

Thingkho Le Malcha

A Daily Newsletter by KSO Media & Documentation Cell



LM Academy RELIEF CENTRE Mata, Lamka

Managed by
Young Vaiphei Association,
General Headquarters (YVA GHQ)

Total Inmates Registered: 224*

■ Male: 105

■ Female: 119

*As on 24th October, 2023



KUKI VICTIMS' UPDATE

As on 10.11.2023



150
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.

COTU'S 48-HOUR TOTAL SHUTDOWN AGAINST SELECTIVE INJUSTICE AND SELECTIVE ENFORCEMENT OF LAW CRIPPLES NORMAL LIFE IN MANIPUR'S KANGGUI



The Committee on Tribal Unity (CoTU), Sadar Hills Kangpokpi's 48-hour total shutdown, which began this morning at 6:00 a.m. hit normal life hard in Manipur's Kangpokpi district with all normal activities coming to a standstill.

The CoTU's total shutdown will be enforced till 6:00 a.m. of November 13.

CoTU had announced the total shutdown considering the alleged objectionable events and keeping the sentiments of the public intact, with the sole demand of rationalizing the implementation of law and order for both the Meiteis and the Kuki-Zo.

Earlier, in the day the Kuki-Zo people as part of their mass movement held a massive rally at Kangpokpi District Headquarters and demonstration in front of the SP Kangpokpi office, where they demonstrated the whole night till this morning until the total shutdown began at 6:00 a.m.

Later, thousands of Kuki-Zo people mostly women across the district congregated at Kangpokpi town and Gamgiphai and strictly enforced the total shutdown.

All shops, business establishments, and educational institutions across the district remained closed while the vehicular movement came to a standstill along the National Highway-2.

Emergency services, press, and CoTU units which are exempted from the purview of the shutdown were only allowed to pass along the highway.

Strife-torn Manipur's Kangpokpi district has been back to a burning situation after the Kuki-Zo intensified their mass movement protesting the alleged 'Selective injustice and selective enforcement of the law' by N. Biren Singh's led Manipur Government as it intensified their demand for the release of the two Kuki-Zo individuals arrested by Manipur police.

CoTU's decision to impose a 48-hour total shutdown was taken in an emergency late Friday midnight meeting with all of its units/departments, and various civil society organizations at Kangpokpi District Headquarters following intense pressure from the public.

CoTU's Media Cell stated that the Kuki-Zo community is seriously disturbed by the selective injustice through discriminatory enforcement of law and order.

It alleged that the display of anarchy by terror groups such as Arambai Tenggol in the public sphere and the inaction of the state police in apprehending those outfits; the looting of church offerings in Kuki-Zo villages; the attempt to re-settle only the displaced Meiteis in Kuki-Zo areas; the biased security deployment for harvesting and the brutal killings of innocent Kuki-Zo civilians with the support of the state have affirmed that the law and order are apparently one-sided.

CoTU further stated that in case of negligence and inattention to our legitimate demands, the future course of action will be determined by the committee in consultation with the public.

THOUSANDS RALLY AGAINST 'EDUCATIONAL NEGLIGENCE' IN LAMKA



Thousands of students marched on the streets of Lamka (Churachandpur) on Saturday during a “Rally against educational negligence,” protesting against the discrimination of Kuki-Zo students in Manipur, .

Students from various educational institute and Coaching Centers within the district congregated at Lamka Public Ground and marched till Mini Secretariat Complex, Tuibong, Churachandpur, raising various slogans against the government for the glaring educational disparity and the consequent negligence on the part of the state, where the conflict has rendered thousands of tribal students unable to resume their classes.

All forms of remedial measures in catering to Kuki-Zo students’ interest are still pending, while months have passed since these students are left with no respite, Joint Students’ Body (JSB), Lamka said in statement issued today.

“While students from all kinds of fields had their careers on hold, and at a time where job seekers have to travel to far off centers irrespective of the cost on their pockets, students of the Kuki- Zo ethnic tribes felt neglected at the slow pace of the state to adequately address their plight. The rally thus, is a demonstration of the students’ frustration

and a culmination of their disorientation, a sign of protest against a partisan state which only promotes Meitei interests while neglecting the welfare and interests of the Kuki-Zo people and their students.”

