

# Thingkho Le Malcha

A Daily Newsletter by KSO Media & Documentation Cell



## Yaolen Chepu RELIEF CENTRE

C. Yaolen Village, Lungchong Meiphai Sub Division, Ukhrol District

Managed by Kuki Students' Organisation Ukhrol Branch

**Total Inmates Registered: 82\***

■ Male: 37

■ Female: 45

### VILLAGES COVERED

S. Bongjang  
Chaningpokpi  
Shongphel  
Mongbeljang

\*As on 19th October, 2023



## KUKI VICTIMS' UPDATE

As on 16.10.2023



**146**  
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.

## WKZIC CONDEMNS DEPLOYMENT OF STATE FORCES IN MOREH BORDER TOWN

The World Kuki-Zo Intellectual Council (WKZIC) has strongly condemned the posting and deployment of Manipur Police Commandos in Moreh town, the town of Kuki-Zo people of outer Manipur.

In a statement issued by the Council today, the WKZIC said the Meitei Chief Minister started Genocidal Pogrom from the 3rd May, 2023 and killed many Kuki-Zo people in and around Imphal East and Imphal West districts and drove out all the Kuki-Zo people from Kanglei Manipur. "The so-called Manipur was forcibly divided into Kangleipak and Kuki-Zo land as Meiteis and Kukis are totally separated physically, emotionally, economically and politically as Hills and Valley," it said.

"Rahul Gandhi, while speaking to the people of Mizoram in Aizawl, during his campaign stated that BJP government had divided Manipur into two states for Meiteis and Kukis. His statement was totally correct as the two communities were separated from the 4th of May, 2023."

Therefore, deployment of ethnic Meiteis of Manipur Commando Police (MCP) and Manipur Police (MP), who joined hands with Meitei Radical groups for Kuki-Zo Genocide in Kanglei Manipur, in Kuki-Zo inhabited hill districts is totally unacceptable to the Kuki-Zo people, said WKZIC, adding that Manipur Police Commandos of Kangleipak must be withdrawn with immediate

effect for restoration of peace in Moreh town.

The Meitei Chief Minister of Kanglei Manipur, who schemed ethnic cleansing pogrom, should immediately withdraw his Kangleipak Police Commandos from moreh, whom he air lifted to Moreh by Helicopter a week ago. The Kuki-Zo people will never allow and accept the Kangleipak Police Commandos to be posted at Dungdung/Tungtung Mol (Kondong) Chikim village, Moreh as the land belonged to Kukis. Meiteis of valley districts have no right to live in Kuki-Zo land as valley and hill districts are now totally separated. Likewise, it is totally impossible for Kukis to live together again with Meiteis who ill treated, hated, killed and ejected all Zo ethnic Kukis from Kanglei Manipur.

The WKZIC also requested the Central Government to kindly supply food and other commodities for the people of Moreh as Meitei Meira Paibis blocked the supply of essential commodities for the people of Moreh for five (5) consecutive months since May 2023 till date.

WKZIC further requested the Prime Minister Modi, HM Amit Shah and the Governor of Manipur, Anusuiya Uikey, to look into the Humanitarian Crisis in the border town and Food scarcity in Moreh town as custodians of concerned State and Central Government, to do the needful on humanitarian ground.

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## TANGKHUL STUDENTS' BODY REJECTS MOA BETWEEN ANSAM AND STATE GOVT; TO CONTINUE AGITATION IN ITS JURISDICTION

The Tangkhul Katamnao Saklong (TKS) has declared to continue shutting down of government institutions in its jurisdictions, defying the memorandum of agreement signed between the All Naga Students' Association Manipur (ANSAM) and State government on Thursday.

A statement rejecting the memorandum of agreement issued on Thursday stated that TKS executive council had a threadbare discussion regarding the demands on October 26 and conveyed its decision to the ANSAM to continue with the agitation until and unless their demands are met.

