

Control Your Women, I Will Bring Normalcy in 10 Days, Says Amit Shah to Meitei Lawmakers

The Union Home Minister, Amit Shah, has reportedly instructed the ruling MLAs belonging to the dominant Meitei community to contain the Meira paibis from obstructing the central security forces in performing their duties.

In doing so, Amit Shah assured, he would be able to control the situation of Manipur in 10 days time.

The Home Minister told the lawmakers, who were camping in New Delhi, that the central security personnel would not lay hands on the women; and advised the visiting MLAs to play their part so that the Meira paibis do not obstruct the army personnel in performing their duty.

Mentioned may be made that 23 Legislators from the valley had pledged to protect the territorial integrity of the strife-torn state, a resolution on which they had appended their signatures under coercive action from a newly formed group 'Youth Of Manipur'. Accordingly, the Meitei MLAs of the ruling parties left Imphal for Delhi on 13 September to meet Central leaders. The team met a host of central leaders including Union Home Minister, Amit Shah, and Defence Minister, Rajnath Singh.

Amit Shah had also reportedly informed the visiting legislators that he was well aware on the situation of Manipur and also about who provides bullets to the village volunteers, which is a clear indication of the Centre's well verse on looted arms and weapons in Imphal valley including the involvement of Meitei terrorists in waging war against the Kukis.

There was also an instance where the Meitei MLAs were scolded by the central leadership in New Delhi, and they had to rush back home without camping in the national capital.

Situation in Manipur Tense; Government Has to Take Decisions, Says RSS General Secy

The Joint General Secretary of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), Manmohan Vaidya, on Saturday said that the situation in Manipur is worrisome but it is the government that needs to take decisions as the conflict is between two communities.





Mr. Vaidya was speaking to media persons on the culmination of the RSS' three-day annual coordination meeting in Pune, which began on September 14.

"The situation in Manipur is tense and this is what our volunteers reported to us in the meeting. We are all doing our work but the government has to take decisions for the conflict that exists between the Kuki and Meitei [communities]," he said.

As part of the RSS's work, RSS functionary said that their volunteers are in touch with both groups and service work is being done for both the warring communities.

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 VICTIMS UPDATE

	Deaths	- 142
	Churches Burnt	- 359
	Villages Burnt	- 200
	Displaced Persons	- 41,425+

Data as on 16.09.2023

New Lambulane's Tribal Market Re-opens sans Kukis



Vendors of Tribal market which is located at New Lambulane, situated in the heart of State capital, Imphal, has resumed its commercial activities since the past few days with approval from the State government.

The market shed which is totally occupied by tribal communities was also affected by the ongoing crisis in the State and has to remain closed for about 4 months.

After the approval of the Chief Minister, N. Biren Singh and the Chairman of the Tribal Market Management Committee, the business activity has to resume from September 11. Prior to opening of the place, social service was conducted in the market with the help of civil voluntary organisations.

Despite the market being opened, there are many vacant spots to be filled in the market since the vendors from distant areas, particularly the Kuki community, could no longer occupy their spots due to the State-sponsored ethnic cleansing perpetrated by majority Meitei community.





Meitei Narco-terrorists: The True Story of Meitei Narco-Terrorism

For a considerable period of time, the issue of narco-terrorism has been portrayed by the Meitei press, media and social media with the sole purpose of showing the Kukis in a negative light, and to eventually shift the onus on the Kukis as the community providing the spark for the already-planned Meitei genocide pogrom. And, it reeks of racial profiling.

Who are the real narco-terrorists?

The Meitei terrorists are notorious for cultivating poppy in Myanmar in order to fund their anti-India activities. The Meitei terrorists are nothing more than drug cartels setting up their “heroin refineries” in the jungles of Myanmar, just across the international border. For their refineries they require huge amount of land to cultivate poppy, and eventually the poppy resins.

