

# Editorial

Friday, February 28, 2019

## A Nation of reality

Every person has differences of opinion either in some way or other. Even husband and wife sometimes quarrel over differences and misunderstanding to the extent of sabotaging their lives. Divorce, secrete bigamy, polygamy etc. are the causes of misunderstanding between spouses. Quarrel, fight over differences of opinions and misunderstanding happen mostly between blood brothers. Neighbours engage to furious fight just for encroaching inches of land. And this happened from a very long time back and is still happening in human society.

When a small family grows into a bigger one with more brothers and sisters, each member gets separated as their families grow. They start living in separate houses. The increase in the number of families leads to formation of a society and each family then starts getting separate entity in the society. When the society grows, they start contacting similar larger family of similar interest, then comes similar practice of living under a common cause. Sometimes, there are people in the society or the larger society, where actually they come from. When it grows, the concept of nation building comes.

The state of Manipur, today, has a distinctive history of thousands and thousands of years. And this so called distinctive history of the erstwhile nation was formed by accumulation of various unique histories of many ethnic people settled together in the same society living under a common cause.

The erstwhile nation, which is known as Manipur - an Indian state of today was a nation of many communities living under the same roof. The need of that time was perhaps the reason for living together. And if one goes to the concept of Nation as interpreted by Benedict Anderson, the Manipur Nation of post 1947 till 1949 until it merged to the Union of India was a nation of 'imagine community. Manipur, then, was a nation of imagined political community and imagined as both inherently limited and sovereign - an answer probably given by Benedict Anderson if asked to define the then erstwhile nation call Manipur.

The present fiasco that has been haunting the state after a group called NSCN-IM had started hypnotizing the imagine communities of the state. The process of building another nation by implanting divisive theory among the various communities which have been living together since time immemorial, was short. It only began from early 80s. Building a nation by bifurcating the communities living under an imagined political entity within short span of 30 years will be another big history and will surprise the historians.

Manipur, perhaps, can be considered a lucky erstwhile nation as it is now a state in India which joined the Indian nation by signing an agreement called the merger agreement in 1949 at Shillong. Manipur is termed as 'lucky' as the world knows that the administrators of the country (India) are perhaps the best in India. A diplomat took only few minutes to defend the country by giving befitting reply to the Prime Minister of Pakistan. A National Security Advisor of the country took just few months to make the country follow a single constitution by abrogating the Article 370 from Jammu and Kashmir, if the government running the country have supported. And when it comes to the North East India, a top bureaucrat officer of the country took just 3 years to find a solution for ending the decade-old issue arisen due to armed struggle by NSCN-IM. All knows the solution can be brought anytime whether it is accepted by the NSCN-IM or not.

The experiment and perhaps the zeal of the collective leadership of the NSCN-IM to separate the so called Naga they accumulated under an unimaginative perception is the fall out of the differences between major ethnic groups of the erstwhile nation and has lasted for almost 30 years. Now it is time that the collective leadership of NSCN-IM realizes the fact that the misunderstanding could be resolved and as the Supreme of the NSCN-IM now is left out from the purview of the original Nagas of Nagaland. He should now come back to stitch his relationships with his own people here in the state of Manipur, a once upon a time Asiatic nation. What Muivah should understand is that his dream of the sovereign country, with a separate flag and a constitution can only be fulfilled if he realizes that his dream lies in Manipur and his only brothers are the different communities of Manipur. A stitch in time saves nine - the saying still stands true and it is still not late for Avakarar to return for reconciliation.