"The Saklong is compelled to issue this statement that we will not adhere with the MoA signed between the representatives of government and ANSAM on October 26. We will continue with the agitation within the jurisdiction

of the Saklong until our demands are met" said TKS.

The Tangkhul students' body also said that they had fully endorsed the directive of ANSAM by picketing the government offices and ensured that the govt offices were completely shut for 3 working days within its jurisdiction.

Considering the peaceful and calm situation in Naga inhabited areas, the Saklong had repeatedly requested and appealed to the concerned authority to immediately lift the blanket ban of people's basic rights i.e the internet Art 19(1) (a) of the Constitution, said the statement.

The Saklong further appealed the government employees and general public for utmost cooperation.

## 10 POLITICAL PARTIES TELL BJP GOVT TO RELIEVE KUKI-ZO MLAS FROM THEIR ROLE AS MLAS, CABINET MINISTERS



Representatives from 10 political parties in Manipur has advised the BJP government to take action against the 10 Kuki-Zo MLAs and urged it to relieve them from their legislative role as members of legislative assembly and cabinet ministers.

Addressing a press briefing on Friday at Manipur Press Club, Imphal, the Communist Party of India (CPI) leader Laishram Sotinkumar asked why has not the government taken action against the MLAs who have not participated in cabinet meetings or the assembly sessions.

Demanding action from the government against the Kuki-Zo MLAs, Sotinkumar advised the government to act and relieve the Kuki-Zo MLAs from their role as members of legislative assembly and cabinet ministers. "The actions of the 10 Kuki-Zo MLAs defy both the Indian Constitution and democratic values. Therefore, the MLAs ought to be suspended without delay," he said.

The Convenor of the 10 political parties, Kshetrimayum Santa, while briefing the media asked whether the BJP took any disciplinary measures against the BJP MLAs who voiced dissent within their party. "Are they merely trying to pacify the 10 dissenting MLAs and others with their appeasement tactics?" he questioned.

Reacting to the recent statement by the BJP Manipur President, Adhikarimayum Sarda, on the BJP MLAs' non-involvement in demand for separate administration, Kshetrimayum Santa compared the BJP's method of handling Manipur issue to Adolf Hitler's false propaganda leading to World War II.

Santa, who is also the Secretary of Communist

Party of India (Marxist), then accused the State BJP president of spreading false propaganda to the media and dubbed the BJP government in Manipur as a double standard government.

Explaining his labeling of the BJP government as a "Double Standard Government," Santa further said that the BJP Government in Manipur appears to align with hill residents at times and with valley residents at others. "Such inconsistency of the BJP government is the reason why it is termed as a double standard government."

The convenor of the ten political parties also shared insights of their discussion with the Union Home Minister, Amit Shah, on May 29. Santa said when he inquired if the Centre had a strategy to manage illegal immigrants after the Junta regime had seized power in Myanmar, Amit Shah had responded that no such policy existed and there was also no bilateral discussions with Myanmar.

He alleged that the BJP government never initiated a genuine dialogue but were quick to propagating misinformation. "The BJP's tactics mirror Adolf Hitler's approach during the Great Depression era, preceding World War II, where he flooded the narrative with deceptive propaganda to make falsehoods seemed authentic," Santa said.

"The BJP will attribute issues to narco-terrorism, point fingers at illegal immigrants, or discuss forest conservation, constantly shifting the narrative. Amit Shah has previously attributed the conflict in Manipur to the ST demand by the Meiteis. The BJP leaders are inconsistent, altering their statements frequently," he added.

## SEVEN MEITEI TERRORISTS ARRESTED WITHIN 72 HOURS; HUGE CACHE OF ARMS, AMMUNITIONS RECOVERED

The central security forces' claim on reactivation of the near dormant terrorist groups stands vindicated in Manipur. The central forces have been claiming that taking advantage of the ethnic violence in Manipur, dormant armed militants based in Myanmar have become active once again.

On Friday, security forces arrested five active members of Kangleipak Communist Party (Military Task Force), a Meitei terrorist group, during a search operation conducted at Yairipok Yambem and Changamdabi Villages under Andro Police station.

