



Sunday, September 1, 2019,

Her Richness

By: Dr Nunglekjam Premi Devi
Independent Scholar

She hold her sleeky hair's bun so tightly,
She's seems all ready for a life journey plentiful;
She grasped her bags one and two sack fully,
Ah! She wondered roaming around hither and thither;
Her pace sweeter one and two and three smaller;
She walked so elegantly sophisticated neat;
On those muddy lane; by the side of *Naga mapan*;
Over those stone pavement wet and slippery;
Her foot dramatically classic as she holds her sleeper;
Losing her decorous fitting peeping mud between,
Her feet cultured a unity; pure and clear;
She's soft and she's all weak tired and sweating;
She walked so elegantly not taller but bending,
She's feeble so livelily, one weak soul speaking;
She eyed upon me and other, never resting.

Her fitting "phanek" up held so high tightly;
She moves a peahen's step, as she holds herself back;
So puny, so lightly, so little and so sturdy;
As she holds both her sacks tightly and fully;
Heavy and full she carried along; clothes and raged;
No winds can sweep away from her clutches;
No man could seize away from her beholding;
She speaks her voice out heart-rending;
As she knocked me over by her way to mine;
She stood half tall and half bending mesmerizing;
Eye upon eyed I flagged a texture 'vowing down';
Oh! The mother, you're stronger than anything,
No storm and no thunder could ever make you dirty;
"Will you buy this for me" she declared approaching,
"I want to go back home" she uttered maintaining.

Looking back towards her I stood firmly;
Ah! Wonderful, prepossessing she looks at me;
Aged! No matter how she's, she's short but magnetic;
I smiled as I walked and stopped by her "yes I'll buy";
"Give me 10 Rupees, take all these *fadigom*"
"It's very hot and I want to go back home" she told me,
How captivating she was! I stood all of sudden;
Without a sentence I felt so interested blessing;
Her 'bundles' dried up in the air scattering;
Scented over her hand she flopped again and again;
Her eyes all withered drooping loose;
Her lips wilted pink as she mentioned;
She walked professed as she maintains,
Her 'inaphis' loosing around her waist;
"I want to go back home" she uttered maintaining.

IAS Officer: a Hero- a Whipping boy- a Villain



By: Sanjenbam Jugeshwor Singh
Faculty, NIELIT Imphal.

The Indian Administrative Service (IAS) is the administrative arm of the All India Services. Considered the premier Civil Service of India, the IAS is one of the three arms of All India Services along with the Indian Police Service (IPS) and the Indian Forest Service (IFoS). Members of these three services serve the Government of India as well as the individual states. IAS officers may also be deployed to various public sector undertakings. As with other countries following Westminster Parliamentary system of government, the IAS is a part of the permanent bureaucracy of the nation and is an inseparable part of the executive of the Government of India. As such, the bureaucracy remains politically neutral and guarantees administrative continuity to the ruling party or coalition. Upon confirmation of service, an IAS officer serves a probationary period as a sub-divisional magistrate. Completion of this probation is followed by an executive administrative role in a district as a district magistrate and collector which last several years, as long as sixteen years in some states. After this tenure, an officer may be promoted to head a whole state division, as a divisional Commissioner. On attaining the higher scale of the pay matrix, IAS officers may lead government department or ministries. In these roles, IAS officers represent the country at the International level in bilateral and multilateral negotiations. If serving on deputation, they may be employed in intergovernmental organizations such as the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank or the United Nations or its agencies. IAS officers