In light of the injustices borne by the Kuki-Zo students, the JSB submitted a memorandum to the Union Home Minister through the Deputy Commissioner which demanded the establishment of a Central University, institutes of technical and medical education, timely disbursement of funds and benefits under the tribal ministry to organizations based in the hill districts. The demand also included expediting the completion of Churachandpur Medical College (CMC) being undertaken at Mata Village and in the meantime, to streamline classes at the temporary centre at Headquarter Veng and immediate resumption of online examinations conducted by SSC/BANKS-IBPS/UGCNET/NEET-JEE/AGNIVEERS/NTA etc at CDS-INFOTECH Lamka (Churachandpur).

“While we continue to support the efforts and demands of our leaders for a political solution, we resolve to continue our fight for justice - the other name for which is, ‘Total Separation from Manipur,’” JSB reiterated in their memorandum addressed to the Union Home Minister.

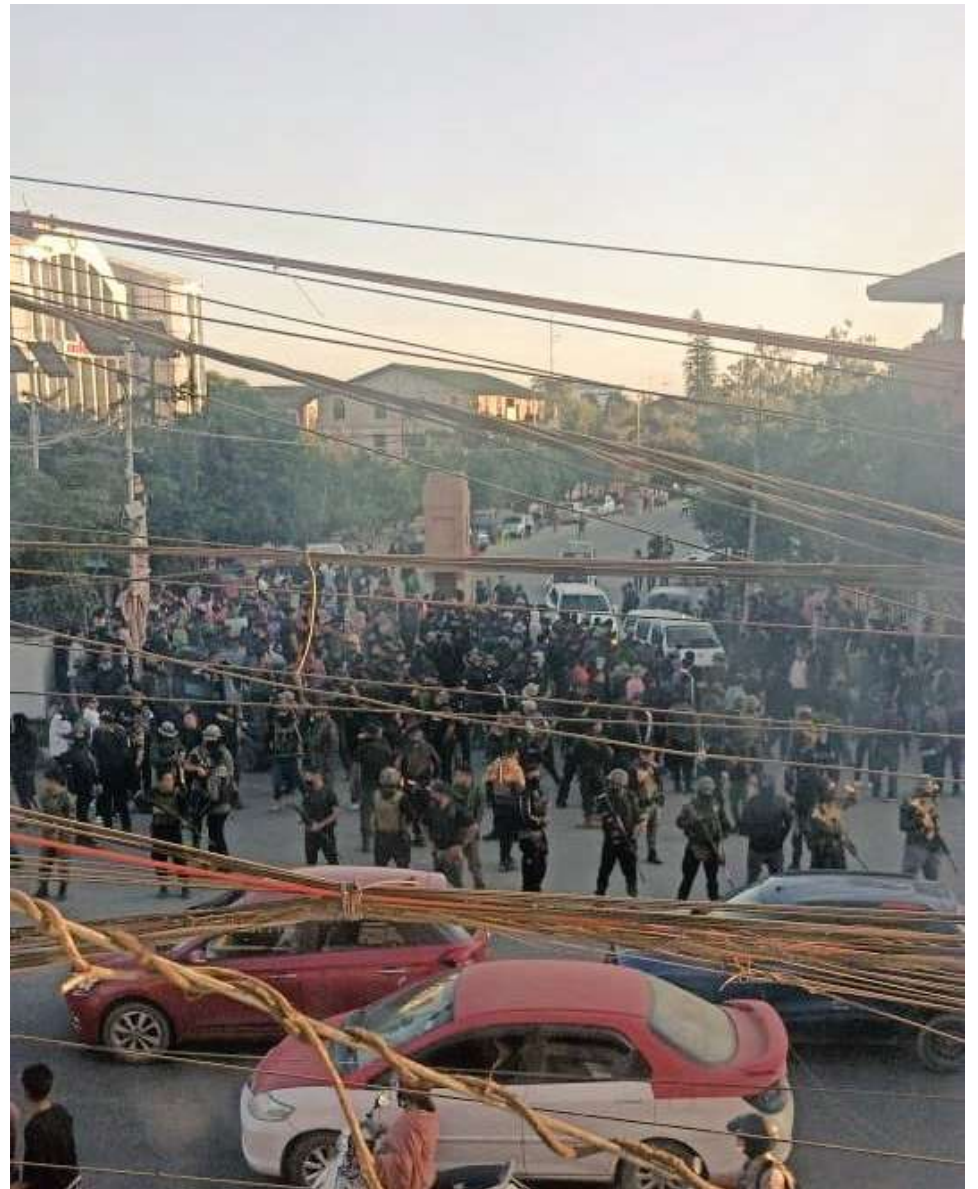
ARAMBAI TENGGOL GOONS RUN THE SHOW IN IMPHAL VALLEY

The Imphal Valley has no longer a proper mechanism of Administration in place as the Arambai Tenggol goons run the show - killing, terrorizing people at will and reprimanding anyone speaking against them with severity.

The notorious Arambai Tenggols are roaming freely in Imphal valley, openly flaunting their looted weapons and the law enforcement agency seems muted for taking action against them.

As per the India Army and National Investigation Agency, re-imposition of AFSPA in valley districts of Manipur is an urgent need as the state and national security is under threat. But, the government of Manipur declared the Meiteis dominated districts as Non-Disturbed Area recently. Today, one can witness the Meitei terror groups branding with their looted sophisticated arms in full combat in front of the City Convention, Imphal, just about 300 metre away from the CM bungalow and State Police Headquarters.

The open declaration of war against the Kukis by the Arambai Tenggol's chief and inaction of the state government and the national agency is a clear manifestation of government involvement in the ongoing ethnic crisis. This terror group is an unofficial armed militia of the state top leadership including Leisemba Sanajaoba, Rajya Sabha MP and Meiteis' titular king. As such, they are given free hand without any intimidation by the security agencies. Imphal valley thus becomes a safe haven for these terror groups.



