

# Thingkho Le Malcha

SUNDAY | OCTOBER 08, 2023



## Hmar Veng RELIEF CENTRE

EFCI Mission Compound, Hmar Veng, Lamka

Managed by Hmar Youth Association GHQ

### Total Inmates Registered: 106

- |                              |                                |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| ■ Male: 55                   | ■ Female: 51                   |
| ■ Children (0-10 years): 29  | ■ Adolescent (11-17 years): 20 |
| ■ Adult (18-59 years): 50    | ■ Old age (60 above): 07       |
| ■ Pregnant Mother: 03        | ■ Lactating Mother: 03         |
| ■ Person with Disability: 00 |                                |

### VILLAGES COVERED

- Kangvai
- Kharam Vaiphei
- Monjang
- G. Mongjang
- T. Chavangphai
- L. Phaijang
- N. Zalenphai



## KUKI VICTIMS' UPDATE

As on 05.10.2023



**143**  
DEATHS



**200+**  
VILLAGES BURNT



**7000+**  
HOUSES BURNT



**360**  
CHURCHES &  
SYNAGOGUES BURNT



**41,425**  
DISPLACED  
PERSONS

Thingkho Le Malcha (charred wood tied with chilli): A war symbol; a pre-arranged secret code agreed upon by the Kukis to inform the people about the commencement of war and on receiving this, one has to remain alert and be ready for the battle.

## Kuki Inpi Moltam Lhang Condemns Continuous Militant Attacks on Kuki Villages

The Kuki Inpi Moltam Lhang (KIML), New Keithelmanbi Area, once again, expressed its profound dismay upon the abhorrent terror attacks for the fifth consecutive time on the Kuki Villages at New Keithelmanbi area, spearheaded by the Arambai Tenggol and like-minded Meitei terrorists dressed in Central and State forces' uniform along with sophisticated arms.

The fifth attack on the Kukis at New Keithelmanbi Kuki Area by the Meitei terrorists took place this morning (October 8) at around 4:20am when the armed Meitei militants in camouflage and police uniforms started firing live bullets towards Sinam Khaithong Kuki Village.

Earlier, on 4th October, 2023, armed Meitei radicals attacked New Keithelmanbi village which was successfully confronted by the Central security forces deployed in the area. A house belonging to a Kuki Assam Rifles personnel was set ablaze by the armed Meitei Militants when they attacked Sinam Khaithong village the next morning on 5th October, 2023. At least four houses belonging to the villagers of L. Jangnomphai were also set ablaze in the evening of 5th October, 2023, with the Church partially burnt.

“Despite Central security forces being heavily deployed in the area, the attack by the Meiteis against the Kukis in the guise of state forces is a clear indication of N. Biren Singh’s double standard governance, thereby the hijacking of the state machinery in the aggression and persecution against the Kukis,” said the Kuki body of Keithelmanbi area in its press condemnation on Sunday.

“Such a dastardly attack is a clear reflection of the urgency for a just and durable solution to the political demands of the Kukis,” it added.

The KIML also strongly condemned the state media houses for their biased reports and misrepresentation of fact on the incidents that took place in the past.

“Spreading one-sided news and ill motivated reports will bring no good but will add fuel to a fire to the present ethnic conflict,” it asserted.

## Meiteis' Heinous Crime Against Kukis Surfaced Again



After months of hiding their atrocities over the Kukis, the Meiteis have again let surface their heinous crime against humanity, a video footage of a Kuki young man being burnt alive went viral on social media on Sunday.

The Indigenous Tribal Leaders' Forum (ITLF), sharing the viral video of a youth from the Kuki community being burnt alive to be watched by all, said that the incident happened in the month of May, but it has surfaced only now.

In the 7 second video, a young man is seen burning alive. Only the feet of some accused are visible nearby. The sound of gunshots were also heard in the background of the video. The perpetrators, speaking in Manipuri language, even mocked and ridiculed him.

Manipur DGP Rajeev Singh has also reportedly said that he has received the video some time ago. The identity of the victim is yet to be confirmed.