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## Principal, Professors suspended for administering "anti-love marriage pledge"

By Raju Vernekar

In a bizarre incident, a principal and two professors of a college in Amravati district in Vidarbha region of Maharashtra, have been suspended by college administration, for making girl students to pledge that they would not fall in love and would not indulge in "love marriage". The suspended professors include: Principal Dr. S R Haware of the Women's Art and Commerce College, run by Vidarbha Youth Welfare Society (VYWS), Prof. Dr. Pradip P Dande and NSS Programme officer Prof. Dr. V D Kapse. They were suspended by VYWS secretary Yuvraj Singh Chaudhary, based on the instructions of the VYWS President Dr Nitin Dhande. One member committee has been set up to inquire the matter. In a National Social Service camp organised on the eve of Valentine Day in the college, located at Tembhurda in Chandur taluka, Prof Pradip P Dande, spoke on "Challenges before youth". In his speech he highlighted increasing crime against women, especially girls. He also expressed concern that women were being targeted



and there has been increase in such incidents. Prof. Dande also exhorted girl students to refrain from falling in love so that complications do not occur in their lives. "When parents are capable of arranging marriages, why one should prefer a love marriage? he asked and made girl students to take an oath that they would not fall in love and would not go in for love marriage. He also made students to swear by that they would ensure that their parents would not give a dowry to the groom. Even after their marriage, while marrying off their children, they would not give or take dowry. However this topic generated

enough hit with people questioning how one can say that every love affair would be a failure and what if the parents consent to love ties of their children and solemnize their marriage? Former Maharashtra Minister for Women and Child Welfare Pankaja Munde through tweet, questioned, why only girls should be made to make such a pledge? Instead of this, why cant the boys be made to pledge that they would not harass any girl in one sided love affair, they would not involve in acid attack on girls, they would not try to immolate any girl if they are dejected in love relation. Besides,

if any one indulge in such activities, they would be prompt in giving befitting reply to such miscreants, Munde had said. Besides, there was also an animated discussion in various whatsapp groups saying what if the conduct of the groom selected by the parents is not good? Instead of anti-love marriage pledge, the girl students could have been explained about the precautions they should take before establishing any relation, most of the people opined. In the meanwhile in another incident a teacher who was hired to impart computer training to VI-VIII standard girl students in a school run by the Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation (NMMC), was arrested on charges of outrageous modesty of the students. The accused was not an employee of the NMMC and was hired on contract. He had been harassing girls for the last few months. Initially the students tolerated his misbehaviour. But eventually they complained to the school authorities, when the situation went out of control. Based on the complaint by the school authorities, the accused was promptly arrested by police on Wednesday.

## The Cheewalla Meet 2020: Namaste Trump!

By T S Haokip

The relevance of wall and Donald Trump is not confined to the US alone. Inspired by the US President's wall policy, India too built one just a few weeks before the POTUS's visit. It was neither grand nor costly but it did justice to the idea that is Trump. A lot of efforts were put in to ensure that the newly built walls caught the notice of the visiting President. 'Namaste Trump' was chosen over the Gujarati 'Kemcho Trump' to greet the POTUS after the Central Government decides that Namaste represents India. One wonders how the question otherwise even occurred. There surely must be someone who confused his role of himself being a representative of whether Gujarat or India. 'Modi hailed from a Cheewalla family,' said the US President, evoking praise and admiration to the Indian PM. 'Chee! Chee! Chei! Chei! Kaise pronounce Karta hain,' said one viewer of the Press Meet even as Donald Trump was literally enduring a tongue-twisting exercise, trying

to pronounce Swami Vivekananda's name correctly at the inauguration of The Motera Stadium, the largest cricket stadium in the world, situated in the same state was unveiled by Modi just a year ago. Just as 'Kemcho Trump' was considered a probable to represent India's welcome message to Donald Trump, the infrastructure development of Gujarat state is also regarded as one representing the country's development by both the rulers (Read ruler) and people alike. The US First family visited Taj Mahal not knowing the fact that the monument no longer is in the State's Tourism brochure. Standing in front of an iconic structure, which symbolises love and Sacrifice, The President appeared to have said something to the 1st lady. It cannot be, 'Want me to build one for you?' as the President's family is expected to be briefed at least about Taj Mahal being a monument built in memorial of a lost love; Mumtaz Mahal. Whatever was said, we just hoped it was not, 'want me to

