

Editorial

Friday, January 17, 2020

Of our Responsibility and our Rights

Like the proverbial aim of the hunter, the focus of our society at present has been drawn to the issues regarding the Bills and its subsequent fallout, so much so that we seemed to have obliterated other equally pressing matters, if not greater.

The vagaries of nature that played havoc to crops in the state is bound to adversely affect the supply of foodgrains, and with the approaching winter, things are bound to get more difficult. The disturbances and disruptions in transportation, over and above the human-induced ones have made matters worse. Even with the two national highways becoming functional now, we still cannot say with certainty that things are back to normal, essential commodities being almost as difficult to procure or just as expensive even now. There is also the very real danger of out breaks of various diseases due to the increase pollution level and climate change. Road connectivity in lot of places other than the two main lifelines of the state still needs to be improved fully, and even the ones which are still functioning are just so.

Fighting for a cause one believes is all very well, and demanding understanding and attention from those who are at the helm of affairs of the state is a prerogative for a citizen. But fighting for one's rights without discharging our responsibilities is nothing short of demanding a signed blank cheque. We have become so ingrained with the idea and experience of existing on subsidies, handouts and quotas. No one can present us a better life on a platter, and even in the unlikely event of such a thing coming true, we will not be able to fully utilize the present. We need to earn our keeps, and for that to happen, we need to radically alter our present mindset from which a lot of the present tussles are generated.

Our state still has a lot to offer for those who seek to better themselves. Life very rarely turns out to be the way we envisaged, but that is not an excuse to rebel or revolt. Only a mindset that can accept, understand and persevere can, and will overcome every difficulty life can throw at it. Manipur, as a state has potentials waiting to be tapped. If we can grow out of the narrow visions of caste, customs, culture or class, we can still turn this unique place into the paradise we have so often been told of. But time is running out- and fast. For all the prep talk by the government and the leaders, what is actually needed is the implementation of the lofty ideas and generous promises. The need of the hour is a leader who leads the way rather than one who shows the way. And we should be able to follow when such a leader emerges. That is our responsibility. That is our right.

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MSAP denies gang-raped of Mahima Khan.....

Mahima Khan went to buy some eatables at around 6:40-6:45pm from her home on Friday, the 10th January 2020 and never returned back home. As per the SOS message received from the driver of the Pune-Lonavala local train around 7:30 pm of Friday, the 10th January by the Khadki Railway station, two death bodies were recovered by the police from the railway track near Khadki railway station, as per the police report. The two unknown death bodies were then deposited to the morgue of the Sassoon hospital by the police team at around 10pm of Friday, the 10th January 2020. On the other hand, the family members were searching whereabouts of her over the nearby areas till late night and finally lodged a missing report to the Khadki police station around 11:30pm on the same night. As a reply to the missing report lodged by the family, the concerned police informed about having a death body and further informed the family to visit the morgue of Sassoon hospital to identify the death body. The parents of the deceased who were in Manipur rushed to Pune by 11:30pm of Saturday, the 11th January 2020 and established the identity of their daughter. MSAP members and some of Manipuri elders working in Pune were with the parents till the identification process ends. The lifeless body of Ms. Mahima Khan was claimed by the parents on 12th afternoon about 1:30 pm and brought at their residence. Afterwards, the final rites and rituals were performed in the evening about 5:30pm. In this juncture, the actual cause of her death could not be established yet. MSAP and the bereaved family are in constant touch and demanding the actual SOS message of the train driver as well as the detailed interrogation of the train driver in this regard. "In case, there is any possibilities of criminal conspiracy and murder, MSAP and all the Manipuris in Pune will not spare any stone unturned to bring the justice", the MSAP said.