## Arambai Tenggol's Attempt to Uproot 'Cross,' 'Flag' at Thangting Hills Goes in Vain

Social media users claimed that, Arambai Tenggol – the main proponent of violence in Manipur, in their attempt to uproot “Cross” and “Flag” installed on top of the Thangting Hills today marched towards the foothill, where they were stopped by the central security forces present at the site.

A video surfaced on social media late this afternoon, where members of Arambai Tenggol were seen having a heated argument with the security personnel. They even came close to exchanging gunfire with the security forces.

The senseless action of the Arambai Tenggol can be considered as ‘intruders’ in this period of war and crisis. Had the security forces not intervened on time, the consequences could have been drastic.

## Meitei Churches at Thingkangphai Still Stand, Meitei Lies Exposed Again

The Churches belonging to the Meitei Christian community such as Nungsiba Singlup Presbyterian Church of India (Reformed) and Yaiphakol Presbyterian Church of India (Reformed), situated at Thingkangphai, Lamka, still remains untouched even though there were claims and media reports that the Churches have been destroyed/vandalised.

As per report from a valley based media outlet with the heading - 'Meitei Churches not spared by Kukis', one Meitei Pastor, K Ibungo, had claimed that the Churches at Thingkangphai were, among other Meitei churches, destroyed by the Kukis during the present crisis.

The Meitei Pastor had reportedly told the media persons that the Kuki Christians did not spare even Meitei Christians and their Churches. However, after a spot enquiry was conducted by a reporter of The Hills Journal on Sunday, it was found that the two churches still remained untouched and all the other Meitei Churches within Lamka still stand, neither burnt, nor vandalised.

The locals in the vicinity of the Churches also informed that they restricted strangers from entering the Church premises. Strongly denying the wild allegation of the Meitei Pastor and the unethical media house report on such fake news, the locals said that they as a Christian would not dare to destroy even a single Church, which is against the teaching of the Gospels.

## Rally, Procession, Public Meeting Prohibited in Six Districts of Manipur

The District Authorities of six districts- Kanggui (Kangpokpi), Lamka (Churchandpur), Kakching, Imphal West, Imphal East and Thoubal on Sunday issued orders prohibiting procession, rally, protest, unlawful gatherings and public meetings using loud speakers within the jurisdiction of the districts with immediate effect.

The District Magistrates of the respective districts have issued the prohibitory orders under Section 144 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 restricting movement of persons outside their respective residences since 3rd September, 2023 vide order no. No. DC(KPI)1/1/L&O/2016.

The orders stated that prior permission has to be obtained from the competent authority for taking out processions, rallies, lawful gatherings/public meetings using loud speakers, etc. in the districts keeping in view of the general law and order situation, to avoid inconvenience to public and to maintain public peace and tranquillity.

Further, the orders stated that the prohibition did not cover the customary and ritualistic processions in connection with weddings and funerals, activities conducted by various departments of the government.

## Extortion, Violent Activities Rampant in 'Un-Disturbed Area' in Imphal valley

Even though, the jurisdictional areas of nineteen police stations in Imphal valley are deliberately excluded from the ambit of AFSPA, violent activities of bomb explosion, extortions and free movement of armed cadres still exist, especially in the wake of an ethnic cleansing pogrom undertaken by the Meitei radicals in complicit with State machineries.

On Sunday, the Manipur Police arrested one active member of an underground group from Imphal West, and recovered 01 Arm (9 MM Pistol), 03 (three) ammunitions, 03 (three) Mobile Handsets and Rs. 45000/- from his possession. The arrested person was involved in extortion activities in Imphal.

For the fifth attack on the Kukis at New Keithelmanbi Kuki Area, the Meitei terrorists, disguised in camouflage

and police uniforms, undertook indiscriminate firing towards Sinam Khaithong Kuki village this morning (October 8) at around 4:20 am. The village was situated at the periphery of Kanggui and Imphal West districts.

Also on Sunday night at around 10:00 pm, a powerful grenade was lopped at the residence of MAHUD, PR & PD Minster, Y. Khemchand, at Singjamei, Imphal. One CRPF personnel sustained injury on his hand due to the bomb explosion.