buy this for you?' though that would naturally delight few people working on making the 'statue of unity' a trump card for India to brag about. The 1st lady visited schools in Delhi which the Delhi Government under Arvind Kejriwal administer with near perfection. That being said, the rationale behind India displaying its schools to a US President seems to puzzle everyone. In India, a foreign delegate being shown schools and students would normally mean a display of supporting evidence for aids and grants. But showcasing our schools to the US? It does, however, makes sense if we, considering the high number of students flocking the US for higher studies, are trying to romp in American students for studying in Indian Primary and Secondary schools. That would make perfect sense. At the backdrop of the now almost pandemic, 'Novel Corona Virus', two world leaders meeting could have given false hopes to few. However, it does not require one to be an expert on world politics to understand that the US is the last country in the world that will be bothered by 'sufferings in China'. Many believe that Trump-Modi meet was all about vote bank

politics and an image make-over initiative where one leader who has just survived an impeachment and is fighting an election later in the year is eyeing Indian origins' votes and the other leader who received flaks from various quarters on the passage of one legislation by his Government, CAA to be precise, wants redemption, especially from international community. Be that as it may, the visit proved to the world that India and the US are not just ready to work together on many issues but Donald Trump and N Modi are indeed best friends. Trade is a trait Donald Trump was born with. Considering the fact that all trades, irrespective of its size require meticulous planning and execution or simply put, 'preparation', India is not far behind in having experienced leaders from the field. The visit, surely, does not contain any major trade deal. But what is also important is the fact that, apart from trade talks, two largest democracies in the world- 'India and US' should find common goals and strive towards collaborating and shouldering their roles effectively in ensuring world peace and prosperity in the 21st century. After all, whether one likes it or not, there is a world beyond the wall.

## To Congress' rajdharma jibe over Delhi riots, BJP targets Sonia Gandhi

Agency New Delhi Feb. 28

Union minister Ravi Shankar Prasad on Friday hit out at the Congress for reminding the BJP of what its *rajdharma* (duty) should be. Addressing the media, he said a delegation of Congress that met President Ram Nath Kovind on Thursday is trying to remind others about *rajdharma*, but the party should clarify why it changes its position on issues. "I ask Sonia Gandhi, your senior leaders had a view about those persecuted in Bangladesh, Pakistan and Afghanistan. Indira Gandhi had given help to people who fled from Uganda. Rajiv Gandhi had helped Tamils from Sri Lanka. Manmohan Singh Had urged LK Advani that citizenship should be given, and Ashok Gehlot had written to the home ministers in both UPA and NDA for citizenship... So has Tarun

Gogoi... So what is this *rajdharma* that makes your party flip flop," he said. The minister went on to accuse Gandhi of instigating people by making comments such as "is par or us par" made at an anti-CAA rally. "The whole issue was debated in Parliament, so Why are you instigating people," he said. Prasad said the Congress has opted for a policy of changing stance on policy issues. He said on March 15, 2010, the UPA issued a notification on NPR and is now opposed to it. "...This was stated by the Congress for the good of the country, but when they do it it's allowed, when we say it, you instigate people," he said. "There is a lot that can be said about the record of the Congress party. The BJP condemns the Congress's attempts at politicising the riots. The Congress prioritises the family and party and then the country," Prasad said.

## Situation normal in North East Delhi, says Police; Peace committee meetings being held

Agency New Delhi Feb. 28

Delhi Police today said that the situation in the violence-hit North East Delhi is normal and no untoward incidents has been reported in the last 48 hours. Section 144 has been relaxed in the affected areas for 10 hours this morning. A Police official said that security personnel are patrolling in the affected areas and keeping a close watch over the miscreants. So far, 38 death have been reported in the violence. As a confidence-building measure among different sections of the society, Police is holding Peace

Committee Meetings across the national capital to maintain peace and improve inter-community harmony. Union Home Ministry, in an advisory, has said Mob violence and lynching is a heinous crime and serious criminal offence. It invites serious consequences and stringent punishment under the law. Yesterday, Home Minister Amit Shah had reviewed law and order situation in Delhi and appealed people not to believe in rumours. He said, Delhi Police is mandated and obligated to provide security to all sections of society irrespective of caste and religion.