

Editorial

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People have every right to know even the private life of legislatures, Bureaucrats etc.

When Swami Chakrapani Maharaj, president of Hindu Mahasabha, said that Consuming cow urine and cow dung will stop the effect of infectious Coronavirus, few of the most prestigious news agency IANS, ANI picks the story and many mainstream media houses run by Corporate houses carried the news. In February 2017, Hindustan Times, one of the largest circulated newspaper in India published a story of one Bihar State Assembly MLA urinating in public and that too at the premises of a District Magistrate office. Interestingly that was the time when the government of India under the initiative of Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been boosting the "Swachh Bharat Mission". When Bollywood star Deepika Padukone

Joined students at JNU who at that time was protesting against the CAA and NRC, she was the center of attraction of all media. Discussion after discussion continues for weeks and even today to her presence even as she didn't speak a word. Photo of Prime Minister Narendra Modi praying blessing from her mother **Heeraben Modi**, not only was the headline of many media houses in the country but went viral on social media sites on the internet.

Coming back here in the state of Manipur, almost all newspaper hits headline when CAF and PD Minister Karam Shyam cycled to attend office. MLA Nashir when walking till state Assembly from his quarter at a time when Manipur was facing fuel scarcity after the prolonged economic blockade was published as a headline at one of the leading newspapers published here. When the then works Minister K. Ranjit Singh lifted a hammer and check the quality of government construction, newspapers of Manipur carried the news as a headline.

The other day when three of us were on our way to Bishnupur, my friend, who is also the Resident Editor of this newspaper saw a helpless cat lying in a confused state in the middle of the Tiddim road near Malom. He immediately stopped his car and picked up the cat which happened to be pregnant and handed over to some people living in a makeshift camp on the roadside. Nobody notices and it was not in the news. Many rickshaw pullers or predestine or Auto drivers or say any common people on emergency were seen urinating particularly at the wall of the Electricity department. Some concerned citizens sometimes stopped them and advise them to urinate at the appropriate place. No media, or persons having a smartphone with a camera took notice of that because the person trying to clean at his own risk was a common man. If suppose the person advising them happened to be a bureaucrat, the scene may certainly go viral in social media prompting the media houses to pick up the story.

With the advancement of Information technology, competition among media houses is at its height. There are rumours among the intellectual circle that media people these days makes the story to increase TRP rating to make sure that they make more revenue.

The classical theory of news – "When a dog bites a person it is no news but when a man bites a dog it is news" still is practical even though some media critics have different opinions.

Prime Minister Narendra, Swami Chakrapani Maharaj, president of Hindu Mahasabha, Deepika Padukone, MLAs, MPs, Bureaucrats etc. are all public figures and they are celebrity people. Good or bad anything they did or spoke is news for media persons.

People across the country know many urinated and spoil the environment, but no such are being picked up by media houses as a story. But when an MLA from Bihar urinated at the office premises of a District administration, it was a piece of hot news. Many people are riding a bicycle, but when Minister K Shyam rode it is a News for media people, similarly when MLA Nashir walked to attend Assembly session it was also a piece of news.

Sometimes it is shocking to learn some people criticizing media reports of these high people saying that media has no right to infringe their private life.

The answer for Imphal Times to them is that public figures and those top officials should be very careful in their private life too. If the kind of action he or she is indulging in is illegal even though he or she presumed it as personal life, we in the media have every reason to publish it.

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Uptick in GDP growth expected in 2nd half of 2019-20

PIB
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The Government says that based on first Advance Estimates, India's GDP growth for 2019-20 would be recorded at 5 per cent. This suggests an uptick in GDP growth in second half of 2019-20. The Union Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs, Smt Nirmala Sitharaman tabled the Economic Survey 2019-20 in Parliament yesterday, which states that the deceleration in GDP growth can be understood within the framework of a slowing cycle of growth. The financial sector has acted as a drag on the real sector. The Survey says that the uptick in second half of 2019-20 would be mainly due to ten positive factors like picking up of NIFTY for the first time this year, an upbeat secondary market, higher FDI flows, build-up of demand pressure, positive outlook for rural consumption, rebound of industrial activity, steady improvement in manufacturing, growth in merchandise exports, higher build-up of foreign exchange reserves and positive growth rate of GST revenue collection.

The Survey says, on a net assessment of both the downside/upside risks, India's GDP growth is expected to grow in the range of 6.0 to 6.5 per cent in 2020-21 and it asks the Government to use its strong mandate to deliver expeditiously on reforms, which will enable the economy to strongly rebound in 2020-21.