Today, the locals from Singjamei staged Sit-in protest against the bomb attack on the Meitei Minister, Yumnam Khemchand.

It is evident that there is no law and order in the capital city of Imphal, and peace and normalcy remain a far cry.

## Violence in Manipur Has Been Caused by the Expansion of Hindutva to North-Eastern India, Says Social Activist

Terming the violence and atrocities on Kukis by Meiteis in Manipur as State-sponsored terrorism, progressive thinker and social activist Shivasundar has said that the scene in which over a thousand Meitei men parading three Kuki women naked was the death of humanity which, according to him, has been caused by the expansion of Hindutva terrorism to north-eastern India.

He was addressing a seminar on the tragic tale of Manipur organised by Karnataka State Dalit Sangharsh Samithi (Revolutionary) at S.M. Pundit Rangamandir in Kalaburagi on Sunday.

“Over a thousand Meitei men paraded three Kuki women naked on May 3. They made videos of the incident and let it go viral on social media. It shook not just India but the entire world. It happened in the presence of police personnel. It shows humanity’s death and cruelty’s birth in its ugliest form. The noteworthy thing is that none, except for a boy, is arrested in the case. It is State-sponsored Hindutva terrorism on Kuki tribals, a Christian community,” he said.

Comparing the Manipur violence with the Gujarat violence of 2002, Mr. Shivasundar said that the Gujarat carnage and the Manipur violence have one thing in common, which, according to him, is: the active support of the ruling government.

“As many experts and the enquiry commissions have put it, any communal violence that erupts spontaneously will subside within 24 hours or 36 hours at the maximum. If it continues for months, we must understand that the violence is State-sponsored. The violence in Manipur broke out on May 3 this year and it is still continuing even after five months. It clearly indicates that the N. Biren Singh government is actively supporting the Meiteis atrocities on Kukis in Manipur,” he said.

“That the police personnel, a majority of whom are Meities, are supplying firearms to Meities and encouraging them to attack Kukis is no longer a secret. As per official records, over 5,000 guns have been stolen from different police stations in that State after the violence broke out. All the firearms were in the hands of Meities who attacked Kukis. It cannot happen without the active support of the ruling government,” Mr. Shivasundar said.



Holding that any State government which fails to protect the lives, honour and the assets of its own people has no right to be in power, Mr. Shivasundar said that the Union government should immediately dislodge the Biren Singh government and impose the President Rule in Manipur.

“Unfortunately, Prime Minister Narendra Modi is in support of the Biren Singh government in its atrocities on Kukis,” he said.

Putting the Manipur case in a historical context, Mr. Shivasundar said that what is happening in Manipur is a counter to the revolution of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar.

“Brahminism, which was against human equality and freedom, was defeated by Buddhism in a revolution. However, Buddhism was later defeated by Brahminism in a counter revolution. The Constitution drafted by Dr. Ambedkar was again a revolution that defeated Brahminism. Now, Brahminism is, in a counter revolution, defeating the Constitution that upholds equality and freedom of human beings,” Mr. Shivasundar said.

Dalit leader Arjun Bhadre, legislator B.R. Patil, activist Sushilatai Murari and others were present.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

SUNDAY SPECIAL ARTICLE

# WHY SEPARATE ADMINISTRATION IS THE RIGHT SOLUTION IN MANIPUR?

On 3 May 3 2023, at 4 pm when the ‘Tribal Solidarity March’ organised by the All Tribal Students’ Union Manipur (ATSUM) in all the hill districts of Manipur against the Meitei’s demand for inclusion in the list of Scheduled Tribes ended peacefully, the tribal students in Churachandpur got provoked by the news that certain Meitei miscreant youths came from the neighbouring Bishnupur district and had set on fire the Anglo-Kuki War Centenary Gate at Leisang, a village located within Churachandpur along the district highway closed to the district boundary with Bishnupur.