The arrested persons are identified as Singam Kabikanta Singh (31) of Thoubal Wangkhem Mamang Leikai, Thoubal; Ngangom Tangba Meitei (30) of Sekta Mayai Leikai, Imphal East; Sadokpam Nongpoknganba Singh (22) of Yairipok Phangjakhong, Thoubal; Konsam Anao Singh (26) of Mayang Imphal Thana Mamang Leikai, and Md. Iliyas Khan (30) of Yairipok Changamdabi Makha Leikai, Imphal East.

The combined team of Andro Police Station and CDO, Imphal East recovered several items including one .32 Pistol loaded with six live rounds in the magazine, four .38 live Ammunitions, six AK- Ammunitions, 12 INSAS Ammunitions, twenty 7.62 SLR Live Ammunitions, five Mobile Phone handsets, a sum of Rs. 2090 and one car (Hyundai i20) without Registration.



Police sources said arrested persons disclosed that they have been involved in extortion activities from the general public, government officials, businessmen etc. The arrested persons and recovered items have been handed over to Andro Police Station for further legal formalities.

On October 25, Security forces had arrested 02 (two) active members of UNLF from Imphal-West and Imphal East Districts and recovered 01(one) arm (9mm Pistol), 143 (one hundred forty-three) ammunitions and 03 (three) mobile handsets with 4 (four) sim cards. They were involved in extortion of huge amounts of money from general public.

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## ASSAM MP EMPHASISES UNITY OF ZO ETHNIC TRIBES IN NORTHEAST

Pradyut Bordoloi, the Convener of the North East Congress Co-ordination Committee, launched a scathing critique of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) alleging that they are spearheading a political strategy that deceives the people of the Northeastern states.

He mentioned that the North East Congress Co-ordination Committee emphasises the importance of fostering unity among the Zo ethnic tribes in the region and hopes that the people will rally behind this vision.

In the press conference, Bordoloi accused the BJP of playing divisive politics and manipulating regional parties to further their agenda, with the Mizoram National Front (MNF) also implicated in these allegations. Additionally, he raised concerns about the prolonged neglect of Manipur by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

In a press conference, Bordoloi expressed his concerns regarding the political landscape in the Northeast, stating, "The BJP is playing divisive politics in the Northeast and is using regional parties as their 'drivers.' These parties pretend to be passengers, but they are controlling



the direction. Even the MNF is being used for such a purpose."

Bordoloi drew attention to the crisis in Manipur, criticising Prime Minister Modi for his perceived inaction. He pointed out that, even after 177 days, the Prime Minister has not visited Manipur or provided assistance, with the only acknowledgment being a 66-second mention in Parliament.

## MANIPUR GOVT: DON'T FOLLOW "HOLIDAY ON EVERY FRIDAY" RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY JOINT STUDENTS' BODY, LAMKA

The State Government of Manipur has forbidden the government institutions from following Lamka Joint Students' Body statement for observing every Friday as holiday by all government institutions.

The Home Department Manipur issued an order on Friday advising all Central and State government authorities and management authorities of institutions/ establishment/ autonomous bodies to ensure strict attendance of staff and students as usual.

In case of any violation of the orders, the person (s) concerned without any exception shall be booked and prosecuted under relevant provision of law of land for the time being in force, the order stated

The order stated that the state government has reportedly learnt from reliable sources about a public reminder by Joint Students' Body (reportedly based at Churachandpur District) which has allegedly been spreading the contents of the said Public Reminder through different media including social media platform like different WhatsApp Groups.

The order said: "The content therein mentioned about public for adoption of resolution for observing every Friday as a holiday by all institutions of Government of Manipur including the offices of the DCs/SPs/ ZEO/ADC's, government schools / colleges in the town of Churachandpur, which is totally illegal."

The State Government viewed the matter very seriously with utmost sensitivity as the same act is illegal and the notice so issued is without any authority.