The Survey points out that the year 2019 was a difficult year for the global economy with world output growth estimated to grow at its slowest pace of 2.9 per cent since the global financial crisis of 2009, declining from a subdued 3.6 per cent in 2018 and 3.8 per cent in 2017. Uncertainties, although declining, are still elevated due to protectionist tendencies of China and USA and rising USA-Iran geopolitical tensions. Amidst a weak environment for global manufacturing, trade and demand, the Indian economy slowed down with GDP growth moderating to 4.8 per cent in first half of 2019-20, lower

than 6.2 per cent in second half of 2018-19. A sharp decline in real fixed investment induced by a sluggish growth of real consumption has weighed down GDP growth from 2nd half of 2018-19 to 1st half of 2019-20. Real consumption growth, however, has recovered in Q2 of 2019-20, cushioned by a significant growth in government final consumption. At the same time, India's external sector gained further stability in 1st half of 2019-20, with a narrowing of Current Account Deficit (CAD) as percentage of GDP from 2.1 in 2018-19 to 1.5 in 1st half of 2019-20, impressive Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), rebounding of portfolio flows and accretion of foreign exchange reserves. Imports have contracted more sharply than exports in 1st half of 2019-20, with easing of crude prices, which has mainly driven the narrowing of CAD. On the supply side, agricultural growth, though weak, is moderately higher in 1st half of 2019-20 than in 2nd half of 2018-19. Headline inflation rose from 3.3 per cent in 1st half of 2019-20 to 7.4 per cent in December 2019 on the back of temporary increase in food inflation, which is expected to decline by year end. Rise in CPI-core and WPI inflation in December 2019 suggests building of demand pressure.

In an attempt to boost demand, 2019-20 has witnessed significant easing of monetary policy with the repo rate having been cut by RBI by 110 basis points. Having duly recognized the financial stresses built up in the economy, the government has taken significant steps this year towards speeding up the insolvency resolution process under Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC) and easing of credit, particularly for the stressed real estate and Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) sectors. At the same time, impact of critical measures taken to boost investment, particularly under the National Infrastructure Pipeline, present green shoots for growth in H2 of 2019-20 and 2020-21.

Given India's record of growth with macroeconomic stability over the last five years (annual average growth rate of 7.5 per cent), the economy is poised for a rebound

towards the US\$ 5 trillion goal by 2024-25. The net FDI and Net Foreign Portfolio Investment (FPI) in first eight months of 2019-20 stood at US\$ 24.4 billion and US\$ 12.6 billion respectively, more than the inflows received in the corresponding period 2018-19.

In 1st half of 2019-20, CPI (Headline) inflation was estimated at 3.3 per cent, slightly higher than that in 2nd half of the previous year. There has been a further uptick in headline inflation in the month of December 2019 to 7.35 per cent contributed mainly by supply side factors. The food prices spiked following unseasonable rainfall and a flood-like situation in many parts of the country, which affected agricultural crop production. The Wholesale Price Index (WPI) inflation, on the other hand, declined sharply from 3.2 per cent in April 2019 to 2.6 per cent in December 2019, reflecting weakening of demand pressure in the economy.

As per the latest available data on employment, there has been an increase in the share of formal employment, as captured by 'Regular wage/salaried', from 17.9 per cent in 2011-12 to 22.8 per cent in 2017-18. This 5 per cent points increase in the share of 'Regular wage/Salaried' group has been on account of 5 percentage points decrease in the share of casual workers, which reflects formalization in the economy. As a result, in absolute terms, there was a significant jump of around 2.62 crore new jobs over this period in the usual status category with 1.21 crore in rural areas and 1.39 crore in urban areas.

In 2019-20, Centre's fiscal deficit was budgeted at Rs. 7.04 lakh crore (3.3 per cent of GDP), as compared to Rs. 6.49 lakh crore (3.4 per cent of GDP) in 2018-19. Good and Services Tax (GST) collections, the biggest component of indirect taxes, grew by 4.1 per cent for the Centre during April-November 2019. However, the uptick in growth of cumulative GST collections for the Centre started in October 2019 and has sustained its momentum in November-December 2019 as well. The growth of bank credit which

was picking up in 1st half of 2018-19, started decelerating in 2nd half of 2018-19 and further in 1st half of 2019-20. The deceleration was witnessed across all major segments of non-food credit, save personal loans which continued to grow at a steady and robust pace. The deceleration in credit growth was most in the services sector. Credit growth to industry also witnessed a significant decline in recent months, both for MSME sector as well as large industries. Agriculture and allied activities benefitted from a higher growth of credit.

Despite muted growth of services exports, the trade balance on the services account continued to be positive in 2019-20. The trade surplus on services account has been estimated at US\$ 40.5 billion in 1st half of 2019-20, as compared to US\$ 38.9 billion in 2018-19.

Lower Current Account Deficit (CAD) reflects reduced external indebtedness of the country making domestic economic policy increasingly independent of external influence. The CAD, which was 2.1 per cent of GDP in 2018-19, has improved to 1.5 per cent in H1 of 2019-20. The drop of significant reduction in trade deficit. In the first eight months of 2019-20, both gross and net FDI flows to the country have been more than the flows received in corresponding period of 2018-19. Net FPI inflow in 1st half of 2019-20 was also robust at US\$ 7.3 billion as against an outflow of US\$ 7.9 billion in 1st half of 2018-19.