On reaching the spot, the Kuki youths found a Meitei journalist recording the burning flame of tyres at the right foot of the gate’s column. As they learned the perpetrators, who came in a white bolero vehicle, had returned to Bishnupur, the pursuing Kuki youths moved to the next mixed settled village, Torbung, where a group of Meiteis had already gathered on the road. Amid the commotion, the Kuki youths raised the issue and tried to resolve it amicably, but the Meitei youths resorted to violence and led the first assault as they began pelting stones and then torching Kuki villages in Kangvai, a village adjoining Torbung.

The retaliation resulted in a communal clash that spread like wildfire to the Imphal valley. By nightfall, the dominant Meitei community had started unleashing genocide attack upon the Kukis in the capital city of Imphal where thousands of Kuki homes were vandalised, looted, and set on fire, including churches, while the state government remained a mute spectator. A targeted killing spree went on in the midst of an anarchic capital city. Two Kuki young girls at Palace Gate, a stone’s throw away from the Chief Minister’s bungalow, were handed over by their landlord into the hands of Meitei miscreants, who mercilessly gang raped and then murdered them. Their dead bodies are still lying at the RIMS hospital mortuary.

The tone and abusive language (such as haothu hatlo) used as well as the beastly attack on fellow human beings as seen and heard from the viral video clips on social media are sickening and unbelievable as they appear like a nightmare worse than can be imagined, more so when all these attacks are taking place within a one kilometre radius from the Chief Minister’s bungalow. The unprecedented



violence of such scale could have been prevented had the CM, N. Biren Singh, taken precautionary measures, or at least the damage to properties and casualties could have been less disastrous had the state timely intervened. But the state-sponsored genocide was let loose for the maximum possible catastrophe.

A series of actions, notifications and press briefings of the state government put together in proper sequence reveals direct involvement of the state in the ethnic crisis with the sole motive of ensuring the majority community Meitei takeover possession of the tribal hills through three deliberated means: (i) by getting ST recognition, (ii) by eviction of tribal villages in the garb of Reserved or Protected Forest, which may later be used for settlement; and (iii) by unleashing communal violence to drive the minority tribals out of their land. The sequence of preparation may be highlighted as follows:

## Meitei’s demand for ST recognition

The Meitei community, led by the Scheduled Tribes Demand Committee of Manipur (STDCM), which has been demanding ST status since 2012 had filed an appeal before the High Court of Manipur pleading that granting them ST status will “preserve” the community and “save

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the ancestral land, tradition, culture, and language”. They also argued that the Meitei community was recognised as a tribe before the merger of the princely state of Manipur with the Union of India in 1949. The truth, however, is that ST recognition comes with the constitution of India, which was adopted only in 1950, and there was no ST recognition before it.

The single-judge bench of the High Court, vide its order dated 14.04.2023 directed the state government to submit its recommendation after considering the case of the petitioners, “preferably within four weeks” of receipt of the order. The tribal groups, opposed the court’s direction because granting ST status to the Meiteis, who are more prosperous and socially more privileged, is clearly a ploy to grab the tribal’s land in the hills. Initially the demand was kept a secretive, but now the Meiteis are openly questioning why they should not be allowed to settle in the tribal hills. This ST demand, out of covetousness for tribal land, has sparked off the current violence.

### **Eviction in the garb of RF/PF**

The chief minister, through forest department officers, started issuing irregular show cause notices to hundreds of Kuki villages for eviction, alleging they had settled within protected forest (PF) or reserved forest (RF). For instance, K Songjang village, which is alleged to be within Churachandpur-Khoupum Protected Forest in Churachandpur district, was issued a show caused notice for eviction by the District Forest Officer of Noney district but was finally evicted on February 20, 2023, by Bishnupur district police. Almost all PF/RF were declared without following the prescribed rules and are therefore null and void. Even the villages alleged to be encroachers are not aware of the existence of RF/PF.

With the sole aim of evicting the tribal residents living in the heart of their hometown, Churachandpur, the chief minister proposed to carry out surveys on the RF, PF, wetland preservation, and wildlife sanctuary while simultaneously planning to complete the cancellation of ‘pattas’ and ‘jamabandis’ on April 30, 2023. Earlier, the chief minister also issued show cause notices for the eviction of more than 200 villages in Kangpoki districts. The motive is to intimidate the Kukis and suppress their morale enough that they may accept his (CM) terms even at their peril.