BIREN SINGH IN COMPLICIT WITH SOME RADICAL ELEMENTS: MLA PAOLENLAL

Manipur BJP MLA Paolienlal Haokip today said that his Chief Minister Biren Singh was “in complicity with some radical elements” and that Biren Singh “seems to allow those very few radical elements to wreak havoc”.

Haokip has gone as far as demanding a change in leadership, his move being viewed as an open revolt against the chief minister.

“The chief minister should quit. If he does not, every legislator in his party has the moral responsibility to speak up against such kind of leadership that facilitates such human tragedy on the state,” he told Northeast Live.

Asked if his stand did not amount to a revolt against the party he responded by saying that “the party did not have its manifesto that a radical section of society be nurtured



and let it cause this kind of havoc in the state”.

He clarified that his was not a stand against the party but the chief minister.

CENTRAL SECURITY FORCES ARREST 23 MYANMAR-BASED MEITEI MILITANTS IN CHANDEL

At least 23 Meitei militants based in Myanmar were captured by the central security forces on Thursday after the militants tried to infiltrate into the Indian territory from Myanmar.

As per sources, the arrested Meitei militants were said to be active members from the banned People's Revolutionary Party of Kangleipak (PREPAK) and United National Liberation Front (UNLF) groups. Fourteen of the 23 captured militants belong to PREPAK while nine belongs to UNLF.

Sources said that the militants along with Myanmar Junta soldiers and family members escaped towards Indian border in New Samtal area of Manipur's Chandel district after the Democratic Alliance Army (DAA) overrun the Junta's camps in Khampat, Witotke, and Panthar (Pantha) in Tamu district Myanmar and tried to cross over Indian territory in

general area of Aivomjang village Chandel District.

The Democratic Alliance Army including KIA, PDF, ABSDF, CNDF, RCDF had been attacking the camps of Myanmar Army and its militia group Pyu Saw Htee in Pantha - Kanan section of Asian Highway in Tamu district Myanmar since November 3. On November 7 at around 10:00 AM, the DAA overrun the Junta's camps and captured the stations of Junta soldiers and its militia groups in Khampat, Witotke, Panthar and others. It was also reported that 4 members of DAA got killed during the incident and several others sustained injuries while DAA captured 10 Junta soldiers alive.

