

Editorial

Monday, February 10, 2020

Education should eradicate superstitious belief

People of Manipur, who have been staying harmoniously since time immemorial seriously look for the right time to start a new venture. Among the many communities who have been living here together, Meetei people considered choosing a day and right time which is stated by either astrologers or palmists or say traditional healers to make sure that no obstruction occurred while taking up their dream project. Such belief of consulting persons who are believed to have an extraordinary link with almighty may have practice everywhere in almost the society of the world. But kind of believe in Indian society particularly in the Hindi heartland as well as in South India is so oblivious that men in the profession of who claimed to have linked with the almighty started living a five-star lifestyle. Some of these people whom people believed to have like with the almighty, today become much more important people than even the Prime Minister or Chief Ministers of each state were noticed visiting these people spending time to get a blessing. In multiethnic country India, the government today first took advice about the right time to begin projects or schemes and is done according to the date and time place given by the so call person whom people to have a connection with supernatural power. Even persons who acquired academic excellence in the field of Science and technology follow the idea of consulting these demigods to start their project – either for construction or houses or taking up a job.

With the kind of practice notice in the country, it is now time to ponder upon the education patterns that the children of today are being switched. If an illiterate self-appointed communicator of God can decide a well-educated person it is definitely a systematic failure of the education system that has been inciting so call knowledge to the young mind of this nation who still fear spell of self-proclaimed godman.

The various medium of media like the blockbuster Bollywood movies like 'PK', 'Oh, My God' etc. have tried many times to eradicate the fear in the human mind, which is being incited by vested interested persons to make their earning.

The tradition to perform some rituals is our culture and there is no harm in doing such while laying the foundation stone for constructions of any offices or building of public importance. But delaying it or waiting for a time as advice by self-proclaimed demigod will do no good as the relevancy of such advice have no logical meaning.

Today's politicians now seem to spend more with self-proclaimed godman than going to villages for meeting the farmers who are in deep crisis either due to drought or famine.

This write up is a simple and honest suggestion to the government. Please stopped consulting self-styled godman for doing good in society. Saying so being an atheist may no bring any good to either the person taking up welfare programme for the people or to the people

Bodo accord: A hope for peace and stability in NE region

By Thingbajam Dhamen, Senior journalist

Recently, the central government, the Assam government and the Bodo groups, including all factions of the militant National Democratic Front of Bodoland (NDFB), signed an agreement to redraw and rename the Bodoland Territorial Area District (BTAD) as the Bodoland Territorial Region (BTR), in Assam which Prime Minister Narendra Modi had termed it as historic accord that paved a way for permanent peace in North East.

The accord was one of many peace agreements which the Centre signed end armed conflict and third accord to end Bodo conflict, dates back to the pre-independence era which gained momentum from 1987 when the ABSU launched an agitation for a separate state. Some prominent armed separatist groups were founded during the 1980s.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi attended a function to celebrate the signing of the Bodo agreement had termed Bodo Accord as a historic agreement that will bring peace to the region. He had said that insurgency in the region had been raging on for decades and had claimed thousands of lives, but past governments were reluctant in addressing the problems.

Another notable statement, Narendra Modi had made was that his government has changed the perception of the Centre towards the Northeast saying that earlier, the North-eastern states were considered to be recipient states, but today they are being seen as engines of growth. "We have to work together for peace and development of Northeast and we will not allow violence to return," he had declared said.

It was indeed an encouraging and welcoming statement, a top leader of India government made as it has people of the region have been yearning peace for decades.

Unending low intensity conflict has been witnessing in the region since Independence in 1947. Most of the conflicts have been waged to assert for a different ethnicity, culture, identity, political empowerment, optimal utilisation of resources and to ensure protection of ethnic minority rights.

As the political goals of the armed conflicts differed, ranging from demands for greater political autonomy, more transparent political rights and institutional structures to outright secession from India, it has been headache for the Central government in its efforts to bring peace and stability in the region for promoting development. Peace and stability are of high importance in promoting economic development of states and country at large, and that political stability is the key to progress and development, as it affects all aspects of security, economic and social development in a state or country.

The impact of political instability on the security of communities is evident, as states, which are politically unstable, are experiencing unrest and security changes. This is because insecurity is an inevitable result of instability. Man, being political by nature, seeks to live in a humane society where security, stability and harmony away from conflicts and wars.

The blessing of security and stability is reflected on economic development, which is a lifeline for any society. Hence, security and stability have direct, long-term effects on the creation of a sound, competitive economic environment that have positive impacts on citizenry and society as a whole.