Various fronts like Meitei COCOMI, Meira Paibis and even the Meitei government officials, including the Meitei CM have put the blame on the Kuki community for the poppy cultivation and drug trade.

Facts: Anti-poppy exercises were conducted in both the Kuki and Naga dominated hills of Ukhrul, Senapati, Kangpokpi, Kamjong, Churachandpur, and Tengnoupal districts. Data of the government shows that 2,518 people arrested under the Narcotics Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, 1985 between 2017 and 2023; only 873 were from the Kuki-Chin community, while 1,083 were Muslims, 381 Meiteis, and 181 were from other communities. 381 meiteis were arrested, but it is estimated that the actual Meiteis indulging in the drug trade would be much more, as the Meitei police and Meitei government is known for its racial profiling of the Kukis in any manner with a deliberate attempt to malign the community for its failure. In fact, it is seen that the Meitei police are themselves indulging in the drug trade, and only they are arrested when they don't pay up the demanded fees of their Meitei bosses. As recent as in January, 2023, five meitei police commandos in police uniform, carrying service weapons, were arrested in Kakching for carrying high-quality heroin weighing over 1.14 kg and thousands of “WY” narcotic pills in a police vehicle. Yet no Kuki called the Meiteis as narco-terrorists.

Scroll reported in June 2023 that the SP of NAB, Meitei Meghachandra admitted that the opium trade also involved “Meiteis, Muslims, Nepalis” from the valley. Yet, in the valley, the Kukis continue to be blamed for the narcotics trade.

Background

The racial profiling of the Kukis as narco-terrorists is nothing but a ploy to seize the lands of the kukis under the garb of War on Drugs by arresting them, evicting them from their lands, and to hand it over to the Meitei terrorists so that these terrorists can build a safe haven to attack the Indian Army, in case the Meira-paibis and the COCOMI are unsuccessful in removing the Indian Army/ Assam Rifles from the Kuki Hills.



Key suppliers of International Narco Drug Cartel namely Ranbir Singh@Tinku and Loyangamba Itocha arrested by Special Cell (SR)

In the 1990s, a malafide sense of over-entitlement developed amongst the Meitei intelligentsia that only the meiteis have the right to all the hills, and the Kukis/ Nagas are mere tenants. Since the late 1990s and early 2000s, the Meitei terrorists, ably supported by the Meitei intelligentsia and politicians, have tried to forcibly seized the Kuki - Hmar hills by introducing poppy cultivation to the Kukis; by killing and maiming the innocent Kuki and Hmar villagers utilising guns and landmines; and even going to the extent of raping 21 Hmar women in 2006. During this period, the Meitei terrorists introduced the poppy seeds to the Kukis of the interior areas of Chandel; forced them to cultivate it; taught them how to reap the fruits; and forced them to carry the poppy products to Myanmar. The only motive of the Meitei terrorists was to earn huge amount of money to fund their narco-terror activities, to make the Kuki people addicted to opium, and to finally seize their land, in an attempt to replay the colonial tactics in Nagaland and in the Opium War of China. The high-handed attitude of the Meitei terrorists was becoming too unbearable for the Kukis. One Kuki from Chandel stated that a fellow villager was given capital punishment (death) by the Meitei terrorists for refusing to cultivate poppy.

Fortunately, the Meitei terrorists were eventually flushed out from the hills by the Indian Army with the active aid of the Kuki-Hmar villagers of Churachandpur, Chandel and Pherzawl. As this terror tactic of grabbing the land was found wanting, the Meitei intelligentsia adopted another approach, and this time the Meitei Chief Minister N Biren was considered by them to be their most appropriate puppet.

N Biren Singh then followed their advices, and started faking the issue of Reserve Forest; raising the slogan of “war on drugs”; labelling the Kukis as illegal immigrants in order to seize the lands of the Kukis; to be handed over to the Meitei businessmen and their crony capitalist friends of the other parts of India, seeming to follow due process. It is very likely that the so-called Reserve forests will be de-reserved once the Meitei businessmen and their friends are ready to carry out their various business activities such as Palm Oil cultivation, mining etc.