The drop in fixed investment by households from 14.3 per cent to 10.5 per cent explains most of the decline in overall fixed investment between 2009-14 to 2014-19. Fixed investment in the public sector marginally decreased from 7.2 per cent of GDP to 7.1 per cent during the two periods. However, the stagnation in private corporate investment at approximately 11.5 per cent of GDP between 2011-12 to 2017-18 has a critical role to play in explaining the slowing cycle of growth and, in particular, the recent deceleration of GDP and consumption.

Severe facial pain can be easily treated with advanced cyberknife surgery

By- Dr Aditya Gupta, Director, Neurosurgery and Cyberknife Centre, Agrim Institute for Neuro sciences, Artemis Hospital Gurgaon

People often ignore pain in their face, jaw and the nose area, which can be devastating and such symptoms should seldom be ignored. This intense, stabbing, electric shock-like pain can be an underlying cause of some major complication in the head. The pain typically involves the lower face and jaw, although sometimes it affects the area around the nose and above the eye and is caused by irritation of the trigeminal nerve, which sends branches to the forehead, cheek and lower jaw. It usually is limited to one side of the face.

Understanding the Trigeminal Nerve

Of the 12 pair of cranial nerves in the head, the trigeminal nerve is the fifth pair responsible for providing sensation to the face. Branching itself to the right and left part of the head into three each side and provides sensations throughout the face.

Trigeminal Neuralgia – Prevalence

While the disorder can occur at any age, it is most common in people over the age of 50. The National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke notes that trigeminal neuralgia is more common in women than in men. Additionally, there is evidence that the disorder runs in families, likely as a result of an inherited blood vessel formation. Hypertension and multiple sclerosis also are risk

factors.

Why is this pain caused?

The cause of the pain usually is due to contact between a healthy artery or vein and the trigeminal nerve at the base of the brain. This places pressure on the nerve as it enters the brain and causes the nerve to misfire. Other causes of trigeminal neuralgia include pressure of a tumor on the nerve or multiple sclerosis, which damages the myelin sheaths. Development of trigeminal neuralgia in a young adult suggests the possibility of multiple sclerosis.

How to identify the condition?

Most patients report that their pain begins spontaneously and seemingly out of nowhere. Other patients say their pain follows a car accident, a blow to the face or dental surgery. In these cases, it is more likely that the disorder was already developing, and the dental work caused the initial symptoms to be triggered coincidentally.

Pain often is first experienced along the upper or lower jaw, so many patients assume they have a dental abscess. Some patients see their dentists and actually have a root canal performed, which inevitably brings no relief. Unfortunately, many patients come for further diagnosis to neurosurgeons only after getting their teeth removed. When the pain persists, patients realize the problem is not dental-related.

The symptoms of several pain disorders are similar to those of trigeminal neuralgia. Temporal

tendinitis involves cheek pain and tooth sensitivity, as well as headaches and neck and shoulder pain. This condition is called a "migraine mimic" because its symptoms are similar to those of a migraine. Ernest syndrome is an injury of the styomandibular ligament, which connects the base of the skull with the lower jaw, producing pain in areas of the face, head and neck. Occipital neuralgia involves pain in the front and back of the head that sometimes extends into the facial region.

How it is diagnosed?

Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) can detect if a tumor or multiple sclerosis is irritating the trigeminal nerve. However, unless a tumor or multiple sclerosis is the cause, imaging of the brain will seldom reveal the precise reason why the nerve is being irritated. The vessel next to the nerve root is difficult to see even on a high-quality MRI. Tests can help rule out other causes of facial disorders. Trigeminal neuralgia usually is diagnosed based on the description of the symptoms provided by the patient.

Minimally invasive treatment- Cyberknife M6

If the medications have proven to be ineffective then doctors may recommend patients for the surgical procedures. However, in some cases surgical procedures like Microvascular decompression, stereotactic rhizotomy which

involves scars, incision requires high expertise and skills where Cyberknife a minimally invasive procedure has proven to be a boon for the patients with Trigeminal Neuralgia. The newly advanced procedure is highly cost effective and doesn't involve any major scars and incisions.

Cyberknife radiation surgery reduces the risks of further complications. With the use of latest image guidance and computer assisted robotic system, the procedure delivers multiple beams of high frequency radiation to the actual sites from all the directions, thereby preventing damage to the healthy cells. Another advantage is that Cyberknife M6 can automatically track and detect any movement to correct the delivery of radiation beams to the exact treatment location.

During the procedure, the robotic arm slowly moves around the patient and they will not feel anything. The single session lasts for 30 minutes and there is shorter stay at the hospital. The procedure is completely painless and 100% safe without any side effects eliminates the use of anesthesia which is required in other surgical methods. In over 80% of the cases patients recover within single treatment and get back to normal activity within 2 months after the procedure. And over 10% of the patients may get immediate relief from pain.