Therefore, there is the need for strengthening security and stability in north-eastern region of India to improve the living standards of their citizens on the one hand, and to push the country forward towards economic development in order to build up learned generations

capable of steering the affairs of their home countries and catching up with the developed countries.

No country can develop and grow economically without peaceful coexistence among its population. It is true that India cannot be a developed country without developing northeast; the region comprises many tribes with diverse cultures mingling into the mainstream of India's national life. The presence of different ethnic groups, various tribes as well as non-tribes, their histories and cultures as seen in different languages, food habits, festivals, etc are one of the strongest reflections of the diversity of the region.

Peace-building in the northeast, home to different ethnic groups, various tribes as well as non-tribes, is the normal responsibility of Central government on the one hand and states on the other.

As ethnic groups have different problems, we should focus on the each group being the target and means of reforms. Reform programmes do need focus on each ethnic group to develop their abilities, assert themselves and utilize their own faculties properly in order to lead a dignified life. Of course, this can never be attained without security and stability which are regarded as a precondition for the achievement of comprehensive development. Phasing out economic reforms is a prerequisite for the timely introduction of such reforms without bringing about radical changes into the existing conditions to which people were accustomed for a long time.

Economic reforms are considered as a ceaseless process, which has many positive effects, such as complacency, sense of belongingness on the part of citizens, reduction of crimes and social violence, which in turn enhances national security in such a way that promotes development

and creates a favourable investment environment. This would induce local enterprises and attract foreign investments, the driving force of economic development.

Thus, economic reforms and political reforms should go hand in hand in order to attain their ultimate goals and to this end, there should be adopted a clear strategy and far-sighted vision acceptable to all social segments.

To come to the point, the Bodo peace accord and Prime Minister Narendra Modi's statement after the signing of the agreement has given a ray of hope to the people of the region who are yearning for prevalent of the peace.

The signing of the Bodo accord has influenced Assam government that expressed keenness on initiating the peace talk. In the backdrop of the same accord, Manipur chief minister N Biren Singh had also government's appeal to the armed groups in the state to come to the negotiating table.

While making the appealed chief minister Biren had added that ULFA is also on the verge of coming to the peace talks and time has come in Manipur too for insurgent groups to come forward and initiate peace talks with the Centre asserting that there was no other option other than political dialogue to resolve armed struggle while claiming that armed struggle across the globe were resolved through dialogue.

If the keenness of the Assam government and appeal of the Manipur government came up reality with the positive response from the armed groups, then it not only turn out to be great achievement of the government at the Centre towards bringing peace and stability in the region but also people will praise Prime Minister Narendra Modi as peace avatar as his commitment to settle the vexed Naga political issue in Nagaland is on the verge of settling with another peace accord sooner or later.

Three Days Training Programme on Enhancing Agricultural Marketing Begins

IT News
Thoubal, Feb. 10

A Three Day Training Programme of Farmers on "Enhancing Agricultural Marketing Through Value Addition of Horticultural Crops" began today at the Training hall of Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) Thoubal.

The training programme is being organised by Manipur Small Farmers' Agri-Business Consortium and KVK Thoubal under the supervision of National Institute of Agricultural Marketing (NIAM) Jaipur.

The inaugural function was attended by Director of Agriculture Manipur Ms. Laltanpui Vanchong IAS as Chief Guest of the Inaugural Function, Project Coordinator, Manipur Small Farmers' Agri-Business Consortium, MS Khaidem, District Officer of Horticulture and Soils Conservation Thoubal Ksh. Nabakishwar Singh, Associate professor College of Food Tech. of Central Agriculture University

(CAU) Imphal Dr. Ng. Joykumar Singh and Subject Matter Specialist (Agronomy) of KVK Thoubal N. Tomba Singh as the Presidium Members.

Speaking as the Chief Guest, Laltanpui Vanchong said that organising such programme to promote Agricultural Marketing is a very welcoming step. The Director also exuded confidence that the training programme will encourage the farmers to practise value addition and help reduce the risks of human exposure to toxic materials. On the opening day, Associate professor College of Food Tech. of Central Agriculture University (CAU) Imphal Dr. Ng. Joykumar Singh, SMS (Hort) of KVK Imphal East Dr. Priyadarshini Salam, SMS Agri. Extension of KVK Bishnupur and Farm Manager of KVK Thoubal spoke on the topics "Entrepreneurship Development of Rural Youths Through Processing of Fruit & Vegetables of Manipur", Pre Harvest Factors Affecting Quality on Post harvest life of fruit

& veg. Factors responsible for deterioration of fruit", "Opportunities & Challenges in Marketing of Fruit viz. Pineapple, Orange & Lemon" and "Soil Nutrient Management for Production of Organic Fruit of Pineapple, Orange & Lemon" as the resource persons. The resource persons also responded to different queries raised by the farmers.