From Promise to Peril: Unmasking Manipur's Palm Oil Project

In November 2020, the Chief Agent of Violence of Manipur, N Biren Singh, launched the Oil Palm Project in Manipur, via video conferencing. A year later, the National Mission on Edible Oils-Oil Palm (NMEO-OP) scheme was launched in 2021 by Prime Minister Modi. And in the month of May 2022, a symposium to promote oil palm plantation was held in Manipur.

MS Khaidem, who is the consultant of the Oil Palm Mission, Manipur said that the Union Government had given assent to the initiative with an outlay of Rs 11,000 crores for a five-year period. He added that 66,652 hectares of land had been decided as potential areas for the scheme across six districts of the state. The six districts are Imphal West (14,516 hectares), Thoubal (18,475 hectares), Bishnupur (10,389 hectares), Churachandpur (11,662 hectares), Chandel (6,803 hectares) and Ukhrul (4,808 hectares). Manipur will be the 22nd State in India to indulge in palm oil production. Biren Singh maintained that the palm oil cultivation could be an alternative to jhum cultivation and poppy cultivation as palm oil is the highest vegetable oil yielding perennial crop with an effective income generation to farmers and beneficial to the environment as well.

Land for Cultivation

This is where the argument for Palm oil production raises a few eyebrows. In August of 2022, Godrej Agrovet signed three MoUs with Assam, Manipur and Tripura state governments for development and promotion of oil palm cultivation in the region and will be allotted land across the three states.

If the government is hell-bent on providing an income source to farmers, why are big private companies like Godrej given the contract to start mass production of Palm oil? In the case of Manipur pertaining to allocation of land for cultivation, since most of the areas for Palm Oil production lies in Kuki dominated hill districts, one ponders, Did the Manipur(Meitei) government consulted the Hill Area Committee under Art.371(C) before launching the Palm Oil Project?

Ecological effects of Palm oil cultivation

On the question of whether it is "beneficial to the environment", Is Biren Singh not aware that the palm oil production is a water intensive monoculture which requires around 45,000 litres of water per hectare of land, and hazardous to soil fertility? Moreover, there needs to be a minimum gap of 30 feet in between the trees. Added to the woes palm trees restrict the growth of any other plant/tree along with them which means that there are various ecological drawbacks to these plantations. This is evident from the Mizoram's model where they have planted trees in 29,000 hectares of land making it one of the biggest players in palm oil production in northeast where due to high water requirement the soil has lost its fertility and resulted in mass deforestation.

What does the law of the land say?

Under Environmental Protection Act,1986 it is mandatory that an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report be prepared for any new project or activity that is likely to have an adverse impact on the environment.

The EIA report must assess the potential environmental impacts of the project and propose measures to mitigate these impacts. KSO Media and Documentation team searched for the said report on the websites of the Ministry of Agriculture and farmer's welfare, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Manipur's Department of Agriculture and Manipur State Pollution Control Board but it was nowhere to be found.

On 13th September,2023 the Directorate of Agriculture (Govt. of Manipur) made an advertisement inviting eligible applicants for contractual appointment of different posts under the Centrally sponsored Scheme of NMEO-OP, Manipur. These are evidences of the insensitivity and dominating tendency of the Manipur government where the sole intention is to grab the land and discard the owners. It is evident that one of the reasons for the recent ethnic cleansing of the Kukis is the lust to control and benefit from the Oil Palm Project.

(Insightful Facts: Two types of oil can be produced; crude palm-oil comes from squeezing the fleshy fruit, and palm kernel oil which comes from crushing the stone in the middle of the fruit. Besides being used as edible oil, palm-oil is increasingly used in the cosmetic industry and also as biofuel across the world)

Suppression of Freedom of Speech Continues

In a latest case of police complaint filed against individuals who speak out the truth on the ongoing ethnic violence in Manipur, a man from West Bengal's Dakshin Dinajpur has been charged by the Manipur Police for alleged defamatory posts on social media against the State government, Chief Minister N Biren Singh and Home Minister Amit Shah.

