

# Editorial

Tuesday, January 28, 2020

## A better and inclusive alternative

The present era of Information Technology has ushered in such irrevocably radical changes that the world is viewed as a global village, and rightly so. Unrestrained and instant access to knowledge and information as well as improved coverage of communication facilities throughout almost every nook and corner of the world has indeed demolished the barriers to communication and information. Yet in such an era, ancient habits and archaic practices tend to subvert the logical and contemporary mindset - which can only explain the developments in such a small and geographically challenging state as ours. The Nagas, in their quest to bring together naga inhabited regions, using various means - both fair and foul, are sculpting a new region as per their wisdom, which they claim is essential to fulfill their end without proper understanding of the repercussions and the collateral damages. Same is the case with the Kukis who are demanding a unified kukiland, and if tomorrow, the other groups like the Manipuri Muslims, Kabuis, etc. were also to start demanding a separate region out of this state, leave alone the Meiteis, what rational could support such a demand or demands? Shouldn't it be better to leave Manipur for the Manipuris - the Nagas, the Kukis, the Kabuis, the Muslims, the Meiteis and whichever group is residing in it. Regressive thinking, although might benefit a section or group of individuals, ultimately will only hamper even their own development - mentally, spiritually and financially. A staggering amount of efforts and expenses have been utilized in raising and sustaining such issues as is evident from the scale of operations of these demands. What if these precious resources - financial and manpower - had been used for finding pragmatic solutions and answers to alleviate the way of life for everyone in this state - be it the scarcity of water, the insufficient and erratic power supply (though considerably improved in the valley areas) on which almost every modern equipments and gadgets are based on, the dismally prepared roads hindering travel and transportation especially towards the interiors - to be at par with the rest of the world and to prepare the future generation to compete and strive with fairness and intensity rather than to bide one's time and survive on another's misfortune and circumstances, as did our forefathers during the stone age. Life is to be lived, not to merely survive, and to strive and grow and progress should be the endeavor of every human. Succumbing to rhetorics about one's filial pride and privileges will only leave one behind in the quagmire one so deviously schemed to trap others in. Is everyone up for it?

## More News

### 'The allegations of Popular Front's financial funding for anti-CAA protest are baseless'

IT News  
Imphal, Jan 28

Popular Front of India expressed strong condemnation to the news reports that are published in various news channels regarding Popular Front's financial link to instigate the CAA protest.

A statement of the PFI said that the news channels have attributed the report to Enforcement Directorate through some "unnamed sources" but the ED has not contacted our organization, nor the ED has issued any such official statement regarding these allegations.

The news attributes around 73 bank accounts to Popular Front and states that Rs. 120 crore was transferred through these "alleged" Popular Front accounts to fund the anti-CAA protest. Popular Front of India had stated it multiple times that we fully comply with the law of the land and the allegation of Rs.120Cr transferred from the Popular Front's accounts just before the CAA protest is totally baseless and the people who are leveling these allegations should prove these claims.

It further said that few news channels also alleges funds transferred from the Kerala state Popular Front of India account for advocates like Kapil Sibal, Dushyant Dave and Indira Jaising. This statement exposes the intention of the vested interested who are keen to blame Popular Front for everything that is happening in India. The truth is that transfers were made in 2017 as a

lawyer fees for these advocates for the Hadiya Case. This transfer was openly declared by Popular Front in various public meetings. Attributing a fees transfer that happened in 2017 as a funding for 2019 CAA protest is totally absurd and exposes the intention to defame Popular Front.

The statement continue that another allegation leveled is the transfer of funds to Popular Front's Kashmir Wing.

"It is a open fact that Popular Front of India does not have any wing or branch in Jammu and Kashmir. We challenge the so called "Unnamed Sources" to prove that there is any wing of Popular Front working in Kashmir. Popular Front carried out extensive flood relief work in Kashmir in 2014 and built more than 100 houses for the flood victims which was also openly declared by the organization in 2014 itself through official publications. Assigning the 2014 flood relief as 2019 anti-CAA protest funding makes it clear that there is a planned vilification campaign going on against Popular Front to stop our growth", the statement added.

The PFI said that they are confident that the fate of these series of allegation will also be like the ones before which could never be proved. Recently the UP and Assam government alleged Popular Front's role in the anti-CAA protest related violence and even arrested our state level leaders. But their claims proved to be nothing but imaginations when they could not prove anything in the court and our leaders were released on bail.