When they realized that the government’s systematic oppression has no end, the Kuki tribals decided to launch a non-cooperation movement against the Chief Minister,

N. Biren Singh, so that he had to cancel his visit to Churachandpur district, where he was scheduled to address a public gathering at Sadbhavna Mandap in New Lamka Town and inaugurate an open gym at the PT Sports Complex on 28th April, 2023 as the people who were angry with his proposal to carry out a survey in Churachandpur town had set ablaze the venue, burned chairs, and damaged other materials.

### **Unleashing Communal Violence**

In the capital city of Imphal, the Royal Army, or a civil militia called Arambai Tenggol, was formed by recruiting the Meitei youths in thousands and they were given training in batches. Besides martial arts, warfare and the art of throwing dart weapons (or Arambais), they were also brainwashed by injecting militancy with Meitei-centric radical ideology, radicalizing them with false narratives so that these innocent youths began to consider the Kukis a threat to their existence or survival. So, they are trained and reserved to hate, intimidate, assault, and exterminate the Kukis.

As per their Facebook post on 28th October, 2022, Arambal Tenggol also claims to have Units 1 to 9, of which Unit-8 (outstation unit) is composed of those who have taken the oath but are staying outside the state of Manipur while Unit-9 or RAT (Reserved Arambai Tenggol) is formed by the Meitei youths serving in the defence and para-military forces of the central government and those employed in the state forces. The oath taking ceremonies after completing training are held at Sanakonung (Palace Compound), led by the titular king of Manipur and Raja Sabha MP, Sanajaoba Leishemba who is said to be the militia’s chairman as well.

Having prepared the Arambai Tenggol for combat, the chief minister, N Biren Singh, began to publicly insult the Kukis through his official Facebook post, press statements, official orders, promulgations, etc., at times even name calling or branding the Kukis as illegal immigrants. The Kuki youths who refuted or made negative comments about his post were either threatened, arrested or both. On the other hand, the Meitei radical groups were left unrestrained to freely make all sorts of communal remarks against the Kukis.

As the Kukis remained unprovoked in spite of the chief minister’s action stated above, the well-known

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balanced Meiteis individuals had also begun following suit in using the term 'illegal immigrants' to refer to the Kukis almost in every TV discussion without any restraint or responsibility. One prevalent false narrative is that the population of Kukis in Manipur was just 1% in 1901, but it is now 29%, the figures of which are totally fabricated. Based on these fabricated statistics, the Meiteis demand the implementation of the NRC in Manipur, taking 1951 as the base year.

Even if 1951 is fixed as the base year for NRC, it may be noted that in the year 1951 the State was divided into 3 Plains and 5 Hills Subdivisions of which Sadar sub-division which is now Kangpokpi was recorded as having the highest population of 2,70,972 and Thoubal sub-division recorded with 1,23,754 population was the second largest. Today, Thoubal has 6 MLA's whereas Kangpokpi has only 3 MLA's. This alone stands proof that there is no any abnormal growth of Kuki population as alleged.

Another proof that it is a systematic and targeted genocide perpetrated upon the Kukis is that prior to May 3, the Kuki houses in Imphal especially where there are mixed ethnic settlements, were secretly marked with red paint on the front gates or fencing walls of every Kuki home. Many victims recollect that certain Meitei youths who claimed to be health workers visited them and showed them their identity card, which, they realized now, was for the Red Marks. A peace loving people that they are, not a single Kuki resident in Imphal suspected any impending misfortune out of it. Even on the 3rd day of violence, an unsuspecting Kuki boy went to his Meitei friend's to keep his car safe but was waylaid, murdered and his body burned with his car.

Starting from mid 2021, the state government had selectively collected all license arms through District Magistrates in the Kuki dominated districts with the warning that those who failed to deposit would face cancellation of their license. In contrast, it has now come to light that the Arambai Tenggols led Meitei miscreants had looted about 4000 sophisticated weapons from the state armoury along with 5 lakh rounds of ammunitions with the tacit understanding of the state government. These arms were used in attacking and burning down of Kuki villages.

