

Political drama in Manipur at jigsaw; NPP chief Conrad Sangma with BJP's Himanta Biswa Sarma jumble in the theatre

IT News
Imphal, June 21:

After 4 NPP MLAs of the Manipur Legislative Assembly resigned from the BJP led government in the state ahead of the Rajya Sabha Election held on June 19, National chief of the NPP Conrad Sangma, who is also the Chief Minister of Meghalaya and BJP's architect of the North East India Himanta Biswa Sarma arrived in the state in a special charter flight today. Source with the Imphal Times said that both the leaders rushed to Manipur to settle the dispute between the state unit NPP and the BJP, however, there is no official

information about reason for their visit in the state. A high level source said that both the leaders of NPP and BJP arrived at Imphal airport at around 11.30 am. Soon after their arrival, both went to Classic Grade Hotel and are meeting the NPP MLAs of Manipur who tender resignation from the Ministry. The parting of the NPP MLAs from the Manipur BJP has created a serious problem to the relationship between the NPP and the BJP at the centre. NPP is a partner of the BJP led NDA government at the center. Source said that Conrad Sangma is in the state to settle the differences between the state NPP and the state BJP.

Both Conrad Sangma and Himanta Biswa had also met the Chief Minister N. Biren Singh and other leaders of the BJP. The visit Conrad Sangma and Himanta Biswa is significant as the much talk about criticism to the recent overtaking of the political theatre under the control of Chief Minister N. Biren Singh and Speaker Yumnam Khemchand may be healed if their mission is success. At the time of filing this report, both the leaders are busied talking to their respective counterpart however, there are no report of any amicable solution between the two political parties.

Advocate Victor picked up by police but court releases him as charges levelled against him are unfounded

IT News
Imphal, June 21:

Advocate Chongtham Victor, who had recently raise his voice against corruption by an official of the Custom Division Imphal and later received serious life threatening mobile calls from person who identified himself as an official of the Custom division was arrested by a team of Heingang Police at around 10.30 pm yesterday.

He was however released on bail by the Court of Chief Judicial Magistrate, Imphal East on the ground that the charges leveled against him are unfounded. Chongtham Victor was arrested in connection with a complaint by a staff of the Custom Division Imphal, by the Heingang Police under section 186, 465, 471 and 120 B of the Indian Penal Code and also under section 84(B) and

84(C) of the IT Act. A similar FIR under the same sections of the IPC and the IT Act was also filed against advocate Amom Malemsemba, however, he was yet to be picked up till today. Both Victor and Malemsemba had exposed the corrupt practice being underway at Custom Division Office after capturing an official of the Custom Division asking money for refund of deposited money

using cell phone through this newspaper and social media. Heingang police today produced advocate Victor at the residence of the CJM Imphal East Ningthoujam Lanleima. The police team pray for custodial remand of Victor however, after the CJM I/E heard the counsels of Victor, the CJM released Victor on the ground that she did not find any sufficient ground for remanding Victor.

Natl. INC leaders still in quarantine

IT News
Imphal, June 21:

The two leaders of the Indian National Congress - Gourav Gogoi and Ajay Makhan who

arrived in the state on June 19 to take stock of the political development in the state has been under quarantine at Imphal Hotel till today.

Man arrested for post against Sanajaoba

IT News
Imphal, June 21:

A person identified as Khwairakpam Keshworjit Singh (36) s/o (L) Kh. Jugeshwor Singh of Ningthoukhong

Mayai Leikai Ward No.13 has been arrested by Bishnupur police for circulating offensive post against Rajya Sabha MP Leishemba Sanajaoba at social networking site Facebook today.

PIB and ROB Imphal celebrate 6th International Day of Yoga

IT News
Imphal, June 21:

All officers and staff of the Press Information Bureau (PIB) and Regional Outreach Bureau (ROB), Imphal, under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India, celebrated the 6th International Yoga Day today (21st June, 2020) by participating in an hourly Yoga session at the Auditorium of the ROB, Wangkhei Yonglian Leirak, Imphal. Additional Director General, of ROB and PIB, Imphal S N Pradhan led the session. The session was connected virtually with the yoga session of the Directorate

General, North East Zone, Guwahati and all the Regional Outreach Bureaus and Field Outreach Bureaus in the North East Region offices (Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh) that come under the ROB, Imphal Region. The stress during the session was on the physical, mental and emotional health of the people and their overall well-being. The country was led by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi in celebrating the 6th International Yoga Day. In his speech, PM gave the message of basic oneness of humanity and urged the people to do Yoga at home with their families.