The accused, Arijit Biswas, allegedly posted on X (formerly Twitter) that Mr Shah and Mr Singh belong to a "terrorist organisation", according to the First Information Report (FIR) filed by an Imphal resident.

Manipur Police and a member of Meitei community had also filed FIRs against the Editors' Guild of India (EGI) over its report on the ethnic clashes, published by a three-member, crowdfunded team after staying in Manipur for four days, which the state government said was "false, fabricated and sponsored".

The complainant in the case alleged Mr Biswas, a resident of Balurghat, posted on X that the Manipur government has been "sponsoring" ethnic violence and carrying out "genocide". The charges have been filed under several sections linked to promoting enmity between communities on religious and racial lines, including a non-bailable one, of the Indian Penal Code (IPC).



**Protecting yourself is self-defense.
Protecting others is warriorship.**

– Bodhi Sanders





Threats to Education: When the Fundamental Right to Education Fades in the Shadows of State-Sponsored Ethnic Cleansing

Since May 3, 2023, the challenges faced by the Kuki People have been indescribable. One hard fact is the dark cloud looming over the educational status of Kuki children. Ethnic cleansing, backed by the Manipur Government, is severely damaging the education system, depriving Kuki Children of their Fundamental Right to Education.

The Constitution of India, in Article 21A, guarantees the Right to Education as a Fundamental Right. Likewise, Article 29 and 30 guarantee Cultural and Educational Rights. These rights are the educational foundations for a student. Yet, for Kuki students, these rights remain distressingly distant.