CHANGE OF PROPRIETORSHIP

This is hereby informed that M/s MIS Brick Field operating under Factory Licence No.13 located at patsoi part-1 Patsoi, Imphal West will change proprietorship from the present owner Shri Mutum Ibotombi Singh Patsoi part-1, to my son Shri Surchandra Mutum, Patsoi part-1. Any objection should reach Chief Inspector of Factories and Boilers cum Director of Trade, Commerce & Industries, Manipur within 14(Fourteen) days from the date of publication.

Sd/-

Shri Mutum Ibotombi Singh

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Education Minister directs officials to construct seven temporary classroom at Chadong

IT News
Imphal, Jan. 17

Education Minister Dr. Thokchom Radheshyam today visited Chadong Village and inspected the makeshift school built by the villagers following inundation of the entire village with the coming up of the Maphithel Dam.

The Minister was accompanied by the ZEO Kamjong, S. Mangi Singh and officials of the Engineering Wing of Department of Education (S). The team interacted with the villagers and heard their grievances. The Minister was apprised by the villagers about the hardships and lack of basic amenities in the village after they were rehabilitated to the new location.

Dr. Thokchom Radheshyam gave a

patient hearing to the villagers especially about the need of a school. The villagers informed that the Chadong High School before it was submerged under water had more than 400 students studying from classes I to X. The villagers told the Minister that after rehabilitation although a makeshift school has been established there is lack of proper infrastructure and the number of student enrolled has decreased. Many villagers in order to provide basic education to their children have shifted to the nearby villages and neighboring places but it is becoming a burden for the parents and the guardians as they have limited source of income. During the visit itself the Minister instructed the officials concerned present to build temporary

arrangement of seven classrooms for the school to be completed by March 2020. The school will have classes from I to V. He assured that while the school is being managed in temporary arrangement for the time being, a proposal for constructing new school building will be put forward to the Centre. He also urged the people that a survey be conducted for the villagers so that eligible beneficiary could be identified and benefit from the government schemes of various departments could be provided to them. He stressed that the government focuses to work for inclusive growth of the people of the country abiding the motto of Sabka Sath, Sabka Vikas. He said that the visit has been made as a

part of the 'Reaching the Unreached'. He expressed that he is saddened to witness that the economic activity of the villagers has been disrupted losing their means of livelihood and belongings because of the dam.

He assured that he will appraise the matter to the Chief Minister of Manipur N. Biren Singh and his cabinet colleagues and discuss for necessary steps to facilitate them with skill development training and provide them with economic activities so that they could be return to their normal economic activities. He also suggested that qualified youths of the area can be engaged for teaching the students. Member ADC, Ukhrul Thanmi Kashung, teachers, students and locals interacted with the villagers.

Minister Biswajit launches news portal, speaks on importance of balanced reporting

IT News
Imphal, Jan. 16

Information and Public Relations Minister Thongam Biswajit Singh launched a News Portal - The North-East Affairs today and said launching of such a portal in today's digital world is very appropriate and should be encouraged by all. Speaking as the Chief Guest of the inaugural function held at the Manipur Press Club building, the Minister raised the importance of a balanced report and said that media houses should ensure that their stories are verified and filtered. He continued that all media outlets including print, electronic and others should maintain quality news



reporting to build credibility. Journalism, he said is all about dynamism and responsibility. He stated that journalists provide information and create awareness among the public about their rights

in a democratic society. He said that criticism is very important, but it should be in a constructive and positive manner. Biswajit also said that one should not be demoralized due to one

wrong, but instead work towards doing better.

In his Welcome Address, editor of the newly launched news portal, Wahengbam Tikendra said that the portal will be a first of its kind in the State. He said the difference between news portals and traditional media like newspaper is that reports in online news portal have the flexibility for updates, whereas in newspapers once it goes to print a report cannot be updated.

The inaugural function was also attended by ex-MP Lok Sabha Dr. T. Meinya, Editors' Guild Manipur President Khogendra Khomdram and All Manipur Working Journalists' Union President Bijoy Kachhingbam.