The Home Department also ordered that no one shall or attempt to make any deliberate effort to follow or enforce the above illegal declaration of holiday on every Friday except for those Fridays which are general holidays at any cost. It directed all district magistrates and Superintendents of Police of all districts to take up necessary actions to enforce the order.

GOVERNMENT OF MANIPUR  
SECRETARIAT: HOME DEPARTMENT  
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### PUBLIC APPEAL

Imphal, the 27<sup>th</sup> October, 2023

**No. H-3608/2/2023-HD-HD:** Whereas, the State Government has learnt from reliable sources about a public Notice by **Joint Students' Body (reportedly based at Churachandpur District)**, which has allegedly been spreading the contents of the said Notice through different media networks including social media platforms like different WhatsApp Groups etc., and the content therein is likely to aggravate the ongoing law and order crisis in the State, that deliberate attempt of renaming of Institutions and places had been made along with public declaration for adoption of resolution for observing every Friday as a holiday by all institutions of Government of Manipur including the offices of the DCs/SPs/ ZEO/ADC's, government schools / colleges in the town of Churachandpur, which is totally illegal;

2. State Government has taken up necessary preventive and precautionary measures along with robust response mechanism to avoid any untoward incident;

3. Further, any such act of spreading message/ circulating materials/ Press Release/ Public Notice which poses threat to the communal harmony, peaceful co-existence, internal & national security is viewed very seriously by the State Government with utmost sensitivity and is taking up all possible steps without leaving any stone unturned to book culprit(s) involved in such acts which is against the Government orders issued in this regard under relevant provision of law for the time being in force and for strengthening intelligence inputs.

4. In view of the above, a public appeal is made not to rely on such post / material / Press Release/ Public Notice which had been illegally generated and spread through different media and also not to follow / to resort to any kind of unwanted act/ violence.

  
(Dr. Vineet Joshi)

Chief Secretary, Government of Manipur.

Copy to:

1. Secretary to Chief Minister, Manipur.
2. Chief Secretary, Government of Manipur.
3. DGP, Manipur.
4. ADGP(Intelligence), Manipur and Overall Operational Commander.
5. All District Magistrates of all District of Manipur for necessary action.
6. Director (IPR), Manipur to cause wide publicity of the Press release in different media houses as news items.
7. All Superintendents of Police of all Districts of Manipur for necessary action.

Copy also to:

1. The Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, North Block, New Delhi - 110001, India E-mail ID: hshso@nic.in
2. Shri Kuldiep Singh, IPS(Retd) and former DG (CRPF), Advisor (Security), Government of Manipur.

The Manipur state government once again manifested its discriminatory nature by issuing an order against the Kuki-Zo people, an order against the Joint Students' Body Lamka, for which the latter had earlier announced closure of all governmental offices on every Friday. It is to be noted here that no such order or appeal was issued when another tribal students' body locked government offices over internet ban in the state a few days ago. The state government's partisanship in dealing with the same situation in different way is evident clearly under the leadership of communal N. Biren Singh.



**Mercy to the guilty is cruelty to the innocent.**

- Adam Smith, "Wealth of Nations" (Published 1776)



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headlines, focusing on the alleged attacks carried out by Kuki militants or, in a malicious manner, labelling them as “Kuki terrorists.” This well-orchestrated effort, even with the support of opposition political parties as well, aims to attribute all acts of violence and ongoing conflicts solely to these individuals labelled as “Kuki militants.”

To fully understand this coordinated campaign, it is crucial to consider the context of the existing ceasefire agreement between the central government and Kuki outfits. The Kuki-Zo insurgents, consisting of 24 groups under the collective banners of the Kuki National Organisation (KNO) and United People’s Front (UPF), have been observing a Suspension of Operation (SoO) agreement with both the central and state governments since August 2008. These groups have been actively engaged in multiple rounds of negotiations with the central authorities. In fact, “The Hindu” even reported that they were close to reaching an agreement on granting “local self-governance” to Kuki tribal areas in Manipur, until the recent outbreak of violence on May 3, disrupted the progress. The persistent campaign demanding the suspension of the SoO pact reflects the opposition of the Meitei community towards the very concept of self-governance for the Kuki tribals.