Following the incident, many Junta soldiers fled for their lives while some of them fled towards the Indian border along with the Meitei militants.

PETITION FILED FOR DISMISSING FIVE JDU MLAS

Janata Dal United Manipur secretary general M Dorendro Singh has filed a petition in the High Court of Manipur seeking disqualification of five JD-U MLAs, who had joined the BJP in violation of the 10th Schedule of the Constitution of India as no action has been taken by Manipur Legislative Assembly speaker to an earlier petition filed in this regard.

The petition submitted by advocate Ajoy Pebam mentioned that Dorendro had filed a disqualification petition to the respondent, Manipur Legislative Assembly speaker, on January 11 but so far nothing has been done in this regard by the speaker.

Hence, the High Court of Manipur is urged to issue a directive to Manipur Legislative Assembly speaker for registering the case and conducting the trial.

The respondents in the petition filed on November 6 include Manipur Legislative Assembly speaker Thokchom Satyabrata, Thangmeiband MLA Kh Joykisan Singh, Tipaimukh MLA Ngursanglur Sanate, Jiribam MLA Md Ashab Uddin, Wangkhei MLA Thangjam Arunkumar and Churachandpur MLA LM Khaute.



The petition appealed to disqualify the five MLAs under 10th Schedule Article 191 (1) & Para 2 (1) and under Manipur Legislative Assembly Member Rule No.6 (Disqualification on the Ground of Defection) Rules, 1986. It also cited the order of Supreme Court of India passed on October 30 in connection with a writ petition, and contended that in the light of this Supreme Court order, five JDU MLAs who had announced merger with BJP on September 1, 2022 must be dismissed within two months.

The petition has been accepted by the High Court and set December 13 for the next hearing.



NEWS ANALYSIS

Debunking Pre-Fabricated Lies Peddled by Meitei Minister Susindro

CAF & PD Minister L Susindro Meitei had said that 5,00,000 to 7,00,000 Burmese Kukis have intruded into Manipur and claimed that the ongoing violence in Manipur was instigated by the Kuki narco-terrorists coming from Myanmar, who had opposed the Manipur Government's drive against poppy plantations; thereby, preventing them from indulging in illicit drug businesses.

He made the statement during a programme held at a relief camp set up at the farmers' hostel of Veterinary and Animal Husbandry Services at Porompat on November 8.

However, the statement itself is devoid of any facts and the Minister is simply making mere allegations without any substantial proof.

The fact of the matter is that according to the 1881 Census, the population of Kukis was 25,384, which accounted for 11.48 per cent of the state's population. In the 1951 Census, the Kuki population rose to 81,379, accounting for 14.06 per cent of the state population, and in 2011, the Kuki population was 4,48,214, which is 15.60 per cent of Manipur's population.

If one is to go by Susindro's statement, a bulk of the Kuki population is an intruder, which itself is devoid of any facts.

As per The Hindu news report dated July 25, 2023,

after a military coup in Myanmar in February 2021, there was an influx of refugees; over 40,000 refugees took shelter in Mizoram and around 2,000 are said to have entered Manipur.

The refugees belong to the Kuki-Chin-Zo ethnic groups who are closely related to the communities living in Mizoram and Manipur hill areas. Around 200 migrants, mostly Nagas from Myanmar, also entered Nagaland.

Solidifying his sheer hatred towards the Kukis like his mentor N. Biren, Susindro also stated that majority of the people living in the valley districts are unarmed and civilians but the reality is otherwise in Kuki dominated districts, said the Minister and claimed that almost all the Kuki families in hill districts possess guns either in the name of Suspension of Operation (SoO) agreement or for hunting purposes. However, the ground reality speaks otherwise. As per reports, gun licenses were issued with high records in valley districts under Biren Singh government than hill areas. Imphal valley is now flooded with arms and ammunitions looted from government armories. This is evident from many videos of Arambai Tenggol goons flaunting their sophisticated weapons in a full combat dress surfacing online in various media platforms.

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The Minister said that he saw widespread poppy plantations in Kuki dominated areas. The fact is that poppy cultivation is widespread in hill areas irrespective of communities. It is good that recently, poppy fields were destroyed in Tora Champhung hill ranges in Ukhrul, a Naga dominated district.