## Internal conducted press tour flagged off



IT News  
Imphal, Jan 28

The 4- Day Internal Conducted Press Tour to Tamenglong District organised by Directorate of Information & Public Relations, Manipur was flagged off today by Commissioner, IPR M. Joy Singh from DIPR office Complex, Nityapat Chuthek.

The Press team comprising of 15 members including Officials of DIPR and Media Persons of the State will visit different locations

of Tamenglong District including Bamgajiang, Barak and Zeliad among other places. The Press Tour which aims to give exposure to the media persons of the State will be back to Imphal on 31<sup>st</sup> of this month.

The flag off ceremony was attended by Director, IPR H. Balkrishna Singh, Joint Director, IPR W. Phajantombi Devi, Officers and Staff of the Directorate. Prior to the flag off, Manipur Diary and Wall Calendar were also distributed to the press team.

## CONDOLENCE

By - Oken Jeet Sandham

President, Muaythai Federation of India (MFI)  
Secretary-General, IMAFI, World HQs, Manila  
Chairman, K-1 Federation of India (K-1FI)



I am deeply saddened by the sudden and untimely demise of O Manglemjao, Secretary-General of the Muaythai Federation of India (MFI) and IMAFI India, on January 26, 2020, at Imphal.

We had been traveling the Muaythai Journey since 1998 till his last breath. We had been taking Indian Muaythai Teams to various World Muaythai Championships since 1998 that were held in various parts of the world. When we led the Indian Muaythai Team to the 13th Bangkok Asian Games in 1998, he was Referee and I was Team Manager. We both passed International Muaythai Referee Exams held in Bangkok in 1998, besides we both passed many International Muaythai Technical Courses conducted under the banner of Amateur Muaythai Association of Thailand.

With him, we successfully conducted National Muaythai Championships in various parts of India that included Championships held at Jammu, Delhi, Kolkata, Hyderabad, Villupuram, Cuddalore, and Imphal, besides many Muaythai Seminars and Training Programs. Under his Chairmanship, we successfully observed the Silver Jubilee Celebration of Muaythai Federation of India (MFI) in 2015 at the SAI Boxing Stadium, Imphal. Even in the last few months, we were keeping in touch over the phone working out for the upcoming Muaythai and K-1 events and most importantly, for the release of a Souvenir that would include histories of Muaythai as to how we started our journey since 1990. In his death, I have lost a true elder brother and mentor. The Federation has lost a true, honest and dedicated leader who was the backbone and master strategist of the National Federation (MFI) and the void created by his untimely demise will be difficult to fill. I, on behalf of the Muaythai Federation of India (MFI) and my own behalf, conveyed the deepest condolences to the bereaved family members of the late Leader.

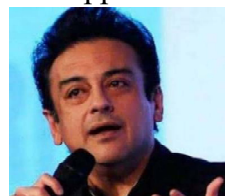
MAY HIS SOUL REST IN PEACE.

## Padma Shri award to singer-musician Adnan Sami kicks up row Congress.MNS oppose Padma award to singer Adnan Sami

By Raju Vernekar

The Padma Shri award to the singer Adnan Sami Khan announced by the Union Government, has created a controversy with the Congress and Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS), opposing the award saying that Adnan is not original Indian.

The Raj Thackeray-led Maharashtra Navnirman Sena has objected to the Centre bestowing the Padma Shri to Adnan, saying that he is not an "original Indian citizen". In a tweet, to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Amey Khopkar, president of the MNS's cinema wing, said, "Sami is not an original Indian citizen. MNS is of the view that he should not be given any award. We condemn the decision to honour him with padmashri and demand the decision be withdrawn." "Adnan got citizenship of India in the Narendra Modi regime 4 years back. What was the reason to lift him (Adnan) so fast and high? Khopkar asked in an



apparent reference to Adnan's video song "lift Karaday" released a few years back.

Whereas Congress spokesperson Jaiveer Shergill took to Twitter to criticise the BJP-led government for honouring Adnan with the Padma Shri, saying that he was given the award because of his "Chamchagiri" (sycophancy) of the Government. The name of the Kargil war veteran and President's medal winner Mohammad Sanaulah does not find place in the National Register of Citizens (NRC) (published in September 2019), whereas whose

father fought against India gets in the India's civilian award, Shergill said. While the Congress questioned the merit of the award, the NCP labelled it as an insult.

Adnan was born on 15 August 1971 in London, England to Arshad Sami Khan, a Pakistani Air Force vet and diplomat of Pashtun origin and Naureen (originally from Jammu and Kashmir). He first arrived in India on a one-year visitor's visa granted by the High Commission of India, Islamabad, on March 13, 2001.