Not only that, attempts were made by certain individuals who were working hand in glove with the state to empty PDS (Public Distribution System) rice stock at the Food Corporation of India (FCI) godown at Tualnuam, Churachandpur. In one such attempt, six heavy vehicles

found loaded with 2246 'stolen' PDS rice bags caught while taking the rice bags to Imphal on 22 March, 2023. This is to nothing but a part of the game plan to make the Kukis suffer in hunger when the deliberated genocide unfolded.

### **Immediate Cause**

It appears that the Meiteis got frustrated when their first two deliberate attempts to encroach on the hills as mentioned above, met with resistance and were unsuccessful. This probably might have compelled them to opt for the third and last plan i.e., to 'Unleashing Communal Violence to drive the minority tribals out of their land.' However, the communal clash failed to flare up as they wished due to the extraordinary patience of the Kukis in spite of racist remarks, arrests, evictions, etc. But they were determined not to give up provoking the Kukis by hook or by crook. Otherwise, their preparation would go futile.

A choice had to be made for the kind of action at the right time that would be most provocative for the Kukis that would surely be reacted. Obviously, burning the Anglo-Kuki Centenary Gate at Leisang was the best choice. Again, they rightly chose to wait for the 'Tribal Solidarity March' to end. So, the Meiteis successfully manipulated the situation, ignited the Kuki-Meitei communal clash, and smartly executed their premeditated and targeted genocide or ethnic cleansing against the Kukis.

Though they have filed an appeal before the High Court and the High Court has also directed the state government to submit its recommendation for inclusion of the Meiteis in the lists of ST, the Meiteis themselves know well that their legal pursuit for ST status is like chasing the wind. They therefore have no patience to wait for the final result and have thus switched over to the path of violence to achieve their target of settling in the tribal hills.

In short, the present violent situation is what the Chief Minister has been eagerly waiting for the past many years particularly after his party got an absolute majority in the March 2022 Assembly Election. Had it been a case of mere misunderstanding between two groups in which he was not directly involved, he would have used all the state's security forces to quell the

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situation. Even the army and paramilitary forces already there in the state are sufficient to quell the situation. No extra security forces are required from outside the state. The fact is that he monitors, directs and oversees to make sure that his Meitei community completely reigns over the Kukis and that the latter will forever remain submissive and servile to the former. He wants to inflict the Kukis with the most devastating effect that the Kukis may not rise again. Irrational as it may sound, the Meiteis with a population of 57% having 40 MLA's feel insecure because the Kuki with a population of 18% have 10 MLA's. It's a case of 'Might is Right', like in the story of 'The Wolf and the Lamb', where the wolf blamed a lamb down-stream for making the water muddy.

### **Why Nagas are not targeted?**

It may be surprising for many as to why the Naga tribals have not been targeted despite the fact that they have also participated in the 'Tribal Solidarity March' on May 3, 2023 organized by ATSUM in all the hill districts, including the Naga dominated districts. This is conspicuous of the policy of 'divide and rule'. Until a few years ago, the Meiteis used to invite the Kuki civil society leaders to organized rallies opposing the Naga's political demand for integration of all Naga inhabited areas. The Kukis then shouted the slogan 'The integrity of Manipur should not be disturbed'.

This time, the Kukis are not only sidestepped but also tagged with all kinds of hate speeches. Though poppy is cultivated in all the hill areas, the Meiteis selectively choose to project the Kukis as the only cultivators. The fact is that the Meiteis investors are behind this cultivation. When a Kuki is arrested for drug possession, the Chief Minister himself immediately posts the news on social media with 'discriminatory label' but he remains silent when a Meitei is arrested. Recently, Delhi Police arrested the Meitei drug cartels - Ranveer Singh and Loyangamba on February 17, 2023 with 50 kg of opium worth Rs 10 crore, but the chief minister had not uttered a word. Had they been Kukis, he would have surely conducted a press conference.

