Post Script

There have been President’s Rule in Manipur 10 (ten) times so far. Of these, 2(two) were during the time of the Territorial Assembly while 8(eight) were after Manipur attained full-fledged Statehood. In Manipur, there have been 19(nineteen) different Ministries since 1972 till date, a span of only 34 years. But the persons who were the Chief Ministers were only 9 (nine). This indicates that there has not been political stability very frequently in Manipur. The same does not happen in any of the other Indian States. This is due to frequent changes of political parties and alliances at the individual and collective levels. Though the Anti-Defection Laws (52nd Constitutional Amendment Act) have been passed and enforced since 1985 in India, it was not so useful in Manipur. Since 1985 upto 2002 there have been 10(ten) Governments in Manipur. Most of them were coalition Ministries.

There was no Presidents Rule at all during the 4\textsuperscript{th}, 5\textsuperscript{th} and 8\textsuperscript{th} Manipur Legislative Assemblies, though many of the MLAs had floor crossings. But after the 8\textsuperscript{th} Manipur Legislative Assembly Election with the installation of the SPF Ministry led by Shri O.Iboibi Singh on 7\textsuperscript{th} March, 2002 DRPP came out of the Opposition camp, joined the SPF on 1\textsuperscript{st} April, 2002 and became its partner. Inside the SPF, out of 7 MLAs of MSCP 5 were turned into Congress MLAs by a tactful strategy of the Congress on 19\textsuperscript{th} June, 2002. Further, 2 DRPP MLAs along with the Party President were allowed to join Congress on 2\textsuperscript{nd} October, 2003 and with this DRPP began to lose its unity. Next the only 3 MLAs of NCP were turned into Congress MLAs and on 2\textsuperscript{nd} October, 2003 the only 3 MLAs of Samata Party also were turned into Congress MLAs. Thus the earlier number of Congress MLAs was increased from 20 (elected) to 33.
This enabled to elect Dr. T. Meinya Singh as M.P. for the Inner Manipur Parliamentary Constituency in the 14th Lok Sabha Election held on 26th April, 2004.

Under the constitution’s 91st Amendment Act, on 5th July, 2004, the 33 member Ministry of the SPF Government led by Shri O. Ibobi Singh was reduced down-sized to 12 member Ministry including the C.M. himself. During Shri O. Ibobi’s rule many Regional Political Parties which were earlier very active, began to disintegrate. The Federal Party of Manipur established on 21st October, 1993, the DRPP established on 12 July, 1999 and the MNC established on 20th December, 2001 and led by W. Nipamacha Singh have all ceased to be Political parties. In a move to fight Congress, Federal Party and DRPP have merged with MPP on 18th September, 2006. Likewise, MNC also was merged with RJD of Lalu Prasad Yadav on 21st June, 2005 and started to function as a new RJD state Unit after being inaugurated by Shri W. Nipamacha Singh on 8th July, 2005. Similarly, Mr. M. Hemanta Singh, President of the MSCP which had already started to disintegrate and dispossess strength, left the party and joined Congress on 4th November, 2005.

During Shri O.Ibobi Singh led SPF government there happened many unwanted events, accidents, occasions, bandhs, blockades etc. The All Naga Students’ Association, Manipur, (ANSAM) imposed Economic Blockade on NH.No. 39 from 20-06-05 to 11-08-2005. There was mass movement against the unwanted AFSPA. The Government laid the foundation stone for construction of the protested Tipaimuikh Dam. On the other hand, the Congress led SPF Government removed the Disturbed Area Act from 7 Assembly segments covered by Imphal Municipality. The Assam Rifles was
shifted from Kangla to some other place. The Manipur University was upgraded to a Central University. The retirement age of the Manipur Government employees was changed from 58 to 59 as a bonus before election. Though the people experienced weal and woe Shri O. Ibobi led SPF, Government has to cover only 2/3 months to complete its full term of 5 years.

The 9th Manipur Legislative Assembly Election also will be certainly conducted within February, March, 2007. And there is no hint of changing the C.M. of Manipur. So far there have been many C.M.s belonging to different parties in Manipur. But none of them could rule for 5 complete years. So the SPF Government led by O. Ibobi and he himself will be the first of their kinds in the history of Manipur politics. The reasons why O. Ibobi led SPF Government could live for full 5 years are: the 91st Constitutional Amendment Act passed by the BJP led NDA Government at the centre in 2003 and enforced in July, 2004; the check and restriction of defection of MLAs under this Act; and the installation of a Congress Government led by Dr. Manmohan Singh at the Centre w.e.f. 22nd may, 2004 after the 14th Lok Sabha Election held in April –May, 2004.