Meanwhile, the Minister said that the Meeteis who have been living at Churachandpur didn't possess any land pattas and the same is very unfortunate. "I shed tears when I realise that Meeteis at Churachandpur have been living there so miserably,"

he said. However, the displaced Meiteis who are staying in Imphal from Churachandpur rebuked the Minister for his little knowledge on the matter. The statement made by Susindro also indicated his solidified position as a Meitei minister and not a minister for the whole community of Manipur.

The baseless assertions made by Susindro without any substantial proof only exposed Biren government's "proxy war" to annihilate one particular community. Susindro is one among the core members who supported and radicalised the Arambai Tenggol.



Thongkholal Haokip
@th_robert

In the manifesto of 2017 election the Manipur BJP, with the commitment of establishing a pro-people government, promised to "Mak[e] a comfortable space for bilateral dialogue with all insurgent groups in the state". Turning the tide, now it demands for the abrogation of SoO?

7:54 PM · Nov 10, 2023 · 3,525 Views



INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL TRIBAL UNIVERSITY Regional Campus Manipur

(A Central University under an Act of Parliament)
Makhan, Kangpokpi District, Manipur - 795 136
www.igntu.ac.in Phone & Fax: 0385-2422071

PG Admission (2023-24)

Application for admission to various PG programmes are invited for the academic session 2023-24. Interested candidate who have completed their Bachelor's Degree may apply on or before 15 November 2023. Candidate should write their application on a plain paper and submit along with their Bio-data and supporting documents to the departmental contact number.

- (1) Department of Political Science & Human Rights- (9863309484 / 8014915816)
- (2) Department of Social Work- (9612993273 / 879415689)
- (3) Department of Tribal Studies- (7630842836 / 7085631434)
- (4) Department of Sociology and Social Anthropology- (8119879433 / 9402791931)
- (5) Department of Computer Science- (8787538340)

Sd/-
Prof. Ng. Ngalengnam
Director



War is only a cowardly
escape from the
problems of peace.

-Thomas Mann



There is no movement towards peace in Manipur; Politically, Biren has lost credibility.

Lieutenant General Shokin Chauhan (Retd.)

Former Director General of Assam Rifles

“There are long histories of problems between the tribes in Manipur. They don’t trust each other and are extremely wary.

“Usually, political changes are brought about by the youth, but presently Meitei and Kuki youth are at war with each other,” says retired Lieutenant General Shokin Chauhan (retd), former director general of the Assam Rifles, the country’s oldest and largest paramilitary force.

General Chauhan, a third generation army officer, was chairman of the Ceasefire Monitoring Group to ensure peace in the North East.

The officer has served for nearly 15 years in the North East over five different tenures. He has vast experience in conducting counter terrorist operations both in Kashmir and the North East, and served as the DG of the Assam Rifles for 16 months.

“Assam Rifles probably has the most difficult task among all Central Armed Police Forces and has discharged its duties excellently. It is the only organisation keeping the peace and has prevented mass scale genocide on both sides,” says the distinguished military officer in the first part of a Zoom interview with Rediff.com’s Archana Masih.

As an officer who has served long and important tenures in the North East, what are the historical reasons behind the inter-tribal clashes that have continued for six months in Manipur?

We need to know the background of Manipur to understand the present situation.

In the late 1700s Manipur was occupied by the Burmese empire and the king of Manipur sought the help of the British. The British and the Burmese fought three Anglo-Burma wars and by 1868 Burma became a part of the British empire.



After the British occupation, Manipur became a British protectorate resulting in many tribes migrating from northern and upper Burma towards Manipur for better prospects, land and water.

The Meitei king and the people had to learn to share the land with the migrants who arrived during the 17th, 18th, 19th and 20th centuries.

Post-Independence, Manipur came to be inhabited by three main tribes -- Meitei which are about 54%-55%, Nagas and Kukis, the latter were about 14% during Independence and maybe are 16%-17% presently. There has been no survey done [since 2011] to indicate the exact numbers.

What are the main issues and misgivings between the Meitei and Kukis?