According to the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), all eight terrorist or unlawful groups operating in Manipur belong to the Meitei community. These groups include the People’s Liberation Army (PLA), United National Liberation Front (UNLF), Manipur People’s Army (MPA), People’s Revolutionary Party of Kangleipak (PREPAK), Kangleipak Communist Party (KCP), Kanglei Yaol Kanba Lup (KYKL), Coordination Committee (Cor-Com), Alliance for Socialist Unity Kangleipak (ASUK), and Manipur People’s Liberation Front (MPLF). It is important to note that the PLA and KYKL even maintain an informal alliance with the Myanmar Military to combat the People’s Defence Forces, a resistance group. Despite the Chief Minister’s desperate efforts to label the Kuki groups as “terrorists,” the true security threat to Manipur and India lies elsewhere.

The dissemination of disinformation targeting the Kuki community in Manipur is not a new phenomenon. One particular instance revolves around the widespread perception of a significant influx of refugees from neighbouring Myanmar, a country currently undergoing political turmoil. About one month before the eruption of violence, the state government allegedly launched

a “War-On-Illegal-Migrants” campaign, as reported by “Organizer,” a mouthpiece of the RSS (Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh), with the Chief Minister labelling the Kukis as “foreigners,” despite acknowledging that there are about 2,000 Myanmarese nationals residing in Manipur.

Another reason behind the stigmatization of the Kuki-Zo tribes as illegal immigrants is the insinuation of continuous tribal migration from Myanmar and Bangladesh since the 1950s. However, these claims lack factual evidence. Census records of Manipur spanning from 1901 to 2011 indicate that the proportion of the Kuki population has remained relatively stable, with figures of 14.5 percent and 15.7 percent respectively—a mere 1.2 percent variation over a span of 110 years. This highlights the necessity of critically examining and challenging the false narratives and disinformation that are being deliberately propagated to delegitimize and discriminate against the Kuki-Zo community.

Moreover, the Kuki-Zo tribes have been subjected to various derogatory labels such as “drug traffickers,” “poppy cultivators,” and “protected forest encroachers.” The continuous dissemination of false information and the smear campaign orchestrated by the Meitei majority community, spearheaded by the Chief Minister himself, raises serious concerns about the potential for peaceful coexistence between these two communities. Such actions can be seen as intentional efforts to degrade, dehumanize, and deny the Kuki-Zo tribes their fundamental human rights. The deep-rooted mistrust that exists makes it increasingly challenging to envision a future of harmony for both communities. Given these circumstances, it may be necessary for the central government to officially recognize the existing communal and geographical divide between the Meitei and Kuki-Zo communities.

Meitei scholar and JNU faculty Dr Bimol Akoijam, has likened this division to the partition of India in 1947. This would entail granting a separate administration for the Kuki-Zo tribes, allowing them to govern their affairs autonomously. While such a solution may appear drastic, it reflects the grim reality of the situation and the pressing need to address the deep-seated tensions and mistrust that plague the relationship between these communities.







**OPINION**

## **DOMINANT COMMUNAL MACHINATION**

The conflict in Manipur holds far-reaching implications beyond the initial causes and the number of casualties. It centers around the deliberate expulsion of the Kuki-Zo minority and the subsequent seizure of their land through ethnic cleansing. Manipur Chief Minister N. Biren Singh and the Meiteis, who hold the reins of power, have misused their dominant position and are controlling over the state machinery to unjustly label the Kuki-Zo communities as criminals and assert ownership over their territory.

The situation in Manipur today bears similarities to historical events like the Trail of Tears in the United States, where the dominant white community used its influence to appropriate the lands of minority tribal groups. In the 19th century, the Indian Removal Act forcefully displaced several Native American tribes, including the Cherokee, Choctaw, Creek, Seminole, and Chickasaw, forcing them to relocate to designated Indian Territory, which is now known as Oklahoma. Through political pressure, economic coercion, and military might, the white population, with the support of the U.S. government, orchestrated the relinquishment of ancestral lands by these tribes.