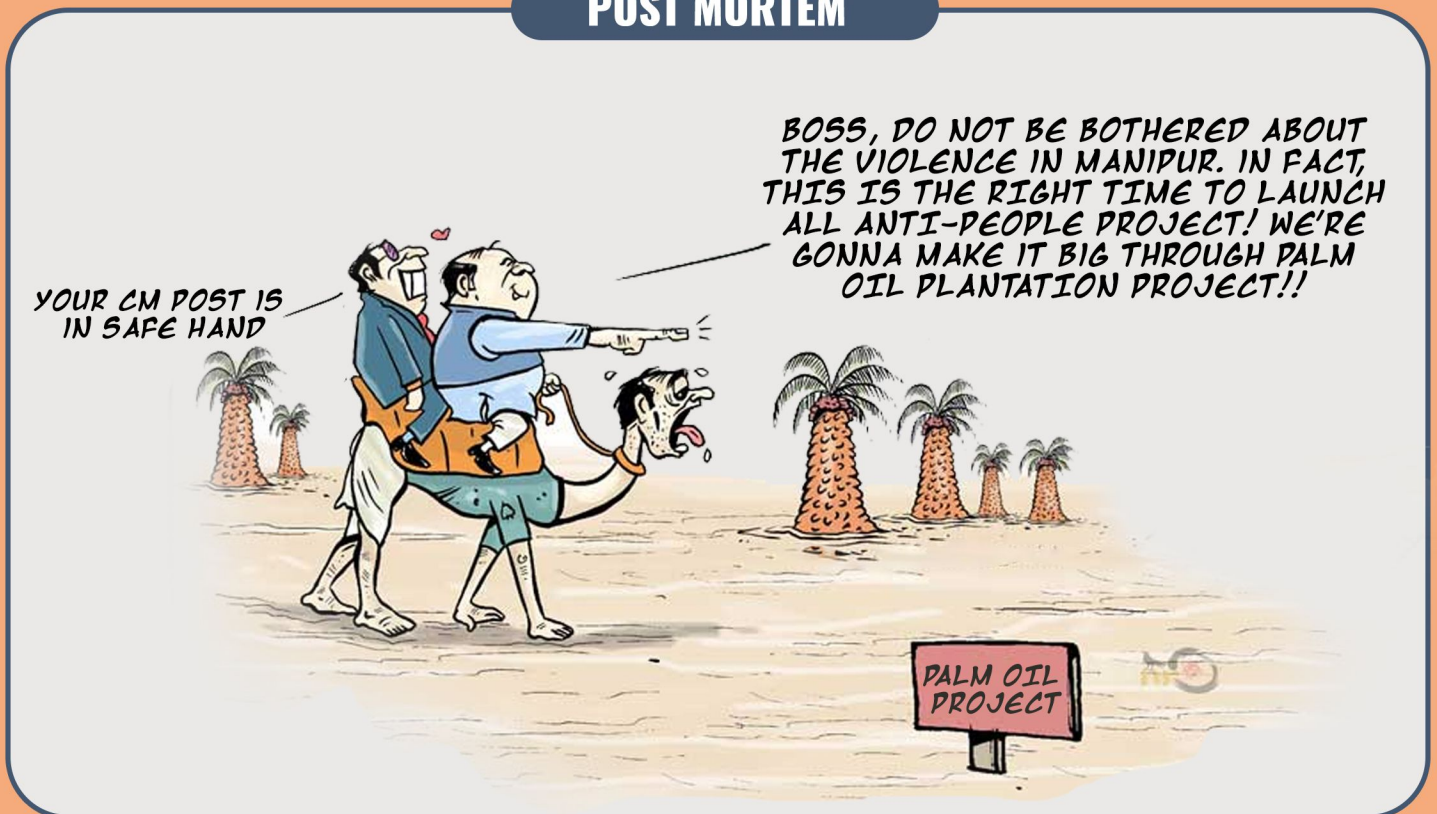
Schools, once places of learning, are now lying in ruins. It is not just the buildings that are crumbling; it is the Fundamental Right of countless children that is being taken away. Desks, books, whiteboards, and the likes, meant to empower, are being reduced to smudges and ashes. The uniforms that symbolize hope are now tattered rags.

Instead of classrooms filled with youthful learning, Kuki children are finding themselves in Relief Centers, amidst uncertainties. Some of them are now attending temporary schools. Circumstances have led to an excessive number of students per teacher. Overcrowded classrooms are falling short of providing the quality education they deserve.

The Right to Education is not a privilege; it is a Fundamental Right, a beacon of hope that should shine even brighter in these challenging times. They deserve to be given their Educational Right. In this regard, the responsibility lies with the Central Government and must be asked these questions: Where is the protection of Kuki students' right to education? Where is the Central Government at this critical hour? How can a nation known for its commitment to education stand by, as this Fundamental Right crumbles due to State-Sponsored Ethnic Cleansing? How can the Central Government let the future of these students, the "future of the nation", languish in darkness?

The Central Government should recognize the urgency of this situation and take swift actions to secure the future of Kuki Children. Henceforth, they must ensure that displaced Kuki children receive the quality education they rightfully deserve. Temporary schools must be adequately staffed and resourced to provide a safe and nurturing environment for quality education. Additionally, long-term solutions must be devised to mend the wounds inflicted on the education system of the Kuki Community.

POST MORTEM





P O E T R Y

4th May, 2023

The day welcomed us with great terror
Packing our necessities in great horror
Running but in patten to save our lives
With only one thing in mind - our lives.

Getting sheltered with the 2nd MR
Hoping we would be protected by the Mr.
The day was a mixture of calm and fright
Weary and tired but we had to fight.

Then, slowly the dark night peeped in
The fright for immense terror swept in
The sky filled with colours of artificial light
Probably by houses and churches being lit.

Oh! What a lullaby that helped me sleep;
The sounds of machinery resounded.

- *Aching Haokip*