Every flashpoint in the North East revolves around three main issues:

1. Land: Tribal land in the North East is in the hand of tribal societies. This is stated in Article 371, A, B, C, D of

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the Constitution.

In Manipur, in accordance with these special provisions, the Nagas and Kukis own the land in the hills where they live. While the Meiteis own the land in the valley.

All the tribes in the North East are designated as scheduled tribes; however, the scheduled caste status was not given to the Meiteis. This could either be because they didn't want it in 1947-1948, or because they were better off than the rest of the people.

But over the last 20 odd years, the Meiteis feel that they have been cheated of the scheduled caste status which would in turn have helped in securing government jobs and also give them access to tribal lands.

2. Political power: The Meiteis are the most populous and dominant community. Except the brief period of Rishang Keishing who was a Tangkhul Naga, Meitei chief ministers have always headed the state government.

Since Kukis had the status of scheduled tribes, they got reservations in state jobs and as a result, moved up the ladder in the police and state administration. This also enabled Kukis to move from the hills towards the valley.

3. Cultural Identity: The Kukis came to Manipur only in the last three centuries, though they say that some Kukis fought for the Raja of Manipur in the 15th and 16th centuries, but the fact is that the majority of the Kukis came to the state in the last 300 years.

They have not been accepted in society because Meiteis feel that they have come in later and didn't deserve the land they made their own.

All issues in Manipur and the North East originate from land, cultural identity, and political power.

That is the root problem between the Meiteis and Kukis.

The Kukis had also settled in Ukhrul which is claimed by the Tangkhul Nagas. I was a young company commander posted there in the late 1980s. We were protecting the few Kuki villages because the Tangkhal Nagas had declared war on them.

What is different about the problem this time as compared to tribal feuds of the past?

What were the immediate triggers for the intra-

tribal clashes?

The immediate conflagration was on April 24 when the chief minister wanted to inaugurate an open gym in Churachandpur and there was disturbance in the valley.

Subsequently, on May 3-4, assailants set fire to the Anglo-Kuki memorial which is sacred and commemorates the Kukis who fought against the British before the First World War.

This incident added fuel to an already incensed crowd and created mayhem in the state.

The Meiteis feel that they are going to lose out on political power one day which is incorrect because they are 54%-55% of the population, but sometimes people are manipulated by politicians who make them insecure because that's the only way to get political support.

Secondly, like I said, as per the Constitution, those tribal lands are not available because the tribal societies own it and there was a push from the state government to declare certain areas as reserved forests that would have edged the Kukis out.

Why is there no resolution to the current problem that is seeing recurring violence over the past six months?

There are long histories of problems between the tribes. The different tribes and communities don't trust each other. They have been brought up on tales that have widened the divide and are extremely wary of each other. They live in separate areas.

Since the Meiteis are the dominant tribe, Kukis feel that they were being pushed out.

Why is there no end to this violence that has taken nearly 180 lives?

The violence can't end till the people from both societies get together and decide to end this violence.

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Meitei and Kuki elders must sit together and say, let's end this violence. Usually, political changes are brought about by the youth, but presently Meitei and Kuki youth are at war with each other.

Unfortunately, I don't see any movement towards peace. Politically, the Biren Singh government has lost credibility amongst the Kukis and the Kukis are not going to listen to him.

The situation on the ground has to change to give peace a chance.

As former director general of the Assam Rifles, what are your thoughts about the challenges faced by the Assam Rifles in the last six months in Manipur?

Let me put it on record that the Assam Rifles is probably the best fighting force in the country today and equals any Indian army unit in its capability.

We have deployed the Assam Rifles extensively in Kashmir. They have also served in Sri Lanka and conducted successful

operations against the LTTE in their areas of operations. They are an extremely experienced organisation.

The Assam Rifles has discharged its duties excellently and is the only organisation keeping the peace. It has prevented mass scale genocide on both sides and stopped many revenge operations.

The force is deployed in the North East, but it recruits personnel from different castes, communities from the entire country at the same percentages as the recruits of the Indian Army.

It probably has the most difficult task among all Central Armed Police Forces and they have done it with a smile.