are also involved in the conduct of election in India as mandated by the Election Commission of India. The modern Indian Administrative Service was created under Article 312(2) in part XIV of the Constitution of India and the All India Services Act, 1952. The typical functions performed by an IAS officer are:
To collect revenue and function as court officials in matters of revenue and crime (for the revenue courts and criminal Courts of executive magistrate), to maintain law and order, to implement Union and State Government policies at the grassroots level when posted to field positions, i.e. as Sub-Divisional magistrates, additional magistrates, district magistrates and divisional Commissioners and to act as an agent of the government in the field, i.e. to act as an intermediary between the public and government. To handle the administration and daily proceedings of the government including the formulation and implementation of policy in consultation with the ministers-in-charge of a specific ministry or department
To contribute to policy formulation and to make a final decision in certain matters with the agreement of the minister concerned or the Council of ministers (depending upon the weights of the matter), when posted at the higher level in the Government of India as a Joint Secretary, additional secretary, Special Secretary and Cabinet Secretary and in state Government as Secretary, Principal Secretary, additional chief Secretary or special Chief secretary and Chief Secretary.
Upon retirement, high ranking IAS officers have occupied Constitutional posts such as the Chief Election Commissioner of India, the Comptroller and Auditor General of India and Chairperson of the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC). They have also become members of administrative tribunals such as the National Grievance Tribunal and the Central Administrative Tribunal as well as Chief of regulators including Telecom Regulatory Authority of

India, the Securities and Exchange Board of India and the Reserve Bank of India. If a serving IAS officer is appointed to a Constitutional post such as Comptroller and Auditor General of India, Chief Election Commissioner of India or Chairperson of UPSC or as head of a Statutory authority, such as the National Human Rights Commission, the National Commission for Women or the Central Information Commission, he/she is deemed to have retired from service. IAS officers can also be deputed to private Organizations for a fixed tenure under Rule 6(2) (ii) of the Indian Administrative Service (Cadre) Rules, 1954. **IFAS officers execute the services rendered on them in public interest sincerely and honestly, they are the savior of people.** However the IAS is the hamstrung of political interference. Outdated personnel procedure and a mixed record on policy implementation and it is therefore need of urgent reform. The Indian Government should reshape recruitment and promotion process, improve performance-based assessment of individual's officers and adopt safeguards that promote accountability while protecting bureaucrats from political meddling. Several think tanks and media outlets have argued that IAS is hamstrung by political influence within the service. It has been reported that many local political leaders have been seen to have interfered with IAS officer. Politicians have also exerted pressure on IAS officers by repeatedly transferring them, suspending them, beating them and in some extreme cases, killing them. A deputy Commissioner of one hill district was removed as DC of the same district and transferred to some other department for exposing the boundary dispute between India (Manipur) and Myanmar (Burma) which was a public issue in Manipur, known as boundary pillar no 81 issue. **This makes bureaucrats' officers' scapegoats.** While hearing T.S.R Subramanian vs Union of India, the **Supreme Court of India ruled that IAS officers and other civil servants were not required to act**