The 2nd day of the training programme will be participated by APO (MOMA) Deptt. of Hort. Dr. L. Jeebit Singh, Programme Asst. (Avril. Extn) of KVK Thoubal

S. Prabin Singh, SMS (Hort) of KVK Tamenglong Dr. Rk. Roshan and Food Safety Officer Dr. Nongallei Peham as the resource persons. The resource persons for the 3rd Day will be Asst. Professor Dept. of Hort. PDDUIAS Bishnupur S. Joybi Singh, SMS (Home Science) KVK Thoubal Rk. Lembisana Devi, Asst. Project Officer (MO/CD) Kh. Nimal Singh and Dr. Divyector (Skill & MIT) NIAM.

to divert attention from the weak financial condition of the country, then it is wrong. But if these acts have been introduced to cleanse the

country, then they should be strictly implemented.

I have supported the issues like Ram Temple verdict, scrapping of article 370 etc. There is nothing like anti or pro BJP. Whatever is good is good and bad is bad.

I had organised similar morchas a few years back, when the "Raza Academy" had organised a morchas (in support of Rohingya Muslims) and during the morchas their activists had assaulted even women police constables. Thackeray reminded the audience. Maharashtra politics after

successive electoral drubbings in the last ten years, is trying to fill the Hindutva vacuum believed to have been created after the Shiv Sena joined hands with the NCP and Congress to form a government in November last year.

Raj Thackeray-led MNS launched its new party flag, ahead of its day-long Maha adhiveshan (mega meeting). The new saffron-coloured flag of the party also features Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj's, Raj Mudra. Raj Thackeray's son Amit Thackeray has also been introduced into the party.

MNS demands ouster of illegal Bangladeshi and Pak immigrants, supports CAA, NRC

Demands action also against Nigerians indulging in drug peddling

By Raju Vernekar
Mumbai, Feb 10

Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS) Chief Raj Thackeray on Sunday openly supported the CAA/NRC and said that the Central Government will have to take strict action against all the infiltrators in the country under these acts.

Addressing a largely attended meeting at Azad Maidan in South Mumbai, Thackeray questioned the wisdom behind organising anti-CAA rallies/meetings when no Muslim, who is a citizen of India, will be thrown out. CAA is not for the Muslims who were born here. Thackeray warned that of the anti-CAA protesters try to disrupt peace by organising unwanted morchas and allies, they will be

given a befitting reply. The reply will be "stone to stone" and "sword to sword" he added. Anti-CAA rallies are organised without knowledge of the new act. Besides, it is not clear why the Muslims want to show their strength, through such rallies. Our democracy bestows upon us a freedom. But that does not mean that it should be misused.

There are over two crore Bangladeshi Muslims in India and end number of Pakistani Muslims entered India, via Nepal. Some of the Bangladeshis have changed their names and some of them have also married to local girls. There have been no communal riots wherever Marathi Muslims reside. Whereas there is always disturbances wherever Bangladeshi reside in ghettos.

The country's population is nearly 135 crore and countrymen are yet to be disciplined. Then why we should invite outsiders? Is India a dormitory? he asked. The Hindus are persecuted in Pakistan. As such they should be accommodated in India. But how can we give citizenship to Pakistani Muslims? The Pakistan is a den of terrorists and even Osama Bin Laden involved in the attack on Twin Towers in USA was eventually found in Pakistan.

Even the countries including USA, Europe and Australia are in the process of taking action against illegal immigrants. These countries either deport or send illegal immigrants to jail. Then Why can't we take such action? He also repeated that certain Muslim clerics are engaged in anti-

national activities in the state and even police is unable to take action against them. These clerics go to other countries, nobody knows what do they do. "I will bring this to the notice of the Union Home Minister as well as Maharashtra Home Minister, Thackeray said and added that if the police is given free hand even for 48 hours, they can throw out all the infiltrators.

Besides Pak and Bangladeshi Muslims, Nigerians are also mushrooming in the areas like Mira Bhayander (in Thane district near Mumbai). They are engaged in drug peddling and try to harass women and we keep quiet. No one knows how come so many Nigerians have arrived in Mumbai and adjoining areas. If the acts like CAA/NRC have been introduced

Lost
I, the undersigned, Akojiam Deepa Devi of Thoubal Nongangkhang, Thoubal district, Manipur have lost my original mark sheet for my M. Sc. (Degree) certificate having registration number 7S-638 of 1999 issued by Mysore University on the way between Kachkong to Wabagai on 08.02.2020. Finders are requested to hand over it to the undersigned.
Sd/-
Akojiam Deepa Devi

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