New anti-coronavirus oral medicine for COVID-19 by Glenmark

By Raju Vernekar
Mumbai, June 21:

"Glenmark Pharmaceuticals", a pharmaceutical company headquartered in Mumbai, has launched antiviral drug "Favipiravir" under the brand name "FabiFlu", for the treatment of patients with mild to moderate COVID-19 symptoms. The prescription-based drug will be available as a 200 mg tablet at an MRP of Rs.3,500 for a strip of 34 tablets, meaning one table will cost Rs. 103. It is a generic version of "Avigan" of Fujifilm Toyama Chemical, Japan. Considering a minimum of two strips per patient, Glenmark will be able to provide "FabiFlu" for about 82,500 patients in the first

month itself. The company has received the manufacturing and marketing approval from the Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI). The recommended dose of "Favipiravir" of the prescription-based medicine, is 1,800 mg twice daily on day one, followed by 800 mg twice daily up to day 14. The drug will be available both through hospitals and the retail channel. It can be used for coronavirus patients with comorbid conditions such as diabetes and heart disease with mild to moderate COVID-19 symptoms, the release issued here by Glenmark said. It offers rapid reduction in viral load within four days and provides faster symptomatic

and radiological improvement. Favipiravir has shown clinical improvement up to 88 per cent in mild to moderate COVID-19 cases. It is backed by strong clinical evidence, showing encouraging results in patients with mild to moderate Covid-19. It offers broad spectrum RNA virus coverage with clinical improvement noted in 20-90 plus age group. Glenmark is producing the active pharmaceutical ingredients (API) for the drug at its Ankleshwar (Gujarat) plant, while the formulation is being manufactured at its Baddi (Himachal Pradesh) plant. Glenn Saldanha, CMD, Glen Pharma said that DCGI's approval to the new drug

comes at a time when country's health system is under tremendous pressure due to spiralling COVID-19 and hopefully, the "FabiFlu" will assuage this pressure and added that Glenmark will work closely with the government and medical community to make "FabiFlu" quickly accessible to patients across the country. Remdesivir In another development, DCGI has granted permission to two domestic pharmaceutical companies, "Cipla" and "Hetero", for sale of anti-viral drug "Remdesivir" for treatment of COVID-19 patients with mild symptoms. DCGI has given a nod to the companies on conditions of "restricted emergency use".

With the development, India can now begin the domestic production of anti-viral drugs which would have efficacy, stability, safety for "restricted emergency use" on COVID-19 patients. "Cipla" and "Hetero Labs" have already entered into non-exclusive licensing agreements with Gilead Sciences, which holds the patent for Remdesivir. "Remdesivir" is not recommended for patients with severe renal impairment and high level of liver enzymes, pregnant and lactating women, and those below 12 years, Union Health Ministry's document on 'Clinical Management Protocols for COVID-19' stated.

Protective Thinking: The Unwelcome Delimitation, Part II

By Pakinrichapbo,

The post-independent Indian history shows that the first priority of any political party forming the government, at the centre, is to cement their grip on power by legislating and undertaking decisions that will promote the parties' interests and prolonged their rule. In keeping this tradition alive, the BJP govt. had outdone its predecessors by making hurried decisions—on issues that needed proper planning, consultation, and debate—from promoting sectarian identity and Hindu fundamentalism to sudden announcement for demonetization, banning cow slaughter in North and central India, prosecuting leading social activists and citizens who dare to challenge government policies, abrogating Article 370 and 35-A, and imposing the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA). The latest, in this long line of implementing policies for party's interest, is the sudden announcement of delimitation

exercise to be carried out in the four Northeastern states and two union territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh. We may never discern the actual intent of the Central Government on the timing of such announcement, as well as the assigned year of census (2001 for NE states and 2011 for Jammu and Kashmir) on which the delimitation must be conducted, gives more room for suspicion. With regard to delimitation exercise in Jammu and Kashmir, Hemant Singh in his article, *What is delimitation and why the Central Government want to implement it in Jammu and Kashmir*, states that the Kashmir region with its 46 assembly seats is mainly dominated and won by separatist leaders and their parties such as the National Conference Party or People Democratic Party (PDP). Due to their dominance, these separatist parties (who dislike the Indian leaderships and even the Indian Constitution) generally form the state government.