Assam Rifles probably has the most difficult task among all Central Armed Police Forces and they have done it with a smile.

Source: Rediff.com

- 4.5 CR -**
TELEVISION FOR RELIEF CENTRES
- 89.22 CR -**
NUTRITION AND WINTER ACCESSORIES INCL. BREAKFAST FOR CHILDREN
- 150 CR-**
PRE-FABRICATED HOUSES
- 11 CR -**
EXAM CENTRE

OF COURSE, WE'LL SHARE THEIR PAIN, ONCE THEY QUEUE UP TO COLLECT THEIR RELIEF MATERIAL AND FUNDS

WHAT A BEGGAR!! POOR SOUL!



THE SHARED GRIEF



Act Now! Dig deeper into your soul, Let's march ahead with renewed vigor!

Greetings and wish you a good weekend! Let us keep in mind that when God seems to be the farthest He is standing just beside us.

The turmoil and the mayhem, the sufferings we have faced and endured with power and resilience till today and have entered with into the seven month is already history. All that we do, the little bits we contribute, the little encouragement we offer, the handful of rice one contributes are blessed and miracles are unveiled each day amongst us.

In the midst of all this, there are many of us who maybe out of concern or out of the bitterness of their bitter hearts continue to instill fear, start rumors, argue and plants seeds that can cause pain, even anger that add to the colossal strain and burden we all carry.

Now and just now, presently it's time to try our singular best to try to be a productive member of a family and our society.

Let us each try to contribute ideas, encourage one another and be one who lays a stone or a brick for the foundation of the goals we set for ourselves. Let us not find fault but offer solutions, let the leaders amongst man all step in and offer their expertise, offer their time, share what they have. For what good is a man if he has the world but loses his soul, says the good book. Today is the time each of us dig deep into our pockets and share and do what we can to better our community, our society.

We are proud of having had the word or even coined the word that supposedly defines us as Zo Suan, which is Tomngaihna (Tlawmngaihna). Let us increase, enlarge, expand and grow the Tomngaihna into something even bigger and better. Now is the time to use and practice what we all harped about and preached in any form or format even in the littlest way.

Park your goodwill, park your money, park your investments, park your dreams in PuPa Zogam and God is canvassing for us to start building so that He can and will blessed us manifold.

This weekend post a week of solidarity and post



6 long months of oneness and solidarity, post the Tlawmngaihna of many of our neighbors from various communities, various groups in the country and around the world, let us girth our loins, tahchapa ... Let's renew ourselves, our spirit and achieve our goals for God has promised us that.

Please let us not waste our precious time bickering and leeching against one another, angry at a mobile number and fuming at someone, something which drains you and drains our resources. Do what you can to volunteer, pick up the broom clean your front yard, donate, encourage, motivate, inspire a smile in the little child who is in stress and in his or her own way suffered the consequences of what's happening today.

Act now! Give now! Reform and renew yourselves. What are the things you did for our society the past six months? What more will you do?

God is with us, who can be against us. Have a blessed weekend.

Keep Hope Alive!

Dr. C. Thangsing



OH MANIPUR- A DYING CIVILIZATION!

When the King wishes men are skinned alive;
Lawmakers openly bats for genocide;
Innocents feared Policemen with certain death;
Oaths are honored based on race and ethnicity;
All but to save a dying civilization!

When intellectuals justify gore and violence;
Journalists peddle lies and brainwashed innocents;
Artistes sang for death and destruction;
Influencers become beacons of darkness;
That's the continuing legacy of a dying civilization!

When women insist men rape the other women;
Justifies parading the other women naked;
Denies its men love, peace and acceptance;
But send her sons to kill others' sons;
It's but the essence of *Imas* in a dying civilization!

When leaders built careers through hate, not love;
Individuals scale higher by hating the other;
Convicts get pardoned by hating enough the other;
Hating any value of the other is thought patriotic;
It's but the nature of *othering* in dying civilization!

When integrity is all about land, not with people;
History doesn't find its voice, abandoned with agony;
Brotherhood and coexistence is viewed suspiciously;
Peace is seen as a threat to life and civilization itself;
It's all but a sign of a dying civilization!

~Haoginlen Chongloi