on oral instruction given by politicians as they' Undermined credibility.
In spite of all these, IAS officers have also involved in corruption and crimes for which many convicted of crimes. In 2015, it was reported by the Government of India that a hundred IAS officers had come under scrutiny by the CBI for alleged corruption. In 2017 Government records showed that 379 IAS officers had deliberately failed to submit details of their immovable assets (IPR). Since 2007, a number of Chief Secretaries and Principal Secretaries have been arrested in cases of graft or money laundering. IAS officers have been found amassing disproportionate assets and wealth varying from Rs.200 crore (equivalent to Rs 254 crore or USD 37 million in 2018) to Rs 350 crore (equivalent to Rs 587 crore or USD85 million in 2018). A retired IAS officer who was the Deputy Commissioner of one hill district of Manipur was arrested by Imphal West district Police in the night of 24th June 2019 in connection with the misappropriation of compensation of villagers for the expansion of NH-102, Imphal Moreh road and remanded to judicial custody for eight days by Judicial Magistrate (First Class), Chandel. The bail plea of the said (Retd) IAS officer was rejected on 2nd July by Special Judge (PC) Imphal West and remanded up to 5th July in judicial custody for further investigation. **Which are the destroying acts of IAS officers.** In 2016, it was reported that the Government would provide the means to prosecute corrupt IAS officers with the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, agreeing to receive request from private citizens seeking punitive measures against IAS officers even without supporting documentation. In 2007, a CBI special court in Delhi sentenced a former Union coal Secretary and two other IAS officers to two years in prison for their involvement in the coal allocation scam. In 2017, it was reported by the Department of Personnel and Training, part of the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions that since 2014, one IAS officers was prematurely retired from service, ten IAS officers had been deemed to have resigned, five had their pensions cut and a further eight IAS officers suffered a cut in remuneration. In 2018 the Union Minister of State for Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Jitendra Singh, informed the Lok Sabha that disciplinary proceedings were underway against 36 IAS officers. Few days back Modi Govt sacks another 22 senior officials in latest crackdown on corruption cases. Sometimes news of missing IAS officers has also come out. In 2015, "The Telegraph" reported that 12 IAS officers had gone missing and has not reported to either the Union or the State Government for their allocated cadre. It was believed that they were working in foreign countries for companies such as Microsoft for more lucrative pay. The Asian Age, later reported that the services of three of the 12 officers were likely to be terminated due to prolonged absence from service. However, some of the notable IAS officers whose names are worth mentioning are: Naresh Chandra (1956 batch IAS of Rajasthan); T.N Seshan (1955 batch of Tamil Nadu); Narinder Nath Vohra (1959 batch of Punjab); Vinod Rai (1972 batch of Kerala); Duvvuri Subbrao (1972 batch of Andhra Pradesh); Yogendra Narain (1965 batch of Uttar Pradesh). Their contribution in public service and Nation building were incredible and will remain forever, at the same time they are the role model of the new IAS officers.

Why Is No One In Assam Happy With the Final NRC?

Courtesy The Wire
By: Sangeeta Barooah Pisharoty

New Delhi: Hours after the final National Register of Citizens (NRC) was published by the Registrar General of India in Assam, disappointment and displeasure reigned supreme across the entire political spectrum in the state. Civil society groups and student bodies closely associated with the decision to revise the citizens' register and filter Indian citizens residing in the state from immigrants who are supposed to have illegally crossed over from neighbouring Bangladesh, were, simply put, unhappy.
Barely an hour after the NRC authorities uploaded the supplementary list of inclusions and exclusions on August 31 as per Supreme Court order, the main petitioners in the apex court, Assam Public Works (APW), expressed their unhappiness with it.
'More exclusions'
Aabhishek Sama, president of APW, the Guwahati-based civil society organisation, told *The Wire*, "In 2009, we approached the Supreme Court to solve this burning problem of Assam. It accepted our case. In the

2006 voter list, there were 41 lakh extra names. We urged the court to help us delete those names so that Indians can vote for Indians in Assam. Then the apex court suggested that the NRC be updated and the process was on since then." "On July 30, 2018, the final draft was released. On August 24, 2018, we requested the Supreme Court to do a 10% re-verification of all the districts because we suspected that names of various illegal immigrants had been included in it. We then filed five petitions at the court till August 1, 2019 seeking re-verification of the names in the final draft. But the state coordinator for NRC told the court that there was no need for it because he had done 27% re-verification already. The result of it is in front of us today."
Sarma is clearly disappointed with the figure of 19,06,067, the number of people left out of the final NRC. He rolled out figures on the population excluded in the four districts of the state bordering Bangladesh to illustrate why APW would appeal to the court yet again for "100% re-verification" as it strongly felt "it [the list] has anomalies".
"In the Cachar district, the state