Also, interrogation of Chandal Gupta Vijendra, kingpin of the drug smugglers hailing from Senapati district of Manipur revealed that a total of 562 shops located in Dimapur, Assam, and Senapati district of Manipur were involved in the clandestine sale of the illegal drugs, which include high-quality heroin, opium, methamphetamine tablets, and brown sugar. However, Senapati district being a Naga dominated district, the chief minister never uttered a word or even made a veil reference to highlight this

particular revelation. So, it is clearly a 'selective target' against the Kukis.

### **What the Meiteis want besides land?**

In order to understand what the Meiteis want from the current violence in Manipur besides land, we need to look at the government of Manipur's budget for the past four years, i.e., 2017-18 to 2020-21, and the actual expenditure incurred for the Hill districts during the said years is as follows:

- i) For the financial year 2017-18, out of the state's budget of Rs. 5000 cr, only Rs.108 cr i.e. 2.16% of the budget was actually spent for the hill districts.
- ii) For the financial year 2018-19, out of the state's budget of Rs.4900 cr, only Rs.150 cr i.e. 3.06% of the budget was actually spent for the hill districts.
- iii) For the financial year 2019-20, out of the state's budget of Rs.5000 cr, only Rs.120 cr i.e. 2.4% of the budget was actually spent for the hill districts.
- iv) For the financial year 2020-21, out of the state's budget of Rs.7000 cr, only Rs.41 cr i.e. 0.58% of the budget was actually spent for the hill districts.

Now, the total sanctioned budget for the state during the above four financial years is Rs. 21,900 crores as against the total actual expenditure for the hills during the relevant period of Rs. 419 crores which is only 1.91%. This means, the tribals of Manipur with 43% of the state's population living in the hill which is about 90% of its geographical area, have received less than 2% of the state's budget during the above four years. In other words, the Kukis and the Nagas together are sharing this meagre amount of less than 2% of the sanctioned budget for the development of the Hills. This alternately means that the valley is receiving over 98%.

There is neither bifurcated data of expenditure for the valley and the hills made public after the financial year 2021-22, nor any data before 2017-18. However, the above four years figure is indicative of the financial injustice done to the hill districts of Manipur for over a century now. At present, what the Kukis have saved out of their shares from the less than 2% they shared with Nagas has also been, looted, vandalized, and burned to ashes by the state-sponsored or institutionalized riots. First, the Kukis have been deprived of their fair share and now, their meagre savings have also been looted in addition to rendering them homeless.

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Further, the state of Manipur receives about 90% of its annual budget from the central government every year as it barely generates about 10% from the state's revenue collection. A cursory view of the 15th Finance Commission's report gives a hint that a major portion of the funds received by Manipur from the Centre are meant for the hills. For instance, the budget allocation on 'income distant' that accounted for 45 percentage points is meant for the hill tribals whose per capita income, for sure, is much way below the Meiteis in the valley. Similar will be the case for 'Forest and Ecology' as more than 90% of the forest area is in the hills.

When the Tribals of Manipur have become aware that they have been at the receiving end of financial injustices for over 70 years, the majority of Meiteis, instead of seeking reparation, get annoyed or feel insulted as though they are unquestionable masters. They still do not feel satisfied and want to continue enjoying the funds meant for the development of the tribal hills. Gandhiji has rightly said, 'The Earth has enough resources to meet the needs of all but not enough to satisfy the greed of even one person.'

Till date, over 4000 houses of the Kukis have been burned down with 80 dead counts. The loss being quantifiable appears very huge. However, the fund meant for them being diverted during the last 70 years is much more than the loss they suffer right now. This is the reason why they have swept the Kukis from the Imphal valley starting May 3, 2023 and yet refuse to accept a separate administration. They hate the Kukis but love the fund meant for them from the centre as the fund can be diverted unopposed.

### **What is the solution?**

The ground situation tells us loud and clear that separation is the only solution available for permanent peace. There is no alternative solution. The entire Kuki population in the Imphal valley has been completely driven out since May 3 and similarly, the Meiteis have also left the hills. Despite of the geographical separation (hills and valley), demographic separation has now complete. Not only civilians but also both state and central government servants who belong to the Kuki community are no longer safe in the Imphal valley. Even uniform service personals are not safe.

