

Editorial

Monday, January 20, 2020

Nation and Unintegrated part now bridged; have more trust in Indian constitution

The Amended Citizenship Act, which comes into force from January 10, this year amidst much protest in different part of the country, indeed has divided people of the nation into two - base on their ideology. When the groups against the CAA or NRC or NPR are arguing the constitutional validity, the Right wing groups associating the BJP advocated the compulsion for passing and enactment of the CAA followed by the NRC as they believe such an amendment will make a strong India.

The impasse between those favouring the CAA and those against the amended CAA is over the constitutional validity of the legislation. Well, as many as 21 petitions against the Act have been filed to the Supreme Court challenging its constitutional validity. It will not be right to comment on the legality or constitutionality of the CAA as it is in the highest court of the country and people across the country are waiting January 22 to listen on what the highest court of the country has to say about it.

What has been happening in the aftermath of the passing of the CAB and after it became Act after getting assent from the President of India is all about safeguarding the constitution of India.

To professor Akiom Bimol of JNU, who is known across the country for his understanding on social and political issues, this CAA is widening the gap between the Nation and its 'unintegrated region'. His opinion supporting his argument is well articulated in his writing that is published at one of the most respected web portal - **The Wire**.

When Prof. Bimol said that the CAA widen the gap between the nation and its 'unintegrated region' he is referring the North east states which has already felt a sense of alienation due to the treatment from mainland rulers by imposing various draconian act like the AFSPA, that gives license to the Army to kill common men on mere suspicion.

Sidelining the opinion on how Prof. Bimol elaborated in a logical way about widening the Nation and unintegrated region (preferably the North East region), Imphal Times on the contrary felt that, the gap and feeling of alienation between the mainland and the North East states, where aged old insurgencies existed fighting for restoration of the lost sovereignty has been slowly fading away with more people started believing in the Constitution of India. Whether it may be the civil society organizations, citizens and critic or say political parties all rise against the CAA saying that it is unconstitutional. No scholars, civil society leaders takes reference from the International law (Uti Possidetis Juri), or none challenges the implementation of such CAA which could endangered the demographic imbalance in Manipur, which was annexed by the Indian Union illegally.

The recent agitation against the CAA particularly in NE states including Assam showed that people of the state which had never believe the constitution of India is slowly falling in love with the Constitution of India which does not have any provision to discuss issues of various armed revolutionary group waging war against the government of India to restore its lost freedom.

Today, as almost all people including CSOs think it necessary to abide by the constitution of India, it may take only few months to **re-open Jiribam, Manipur, the erstwhile kingdom has been forcibly annexed by India and that too illegally.**

Open Quiz Competition

IT News
Jiribam, Jan. 19

In connection of India's 71st Republic Day, the District Police Jiribam organised a quiz competition today at the Multi Utility Complex Auditorium hall, Jiribam.

The quiz competition was participated by the 11 teams of students from various Schools, Colleges of Jiribam District. The participants pass through the two rounds. The preliminary round was conducted for written quiz consisting 50 MCQ, from where 6 teams were qualified for final quiz competition.

The teams which participated in the

final round are - three teams from Jiribam Higher Secondary School, two team from RK Sanatombi Devi Vidyalaya and one team from Jiri College.

The quiz competition was conducted by SDPO, Jiribam District Police Thangjam Sanatombi Singh as a Quiz Master. Among the participant teams- Team-A of Jiri College begged first position while Team - D of RK Sanatombi Devi vidyalaya secured second position and Team- C, Jiribam Higher secondary school begged third position.

The prizes of the quiz competition will be distributed on the 71st Republic Day celebration programme.

Lost

I have lost the allotment letter of Apartment No. C-1203 of ARIHANT AC DEN issued by M/s ARIHANT INFRA REALTORS PVT. LTD. on my way from Singamei to Uripok. If anybody find it please contact - 9366897750

Sd/-

K. Homeshwar Singh
Uripok, Imphal
Manipur

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.

Left Parties to launch intense agitation against BJP led govt.

IT News
Imphal, Jan 20

Left wing Opposition Political Parties in Manipur is all set to organise 10 days series of protest programme to safeguard the Constitution of India, Secularism and Democracy.

The leadership of the Left Parties and other Secular Opposition Parties are holding a Joint Press Meet at Irawat Bhawan, BT Road, Imphal today announced their stand today.

The agitation will be followed in par with the resolution adopted by National like minded political parties. During the course of discussion leaders of parties expressed their grave concerns at the alarming deterioration in the livelihood status of the vast majority of our people due to the complete mismanagement of the Indian economy by the Modi government.

The economic crisis has pushed

the economy to the verge of a recession with a record fall in the country's GDP, unemployment levels highest in the last half a century, agrarian distress deepening with rising farmers' suicides, massive closures and lay off in industrial units accompanied by rising prices of petroleum products, cooking gas, vegetables and all essential commodities is making people's lives more miserable. Modi government has created an economic disaster.

Instead of addressing these issues and providing relief to the people, soon after assuming office, the BJP has embarked on a dangerous course of sharpening communal polarization and attacking democratic rights and Constitutional guarantees of the people affecting millions of people and marginalized communities.