In recent years in Manipur, the Meiteis have employed various strategies to further their agenda, taking advantage of existing Indian and state laws. They have targeted the Kuki-Zo communities, creating divisions, bribing tribal leaders, distorting historical

narratives, and stigmatizing the Kuki-Zo people as refugees associated with drug-related terrorism. In an oppressive regime and amidst hate Kuki movement, a dangerous community ideology has emerged, aiming to indoctrinate and radicalize the younger Meiteis generation, thus perpetuating the ongoing conflict.

The Manipur conflict adds to a long list of historical conflicts where dominant communities have capitalized on their power to exploit marginalized groups and seize their lands. Comparable situations include the Congo Free State, the Darfur Conflict, the Bosnian War, and the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict. These instances illustrate the systematic exploitation of marginalized communities by powerful groups striving for territorial control.

In a departure from historical conflicts, the current war has been rife with an alarming prevalence of falsehoods and disinformation. Deception and fabricated Imphal news have become integral elements, significantly shaping the narrative. Moreover, the Meira Paibis women's group has taken an intriguing and controversial approach, resorting to the exposure of their bodies as a means of bolstering support for the Meitei militants, thereby gaining a strategic advantage in the war. This convergence of deceit and provocative tactics has added an unconventional

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dimension to the already complex and volatile.

It is worth noting that the origins of this current Manipur ethnic crisis can be traced back further than Churachandpur in Manipur. Meitei political and revolutionary leaders, supported by their intellectual class, have initiated hidden agenda against Kuki-Zo sometime ago and this played a significant role in initiating this conflict. The involvement of Meitei nationalists from Myanmar and Bangladesh further highlights a hidden agenda against the Kuki-Zo communities.

Should this war be resolved through evidence-based discussions and constructive dialogue, it is likely that the Kuki-Zo communities will emerge victorious. Armed with substantial evidence, testimonies, and revelations exposing the hidden agenda of the Meiteis, the Kuki-Zo communities stand a strong chance of success. Conversely, the Meiteis will face considerable challenges as they grapple with the consequences of their deceit and attempts to obscure their communal objectives, ultimately leading to the exposure of their true intentions on the global stage.