Thereafter in the intervening 15 years, his visa was renewed several times. He was granted Indian citizenship "on humanitarian ground" with effect from January 1, 2016 after his Pakistani passport expired on May 26, 2015 and was not renewed there.

However even before he was granted citizenship of India, Adnan had acquired eight flats and five parking spaces in Mumbai in 2003, in violation of RBI regulations.

Subsequently the Enforcement Directorate (ED) seized the properties saying that they were acquired without Reserve Bank of India (RBI)'s permission in violation of Foreign Exchange Management Regulations for acquisition and transfer of immovable property in India. The permission, the ED said, was required as Adnan was a Pakistani national at the time. The ED had also imposed a penalty of Rs 20 lakh on Sami, since foreign nationals are required to seek RBI's permission to buy property in India. However the appellate tribunal in New Delhi set aside confiscation of Adnan's property in 2010, saying no foreign exchange was involved in its purchase. However the tribunal increased the penalty on Adnan to from Rs 20 lakh to Rs 50 lakh, for acquiring the properties without RBI's permission.

Sami was one of the 118 people whose names were announced for the Padma Shri awards, with the Ministry of Home Affairs list showing his home state as Maharashtra.

The awards will be conferred by the President of India in a ceremonial function in March or April this year. In response Adnan expressed his gratitude towards the government for recognising him. Taking to the microblogging site Twitter, he wrote: "The greatest moment for any Artist is to be appreciated & recognised by his/her government. I am overwhelmed with infinite gratitude for being honoured with the 'Padma Shri' by the Government of India. It has been a 34 years musical journey.. 'Bohot Shukriya'!!"

**Twitter war between Adnan and Congress spokesperson Jaiveer Shergill**

Adnan Sami Khan on twitter to Jaiveer Shergill He key id, you get ur brain from a 'Clearance Sale' or from a second hand novelty store? Did they teach u in Berkley that a son is to be held accountable or penalised for the acts of his parents? And ur a lawyer? Is that what u learned in law school? Good luck with that!

Jaiveer Shergill to Adnan Sami Khan on twitter "Uncle,i can reply in ur language but "Indian" culture teaches us to be respectful even to our enemies- u jumped border only recently so guess ur still learning. Objection is to Policy of declaring Indian Soldier as foreigner & giving award to family of a Pak soldier.Good Day.

## District level Pradhan Van Dhan Yojana program conducted

DIPR  
Tamenglong, Jan 28

District Level Advocacy program "Pradhan Van Dhan Yojana" for Tamenglong district under the initiative of Ministry of Tribal Affairs and TRIFED was held at Siknu Inn, Tamenglong headquarter.

Armstrong Pame IAS, DC, Tamenglong and Arun RS, IFS, DFO, Tamenglong attended as Chief Guest and President of the program.

Speaking at the program the chief guest stated that as this schemes or loan system granted to you will change the way we live, let us all take keen interest in implementing this scheme successfully. He also further stated that self help groups consisting of 15-30 members will be able to do a business of 8-10 lacs rupees in a year from Tamenglong district alone the self help group will be able to a business amounting to 1 crore rupees annually.

Since there is a high demand of organic food items (fruits and vegetables) in the market the concern department will provide latest machines and infrastructure to meet the demand. As for the marketing is concern the self help groups need not worry as TRIFED will all do the marketing added Armstrong Pame.



Arun RS presented a power point presentation about the objective, processing of Forest Produce, marketing plans etc. To the self help groups who attended the program yesterday.

The Van Dhan Scheme is an initiative of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs and TRIFED. It was launched on 14th April, 2018 and seeks to improve tribal incomes through value addition of tribal products.

The scheme will be implemented through Ministry of Tribal Affairs as Nodal Department at the Central Level and TRIFED as Nodal Agency at the National Level. At State level, the State Nodal Agency for MFPs and the District collectors are envisaged to play a pivot role in scheme implementation at grassroot level. Locally the Kendras are proposed to be managed by a Managing Committee (an SHG)

consisting of representatives of Van Dhan SHGs in the cluster Under Van Dhan, 10 Self Help Groups of 30 Tribal gatherers is constituted. The establishment of "Van Dhan Vikas Kendra" is for providing skill upgradation and capacity building training and setting up of primary processing and value addition facility. They are then trained and provided with working capital to add value to the products, which they collect from the jungle. Working under the leadership of Collector these groups can then market their products not only within the States but also outside the States. Training and technical support is provided by TRIFED. It is proposed to develop 3,000 such centres in the country.

Altogether about 120 Self Help Groups President/ Secretary selected for the Scheme attended the advocacy program.

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