Now the present NDA government wants to change this scenario. Because the BJP government only has political mileage in Jammu, the central government wants to increase Jammu's share of seats in the state assembly (which now stands at 37 assembly seats) as well as in the Lok Sabha by subtracting the same from the Kashmir region. With Jammu's share of assembly seats increased, New Delhi can without restraints decide the Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir. Carrying out the delimitation in Kashmir will enable the present NDA govt. to form a BJP supported government in the state; thus debilitating the separatists' grip on Kashmir politics. The argument made by the author is valid seeing the political turbulence in Jammu and Kashmir. In Assam, Prajaban Virodhi Manch (PVM), a forum against the infiltration, questioned the timing of the delimitation exercise. PVM Convenor and the Supreme Court lawyer, Upamanyu Hazarika stated (in Economic

Times, 1.3.2020) that the entire exercise prior to 2021 assembly election shows that the BJP-Asom Gana Parishad alliance is not confident of retaining the indigenous votes it secured in 2016 assembly election. Looking into the past record of the present Union Home Minister Amit Shah, the accusation of PVM seem justified given there was similar accusation against the BJP of benefitting the party in Gujarat Delimitation exercise in 2008, before the election. With respect to Manipur, some state BJP members and legislators have joined other parties in opposition to the centre's move for delimitation exercise. As most of us are well-aware, living in a tribal state, ethnic/tribal loyalty will always take preference over party directives. Even the valley based politicians will not like to lose assembly seats; as such, they now have valid reasons to oppose the delimitation exercise by questioning the reliability and accuracy of 2001 census. Certainly, the resignation of three BJP MLAs as a sign of

protest against centre's decision should not be taken as a done deal because the centre tactics of divert and rule has always been the foundation of BJP strategy. With respect to Nagaland, both groups supporting and opposing the delimitation agree that the delimitation exercise proposed by the centre is to divert the attention of the people from the real issue of Naga political solution and once again divide the Nagas along the tribal lines. However, Nagaland's case is different because those districts which have long felt deprived of deserved seats base on population ratio are determined to see justice done to their districts by this present delimitation exercise. On the other hand, the districts having more seats are equally determined to retain the assembly seats by bringing up the issue of pending Naga political solution and suggested to carry delimitation exercise post-Naga solution (which may or may not happen) hoping for an increase in their

share of Nagaland assembly legislative and parliamentary seats after the solution. It is also strange that most Nagas who care little about negotiation or Naga nationalism are now using the negotiation card to oppose the delimitation. The debates surrounding delimitation spearheaded by tribal organizations have once again revealed the true colour of some of our leading politicians: that they continue to be merchants of tribalism. Politicians and their parties have delegated their duties to their respective tribal bodies, which will no doubt have a serious repercussion sooner or later. Whenever situation rises for politicians to take difficult decisions in the face of tribal oppositions, thereby politically educate the public on issues, they instead chose to play tribal cards and exploit tribal organizations for political gains. Today, for fear of losing few assembly seats, politicians are laying the foundation for more tribal discords in days to come. People are bound to

disagree on issues but these disagreements should be democratic. To routinely use the excuse of imminent law and order situations only shows we are still very primitive. Take the example of two Assam residents who filed petition in the Supreme Court seeking Court's directions to the authorities to defer the process of the delimitation till the completion of Census 2021, and I honestly feel Nagaland need to adopt on this line as absence of accurate census data may fail to deliver justice in the long run. That is a prime illustration of how we should disagree in a democratic society. Lastly, Nagaland Election Commission need to seriously check and strike out voters registered in electoral roll of more than one constituency as per Section 17 of The Representation of the People Act, 1950 before delimitation exercise starts this year or in coming years. (The writer is an Advocate from Samziuram Village, Peren, Nagaland)

Happy Father's Day

To all Fathers on Earth and in Heaven!



By-TS Haokip

The celebration of Father's Day on the 3rd Sunday of June was founded by one, Ms. Sonora Smart Dodd in 1910 to honour her father, who was an American Civil War veteran. Today, the role of a father and mother might not be as rigidly distinct as it once was; the definition of fatherhood could, therefore, be subjected to many variations and customizations. Children being raised by their father alone are not uncommon any more. Still and all, the endeavour of commemorating Father's Day is to honour and highlight the importance of father in a family and the descriptions thereof are not to precisely match their exact role in a family but of their worth.