## SNIPPET



### Guite Hostel at BSF Academy, Tekanpur (Madhya Pradesh)

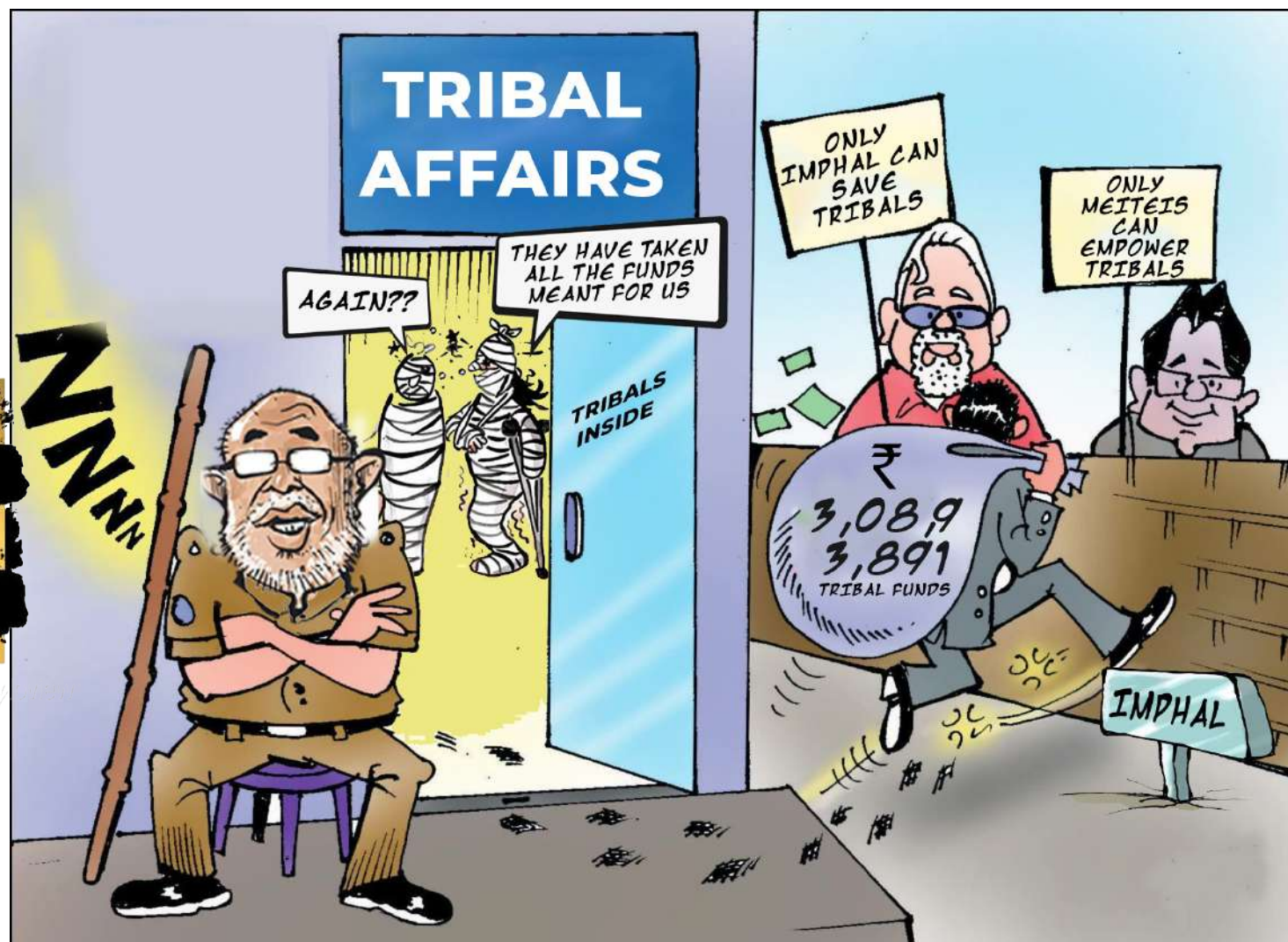
Dedicated in memory of **Sub-Inspector (L) Paotinsat Guite**, 59 Battalion of BSF hailing from Maphou Kuki Village in Kangpokpi District, Manipur. He was martyred on 01/12/2020 during ceasefire violation by Pakistan at LoC near Poonch in J&K and posthumously honoured with Kirti Chakra. His own village was razed and burned down in Manipur ethnic violence.

## NEWS IN PICTURE



The Kuki Khanglai Lawmpi (KKL-GHQ) in their endeavor to ease the financial burden of the IDPs who have faced immense financial difficulties in availing medicinal items, have opened a Pharmacy – exclusively for the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) at KKL Complex, IB Road, Lamka.

### Post MORTEM





# HIRAETH

Valor ft resilience, the spirited call for The Enemy - Kuki War  
Of its tribesmen, to show accord with Thingkho le Malcha soar.  
The unending hearth stories of our aged- of Pumpi and Joupi,  
History filled with freedom, dignity and the harrowing journey.  
As Pa K dreamily flutes "Nilhum ngailou" in the late afternoons,  
The Voices of the Hills still sings victory in defeat and aching tunes.

The phases, challenges we face with attitude across the latitude.  
All as one must we stand, bowing to God for the land with gratitude.  
Those 60km far green eyed monsters eyeing our heaven bestowed lands,  
While our bravehearts with our grandma's prayers along the border stands.  
And Ma'am Patricia Mukhim wonders if politics mightier than the pen.  
Then I dreamt, when is our good times of "Hard times create strong men"?

*~Len Haokip*