Tickets for third edition of Tata Open Maharashtra up for sale on Zoonga

From a Correspondent
Pune, Jan. 17

It's time for the fans to brace themselves for yet another season of exciting tennis action as the ticket sales for the much-awaited third edition of the Tata Open Maharashtra is opened online on the official ticket website Zoonga from Wednesday. Pune's Mahalunge Balewadi Stadium will host South Asia's only ATP Tour Tennis Tournament, organised by Maharashtra State Lawn Tennis Association (MSLTA) in Maharashtra with the Government of Maharashtra, from February 3-9.

The fans will get an additional 20 per cent discount on the purchase of season ticket which will allow them to watch all the matches of the tournament. The lowest season ticket price will be INR 1,200 while, INR 5,600 is the highest. The tickets are available for 11 different blocks - A Front, A Back, B, C Front, C Back, D, E Front, E Back, F Front, F Back and G - with lowest ticket price for preliminary rounds being INR 150 and the highest being INR 750. "Watching tennis action in Pune is always exciting. This tournament has a huge following on TV as well.

Watching the action live from stands is an amazing feeling for the fans and Balewadi Stadium's facilities are adding to that great experience," Prashant Sutar, Tournament Director of Tata Open Maharashtra said. The fans can also witness the semi-finals and finals action from the stands with the lowest ticket price of INR 250 and INR 500 respectively. The highest ticket denominations for the knockout are INR 1,500 (semi-finals) and INR 1,750 (finals). "Season tickets are always a favourite with the fans. We expect a good

response over online ticket booking process. Fans will get a great opportunity to watch top tennis stars as the ticket pricing is made very competitive with the Season's Tickets having an additional 20 per cent discount," he added. The prestigious tournament will see the world's top tennis stars in action including World No. 24 France's Benoit Paire, runners-up of the last edition Ivo Karlovic of Croatia, former Wimbledon quarter-finalist Germany's Philipp Kohlschreiber and, India's top players Prajesh Gunneswaran and Sumit Nagal.

PPFA appeals to every patriot to honour the Tri-colour

By a Correspondent
Guwahati, Jan 17

As Bharat (also known as Hindustan, India) is approaching its 71st Republic Day on 26 January, the Patriotic People's Front Assam (PPFA) has repeated its appeal to the people of northeast India to pay tributes to countless martyrs of the freedom struggle hoisting the national flag in every nook and corner of the region. The forum of nationalists, based in Assam, commented in a statement that as many people in the region are presently agitating to keep values of the Constitution of India intact and some are also demanding various benefits mentioned in different clauses of the Constitution they would definitely come forward paying respect to the Tri-colour.

Bharat (as well as Pakistan and Sri Lanka) achieved independence from the British colonial forces in 1947 and adopted its Constitution on 26 January 1950. Since then it has been observed as R-Day every year, where all known and unknown martyrs of the freedom movement are remembered hoisting and saluting the national flag in private and public places.

"Prior to our independence, millions of freedom fighters symbolically set 26 January as our Independence Day and continued the movement. It is the moral responsibility of every Indian national to pay homage to those martyrs on both the R-Day and I-Day by hoisting the national flag as it symbolizes the suffering and sacrifices of those freedom fighters," said a PPFA statement.

Encouraging Women's Cricket In Manipur



Assam Rifle
Imphal, Jan. 17

To encourage women's cricket in Manipur, a friendly match was organized by the Thangmeiband Athletic Union Women's Cricket Academy at THAU Sports ground, Imphal supported by 165 Infantry Battalion TA(H&H) ASSAM. Commanding Officer 165 Inf Bn TA(H&H) ASSAM was the Chief Guest on the occasion. To

boost the sports, the commanding officer donated a Cricket Kit to the Academy. While addressing players, the Chief Guest highlighted the laurels women of Manipur had brought to sports in the country. The president Thangmeiband Athletic Union Women's Cricket Academy Col SK Sapam (Retd) and Guests of Honour Takhellambam Satyarani Devi and Mr Jaded(Mamo) were also present during the match.