The idea of finding good words to describe fathers even on Father's Day seems to elude many people. I remember an instance, when many fathers and in fact mothers, complained about the speaker's relentless grill coupled with doses of countless dos and don'ts for the fathers in a congregation on the occasion of Father's Day. The fact that many find it difficult to put into words the contribution of fathers, even on their special day, only proves the fact that 'a father's love is expressed fewer and displayed less often.' If the mother tenders to

the emotional requirements at home, the father gives the all-important guide that anchors a family in its ventures outside the house. If the mother provides the affection required to the family, the father gives strength and protection. If the mother represents the soft side, the father displays the tough side, thereby setting an equilibrium in the family that will not be regarded too soft to be walked over and too tough to be bowed out of. In essence, a father is as important, if not more, as a mother in a family.

Taking a trip down memory lane, I recollect the mesmerizing experiences of the special Father's day programmes being organised by the Church and how the fathers would be honoured with gifts and presents by their children, us. At least on that day, people got to, compelled in some cases, thank their fathers. All of it was sweet memories, until the year 2014 when for the first time I'd celebrate Father's Day without a father to wish to. Then I realised how hellish it must have been for some people, whose fathers have left this earth, when we honoured our fathers with garlands and bouquets. Having said that, I personally have no hard feelings on the concept of honouring fathers in a congregation on their special day. I will of course remember my father and may shed few tears, missing him—and that would be it. However, if there are people, especially whose fathers now rest up above, who feel otherwise, then I accord due respect to their feelings. After all, in our pursuit to celebrate fatherhood, no children should feel out of place.

'My son, How is it like traveling by air? One day I want you to let me experience it— at least once in my lifetime,' said my father. I was still a student then. When I completed my

studies, and eventually got a job, my father was diagnosed with several ailments and was advised by the doctors to not travel by air. In the ensuing years, his health deteriorated but he was optimistic, as he usually is, of overcoming it. He'd regularly remind me of the 'air trip'. 'Of course, once my health conditions improved,' he'd added. Being someone who had a close relationship with his father, I have not many regrets. I tried the best I could, to be a good son. My last moment with him was, him hugging me as I left home to resume my duty. But that one unfulfilled wish, though 'twas his health conditions that prevented it being fulfilled, deeply saddens me every time I think of it. 'You wish to travel by air, I am sorry Dad I could not fulfil that. But today, as you leave for your heavenly abode, I know your flight up above to Him would be the best journey, better than the services provided by the best airlines. Your destination, I know is better than the best place on earth,' I said as I bid adieu to my father for the last time on this earth.

Today, as we celebrate the special day of fathers and appreciate their contributions— let us say the nice words we wish to say when they are here; let us buy them new clothes when they can wear; let us treat them with good foods when they can eat; let us show them the world when they can travel; let us make them proud when they can feel it; let us thank them before it is too late and most importantly let us be their wonderful children when they are still our fathers on earth. As for those people, whose fathers have left earlier for their heavenly abode, we still have a father whose love is everlasting and whose life is eternal. Happy Father's Day!

(The writer is author of the Book HILLY DREAMS. More details at www.tshaokip.com)

A humble tribute to Fathers!



By: Janghaolun Haokip

Only lately, I started to wonder, what about daddy? How long will he be with me? What would I do without Him?

I've never had these questions in mind before. I had the feeling that Fathers just exist, or I don't even think about it at all—Fathers, they exist, and just like that. I've never thought anything about anything about fathers. All I knew was that they are just there and they help. They are just there, strong and firm, for us to lean on. They are just there as the foundation on which our whole being rests and makes shape. Simply that!

It's a little strange when we look back to when we were kids. To me back then, my father was the strongest. In my thoughts; there was no one else stronger than my father. I knew of no one who could possibly beat my father. He was also the best in everything. There was no one who could be a better good than my father. The sweets he bought me, even if they are the same as my friends', were always sweeter; the things he taught me were always better, and the way that he raised me was the best. I never really had anything to complain about him.

I remember one time my daddy bought me a jacket. That jacket instantly became my favourite. I'd wear it constantly; I'd wear it at church; at play, at the jungle, at sleep—literally, almost all the time. One time, I was fighting with a

friend who was my elder sister's age. I was on below and he was on top of me with all the childish murmurs when we got into a fight. Almost crying then, I said "Stop! I'll go and wear my jacket and we'll fight again." There is something incomparably special about a daddy. I believe, that I had to go wear a jacket that he specially bought me.