coordinator had done 29% re-verification. As many as 5,464 people were left out of the final NRC because of it. I demand to know that if the rest 71% was re-verified, how much would have been the figure of exclusion in that district? In the Dhubri district, 38% re-verification was done. As many as 4,096 people were excluded. What would have been the figure if 100% re-verification was conducted?"
In Karimganj district, Sarma said, 25% names were re-verified. "Out of them, 3,980 names were excluded in the district because of the process."
In South Salmara, the re-verification percentage stood at 41. "Due to that, 1,646 people were excluded from the final list."
He said, "We also demand an audit of Rs 1,600 crores that was spent on the entire process."
'Unhappy with number'
Later in the day, facing local media at Swahid Bhavan, the headquarters of the All Assam Students Union (AASU), the entire top leadership of the student body that spearheaded the anti-foreigner agitation between 1979-85, too presented the picture of a dejected lot.
Samujjal Bhattacharya, advisor to AASU, told this correspondent, "We concede that under the supervision of the Supreme Court, for the first time since the Assam Accord was signed in 1985, a serious effort was made to find illegal immigrants and spell out who is a citizen. But we are unhappy with the number we saw

today."
The former AASU general secretary said, "It is not that we were chasing a number. But since the past many years, various governments have been quoting figures of immigrants residing illegally in the state. The number we see today is nowhere near those numbers. But we still have trust in the apex court. So we plan to appeal to the court to give it a re-look."
AASU too had petitioned the court on the NRC issue and is a party to it.
"In May 1997, former Union home minister Inderjit Gupta had told parliament that there were 10 million undocumented immigrants in India."
"In July 2004, former Union home minister Sriprakash Jaiswal told the Rajya Sabha that their were 12 million such immigrants in the country."
"In 2016, former Union home minister Kiren Rijju told the Rajya Sabha that the figure was 20 million. Bhattacharjee was admittedly referring to these numbers. AASU also often refers to the report of former state governor S.K. Sinha to the government in 1998, in which it is claimed that there are 50 lakh undocumented immigrants residing in the state."
"In 2005, it was AASU which entered into a tripartite agreement with the then Tarun Gogoi government in the state and the Manmohan Singh government at the Centre to update the NRC, exclusively prepared for the state in 1951, as per the citizenship

cut-off date set for Assam - March 24, 1971 - settled by the Assam Accord."
The Supreme Court, responding to the APW petition in 2009, agreed to use the NRC as the tool for sieving citizens from non-citizens because the process was set in motion already through a tripartite agreement between AASU and the government.
'Names of genuine citizens missing'
In another part of the city, at the headquarters of the All Assam Minority Students Union (AASMU), the leaders told local reporters that they too were disappointed with the final NRC. AASMU, together with AASU and the Assam government, had arrived at a consensus to update the NRC and were consulted by the state government to fix the modalities for its update, which were later approved by the apex court.
"Since morning, all the organisations have been talking about how many illegal immigrants were included in the final list. But the NRC was not to find illegal immigrants but to ensure that genuine citizens find their name in the list. We have been getting so many calls and messages from genuine citizens saying that their names are missing. So we are unhappy," Azizur Rahman, adviser, AASMU, told *The Wire*.
(Contd. on page 3)

cut-off date set for Assam - March 24, 1971 - settled by the Assam Accord."
The Supreme Court, responding to the APW petition in 2009, agreed to use the NRC as the tool for sieving citizens from non-citizens because the process was set in motion already through a tripartite agreement between AASU and the government.
'Names of genuine citizens missing'
In another part of the city, at the headquarters of the All Assam Minority Students Union (AASMU), the leaders told local reporters that they too were disappointed with the final NRC. AASMU, together with AASU and the Assam government, had arrived at a consensus to update the NRC and were consulted by the state government to fix the modalities for its update, which were later approved by the apex court.
"Since morning, all the organisations have been talking about how many illegal immigrants were included in the final list. But the NRC was not to find illegal immigrants but to ensure that genuine citizens find their name in the list. We have been getting so many calls and messages from genuine citizens saying that their names are missing. So we are unhappy," Azizur Rahman, adviser, AASMU, told *The Wire*.
(Contd. on page 3)

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.

Writer can be reached to: sjugheswor7@gmail.com