viii Form No 100 AT CHEIRAP COURT COMPLEX
High Court Criminal Process No.4 ANNEXURE-1
CASE NO.: SPECIAL TRIAL 82 OF 2018
FIR No.954(11) 1993 IPS
U/S 21 ND & PS Act
PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF THE ACCUSED

(Section 82 of the code of criminal Procedure)

1) Name Description and address of the accused:

Mrs Saimi Mizo (28 Years) now 53 years w/o Mr. Monga Hmar of Aizwal at present K.R. Lane Golabati

2) Name of the accused. **Mrs Saimi Mizo**

3) Place: **Imphal**

Dated this 4th day of January, 2019.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that **Mrs Saimi Mizo** has committed the offence punishable Under Section 21 ND & PS Act (FIR No.954(11) 1993 IPS) and it has been returned to a Warrant of arrest thereupon stating that **Mrs Saimi Mizo** cannot be found, and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Mrs Saimi Mizo** has absconded to avoid the execution of the said warrant.

police station is thereby made that the said **Mrs Saimi Mizo** is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complain on the 8th day of January 2019

Sd/-
(W. Tonen Meitei)
Special Judge (ND&PS) (FTC), Manipur