Sometimes when I get to think about those, I would never wish my daddy to go. I would never wish him to leave me, because I can't think of what I would be doing without him. What I would become and how will I survive when my dad's gone are questions that can't get enough space in my head. There may come a time, or maybe it's already here, that I would physically be stronger than my dad. But deep inside I know that I can never grow stronger than my father as a person. We can never grow stronger than our roots are. Of course we may become more learned and more distinguished as a person than our fathers. But the truth is that the tree grows and bears fruits only as much as its roots strive to penetrate deeper and wider into the earth.

Unfortunately, as we grow and get older with time, there are us who seem to come to undermine the role of our fathers. We start to want to grow over our fathers. The good ways they teach us get into constant contests with our desires as teenagers and younger adults with a lot of friends and a lot of things to do that are tempting to the core. However, please believe me, almost three decades of life-experiences have taught me that these are just vain fantasies that are springing purely out of delusions. It has made me decide today that if I could go back and change one thing in life, I would never stop giving the respect my dad deserves, and above that, I will never

question my dad ever again.

On Father's day, let us not only celebrate fatherhood but also their indispensable impact and role in our lives. Let us celebrate strength, security, sacrifice and every single aspect of fatherhood that comes with it. With it, let us thank our Fathers today for being a wonderful Father that they are. Let us be reminded that they deserve the world that they sacrificed for us. We need to know that we, as sons and daughters, have every obligation and responsibility to make them feel special; to make them smile, and make them happy. Let today not be the only day that we love and appreciate them, but let that happiness lasts as long as life itself.

If you don't have a father today and a single mom is raising you, she is a father too, and she deserves all the awe and respect as any father. If you don't have both, you are a father yourself for a person cannot survive without the virtues of a father. If anyone is your strength and your stronghold, or she is your father. Appreciate yourself, appreciate them, and remind yourself today that it's your day, so that like a father, you are never giving up but always strong, even when the world is against you. Let this day strengthen your soul and spirit, to recommitt to the virtues that sets life into motion—just as a father would do.

As we celebrate Father's day, let us be reminded once again of all the sacrifices that our fathers have made for us. Let us wake up every day with immense gratitude towards our fathers for the Love that they have for us. With that, let it be our goal—to be the best of our selves—for it is the goals of our Fathers too. Let us make them proud for Fathers are our Gods on Earth!

If you are a Father, WE THANK YOU AND WE APPRECIATE WHO YOU ARE!

The History of Chonga Bon and What Might Have Been the Compulsions Behind the Titular King's Decision to Enter Electoral Politics

By Dr. Malem Ningthouja

On 13th March 2020, titular king Leishemba Sanajaoba [henceforth Sanajaoba] filed Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) candidature to contest the lone seat to represent Manipur in the Indian Rajya Sabha. He decided to expand roles beyond the 'titular tradition' headquartered in his residence (or palace) known as Chonga Bon. His intention to get elected to the Indian Parliament to enjoy legislative power and other financial prerogatives became crystal clear. Such an unprecedented shifting of the focus from Chonga Bon to the Indian Parliament became controversial. A section of the population protested the decision. But there are reasons for Hindutva 'zealots', led by Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) and BJP cadres, to celebrate the candidature. They predicted a victory, as the ruling BJP led alliance would use any means to prevail numerical dominance over the opposition party in Manipur Assembly.

Indeed, the co-optation of the titular king by the Hindutva flank has been accomplished. This accomplishment has been tactically worked out in a faster tempo ever

since the BJP came to power in the Indian Parliament in 2014, followed by the installation of BJP led coalition government in Manipur. It is an unprecedented breakthrough in the Hindutva venture. Perhaps, ever since Manipur was annexed in 1949, the successive 'kings' have been apolitical but symbolic cultural 'figure.' Ever since Sanajaoba was crowned in 1996, it has been only around the early 2010s that he came under the schematic influence of RSS. His inclination to BJP became publicly revealing on the eve of the Manipur Assembly election in 2017. On 25th February 2017, Sanajaoba shared the dais with Prime Minister Narendra Modi while addressing a BJP election rally. Finally, Sanajaoba jumped into electoral politics representing BJP.