The abrogation of Article 370 in a

hasty hurry has left the State of Jammu and Kashmir, now bifurcated into two union territories under a virtual siege for over 5 months. Human right have been trampled upon and people's lives ruined.

Communications continue to be disrupted, its economy ruined, free movement of the people curtailed. Three former J&K Chief Minister along with hundreds of political leaders and thousands of people continue to be detained. Soon after, the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) was passed without any meaningful deliberations in the Parliament by the BJP exercising its electoral majority in a tyrannical fashion.

The CAA, NPR and NRC is a package that is unconstitutional, which specifically targets the poor, the downtrodden, the SC/STs and the linguistic & religious minorities. The NPR is the basic for the NRC. We demand the withdrawal of the CAA and the

immediate stoppage of the nationwide NRC/NPR. All the Chief Minister, who have announced that they will not implement NRC in their State, must consider to suspend the NPR enumeration as this a prelude to NRC.

Peaceful multi-religious, popular protest the CAA, NRC and NPR have erupted all over the country. We stand in solidarity with all such peaceful protests to safeguard the Indian Constitution.

These protests are being met with violent repression in BJP-ruled States and in Delhi where the police is under the Home Ministry. All the deaths of peaceful protesters have occurred in BJP ruled states (Uttar Pradesh (21), Assam (5) and Karnataka (2)). The police brutalities in Universities, Institutes of Higher learning and research bodies across the country must be condemned in strongest possible terms.

Guest Column

Aung San Suu Kyi - 'The Lady with no Fear'

By-Chalamba Kshetri



Campaigns of Nelson Mandela in South Africa and that of Mahatma Gandhi in India, she widely rallied and travelled around the Country, calling for peaceful democratic reforms and free elections. She formed the National Democratic Party (NLD) in 1988 with the help of several retired army officials who criticised the Military Juntas.

In 1990, the Military Juntas called a General election in which NLD received 59% of the votes, guaranteeing NLD 80% of the parliament seats. The World thought she would have assumed the office of Prime Minister, however she was not permitted as she did not stand as a candidate in the election. Contrary to her vision, the Juntas nullified the results and refused to handover power which resulted in International outcry. She was placed under house arrest after the elections.

House Arrest -

Aung San Suu Kyi was placed under house arrest for a total of 15 years over 21 years period, on numerous occasions, since she began her political career. She was prevented from meeting her party supporter and International visitors.

Although under house arrest, Aung San Suu Kyi was granted permission to leave the Burma under the condition that she never return, which she refused claiming that "As a mother, the greater sacrifice was giving up my sons, but I was always aware of the fact that others had given up more than me. I never forget that my colleague who are in prison suffer not only physically, but mentally for their families who have no security outside in the larger prison of Burma under authoritarian rule".

Many Nations continuously appealed for her release and supported her movement. Prominent figures also vocalised for her release. On 12 November 2010,

all political prisoners especially Aung San Suu Kyi. Nobel Peace Prize winners The Dalai Lama, Desmond Tutu, Betty Williams, Jody Williams, Barack Obama and other prominent personalities called for the Juntas to release Aung San Suu Kyi.

Aung San Suu Kyi has received numerous awards and recognition throughout her life for her Peace and Freedom Activism in Burma. She is the recipient of Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought (1990), The Nobel Peace Prize (1991), The Congressional Gold Medal (2008) and Amnesty Ambassador of Conscience Award (2009). However, since the 2016 Rohingya persecution in Myanmar many of these honours have been revoked due to her perceived inaction to stop the crisis.

Rohingya Genocide and Criticism-

After a democratic opening up in 2006 and since she held the post of Myanmar State Councillor (equivalent to the rank of Prime Minister). Aung San Suu Kyi has been rounded up the same International leaders and Activist who once supported her.

International Community was outraged by the possible Persecution and Displacement of Rohingya Muslim by the Burmese Army which resulted in Rohingya ethnic fled to the neighbouring countries seeking refuge. They accused her of doing nothing to stop rape, murder and possible Genocide by refusing to condemn the powerful military or acknowledge accounts of atrocities. In 2012, Aung San Suu Kyi told reporters that, she did not know if the Rohingya could be regarded as Burmese citizens. To this, several critics vocalised for the revocation of 'Nobel Peace Prize' which she had received. Myanmar now faces a lawsuit at the International Court of Justice (ICJ) base in the Hague, and Ms. Suu Kyi has travelled to the Netherlands to fight the charge of Genocide levelled against her country.

International Response and Recognition -

Ban Ki-Moon then, UN Secretary General went to Burma in 2009 to pressure the Juntas into releasing Aung San Suu Kyi and to Institute democratic reform. However, the Juntas refused to meet him citing 'not to meddle in the Internal Affairs of the State'. Her subsequent trail and arrest received Worldwide condemnation by the United Nations Security Council, Western Government, South Africa, Japan and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, of which Burma is a member.

In December 2008, the United Nations General Assembly passed a resolution condemning the human rights situation in Burma and calling for Aung San Suu Kyi release - 80 countries voting for the resolution, 25 against and 45 abstentions. During 2009 US-ASEAN Summit, US President Barack Obama personally advocated the release of