The state's Tribal Affairs and Hill Minister, Shri Lepao Haokip's two houses at Mantriphukhri and Haokip Veng in Imphal city, were burned down while he had a narrow escape from the bloodthirsty mob. Even his native village

– Aihang, has also been attacked and burned down. Another Kuki MLA, Shri Vungjagin Valte was fatally attacked on his return from a high level meeting convened by the chief minister. While his driver had died on the spot, he was rescued in an unconscious condition from the road side and is still being treated in Delhi.

A separate administration is already visible in the actions of the government of Manipur which speaks volumes about the fact that it is no longer the government for the Kukis. The Manipur police commandos continue attacking the Kuki villages to date i.e. 2nd June, 2023. No power has been given to the state police head (DGP) since 3rd May, 2023 because he belongs to Kuki, and now he is replaced by his junior IPS from Tripura cadre. Similarly, all the other Kuki IPS officers are given no power.

A pertinent question that needs to be answered is: Who planned this targeted genocide? Who has marked red paint on the doors of the Kukis' houses in Imphal? Who has done this selective targeting of genocide? Who has formed and trained the militia, viz. Arambai Tenggol and Meitei Leepun? Who has done this demographic separation? Who has allowed the Arambai Tenggols to loot more than 4000 sophisticated arms from the state armoury? Who has directed the Manipur police commando to attack the tribal Kuki villages?

Who has selectively usurped the powers of the state government officers who belong to the Kuki community? Why cannot the DGP, the head of state police, protect his own house from the militants when they should also be protecting others? Why cannot the ADG of the state police protect their houses? Why can't the cabinet ministers protect themselves in Imphal? Aren't all these the results of selective separation drive perpetrated upon the Kukis by the Meitei-led state government?

As has always been the case, the voiceless Kukis are at the receiving end of injustice. Is not this separate administration that turns the capital city Imphal the most dangerous place to live? Is not this separate administration that turns the capital city Imphal the most insecure place to live? We can conclude in no uncertain terms that the Kukis are compelled to accept 'SEPARATE ADMINISTRATION'. Yes, for permanent peace and lasting solution, they must accept the complete separation from Manipur.

THE SOCIAL MEDIA BUZZ

Meitei Leepun  
15 h · 🌐

Wajao ngang dringeida hdfc gi loan do amta singbiro ebo.. agent mayam na koi thi thire ne..

P Lakhibabu Singha · Follow  
19 h · 🌐

🤔🤔 MANIKPUR HERO IS HERE 🤔🤔



🤔👍 9      3 comments · 1 share · 4.1k views

Going by the book, a self-proclaimed Meitei Hero, a pathological liar and a former film star Thounaojam Maheshwar, is an alleged Loan Defaulter.

A Facebook user by the name "P Lakhibabu Singha" posted a screengrab of Mahesh video with the caption "Manipur Hero is Here."

The post was shared by a dubious page name "Meitei Leepun" with the caption "Before speaking of big things and bragging in public, please clear your HDFC Bank Loan, the agents are looking for you here and there."

(Reader discretion is advised)





# ZO UNITED

*Dr. George T. Haokip*



**Zo people strong, in unity they stand,  
Once divided, across the land,  
Challenged the British, hearts so brave,  
But into three, they were enslaved.**

**Minorities they became, far and wide,  
Suppressed by states, no place to hide,  
In India, Bangladesh, Myanmar's ground,  
Oppressed, yet a spirit unbound.**

**Enemies came, in darkness they'd roam,  
Fear and sorrow, far from home,  
In Manipur's heart, danger did loom,  
Meitei challenge, they faced their doom.**

**God's plan unfolded, Zo United was born,  
In unity, their strength reborn,  
Kuki, Zomi, Hmar, Mizo, and more,  
Under "Zo," a force to adore.**



**In lands far and wide, once small in count,  
Now united, their numbers paramount,  
United now, from first to last,  
In the face of strife, they choose to fight,  
With God's help, they find their light.**

**Tens of thousands, they'd quickly rise,  
Ready to face any darkened skies,  
Zo United, a powerful band,  
United they stand, hand in hand.**