Why vie for an MP? Sanajaoba vied for an MP. It is a personal choice. India is a democratic representative country. Any eligible person can enjoy the constitutional right to contest an election. What for? For power and money? Individual opportunism at the cost of 'tradition' and 'Manipur'? These are some questions many asked. But Sanajaoba says that he would serve

the people better by sincerely exercising the administrative power and fund of an MP. The logic of his personal choice and other possible compulsive reasons may be categorically analysed as follows: First, the residence or palace of Sanajaoba is also known as Chonga Bon. It was the seat of power under British colonial rule for some decades. Sanajaoba inherited it from his father Okendro, who was the son and grandson of Bodhchandra and Churachand, respectively. But this palace was not an ancient building. It was a post-British colonial construction after the Anglo-Manipur war of 1891. The building became lively when Manipur administration was formally handed over to King Churachand in February 1908. By then, the supposedly original seat of power at Kangla Fort had been occupied by the British, which continued till the lapse of paramountcy in August 1947. After Independence, the British Indian Army which became Indian Army continued to occupy it, which continued till it was transferred to the Government of Manipur on 20th November 2004. But, Sanajaoba could not take control of Kangla. Therefore, Chonga Bon remains where it has been. Due to financial constraints, the palace could not be regularly renovated. While it remains dull, the area of the palace campus has been diminishing due to either selling off plots or encroachment. In 2004, the then Congress government decided to

take over the palace as a heritage site and notified the king to evict or shift away from his residence. The king fought against it for more than a decade, to the extreme extent of carrying out fast unto death. He found an ally in RSS. Therefore, when he was offered an opportunity to become an MP, it is obvious that the king will use it to protect his palace.

Second, Sanajaoba is a titular king without political, administrative, and financial powers. 'Absolute monarchy,' which is believed to have been historically recorded since 33 A.D., had given way to a short-lived post-independence constitutional monarchy in 1948. But India's *de facto* regime took it over. Sanajaoba's grandfather, king Bodhchandra, "on behalf of himself, his heirs and successors," signed a secret 'agreement' with the Dominion of India on 21st September 1949, leading to the arbitrary abolition of Manipur government on 15th October 1949. While governance—political, administrative, and judicial power—was ceded to the Government of India, the king retained "personal rights, privileges, dignities, titles, authority over religious observances, customs, usages, rites, and ceremonies and institutions." Most of these rights involving financial prerogatives (privy purse) were abolished by the 26th Amendment of the Indian Constitution in 1971. Sanajaoba, therefore, inherits from his father 'titular rights' that are cultural to

provide a symbiotic platform of 'traditions' involving people across communities. The financial burden of maintaining the palace, royal court, and the symbiotic platform has been burdensome, compounded by mismanagement of royal assets leading to gradual impoverishment. When BJP offered him an opportunity to become an MP, it is obvious that the king decided for it to subsequently promote the symbiotic platform centred around him and the palace. Third, there may be another angle. This presumption is based on the documents released by the so-called 'exiled *de jure*' Government of Manipur, which is currently based in the United Kingdom (UK). According to these documents, on the occasion of the proclamation made on 6th August 1996, Sanajaoba stated that he was "lawfully and rightfully upholding and preserving *de jure* sovereignty of the State of Manipur and *de jure* sovereignty of the Maharaja by virtue of the Manipur State Constitution Act 1947 and by virtue of the bilateral agreement of 1st July and 2nd July 1947 which is a perpetual and irrevocable agreement." On 14th March 2012, Sanajaoba 'secretly' formed a Manipur State Council for the administration of Manipur, and appointed a Chief Minister with the provision to further appoint ministers of Personnel, Home, Finance, Foreign Affairs, Defense, Hill Administrators, and Council Office. On 29th October 2019, the Chief Minister of the Council announced

the shifting of the office of the 'de jure Government of Manipur' to the United Kingdom from 27th September 2019. They announced an 'exiled *de jure* Government,' and thereafter, they submitted memorandums and released continuous propaganda against the Government of India, demanding restoration of the "sovereignty of the State and political rights of the people of Manipur." An underground insurgent party openly supported it. Sanajaoba publicly denied a role in it. But his previous links cannot be denied. However, he was already vulnerable, for based on these documents, an investigation could have very well been initiated against him. He could have been apprehensive, or maybe even faced some veiled threats that charges would be framed against him as a suspect. This would have exposed him to fears and insecurities of being booked and jailed under NSA 1980 and UAPA 1967, which would have taken him prolonged years of legal battles to prove innocence. Two things could have possibly been followed. First, Sanajaoba might have voluntarily changed his mind and decided to enter electoral politics to prove innocence. Second, some agents might have put coercive pressure on him to choose either (1) be an accused and suffer, or (2) be a BJP MP and prosper. Sensing personal prospects, he might have chosen to become a BJP MP.

(to be contd.)

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