

# Thingkho *Le* Malcha

A Daily Newsletter by KSO Media & Documentation Cell



## AWAITING JUSTICE



### NEHMINLUN HAOKIP (28 YEARS)

S/O NEHKHOJANG HAOKIP

ADDRESS: TINGKAI KHULLEN VILLAGE, SADAR HILLS

DATE OF DEATH: 4TH MAY, 2023

PLACE OF DEATH: IMPHAL

CAUSE OF DEATH: BURNT ALIVE. HIS BONES COLLECTED AND BURIED





## KUKI VICTIMS' UPDATE

As on 01.06.2024



**186**  
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.



# BIREN'S ARAMBAI TENGGOL BREACHES PEACEFUL ENVIRONMENT BY BURNING KUKI HOUSES IN JIRIBAM; TENSION RUNNING HIGH

Two days after the announcement of Lok Sabha Election Results in the Country, violence erupted in the boundary of Tamenglong and Jiribam districts of Manipur as the war mongers of N. Biren Singh's private militia group of Arambai Tenggol set ablaze several houses of Kukis in Uchathol locality of Jiribam tonight at around 8:30 PM, thus violating the peace agreement of the region by both the Meitei and Kukis communities under the aegis of Assam Rifles.

Torching of Kuki houses and properties occurred amid the presence of a large contingent of Manipur Police force. The Meitei radicalised armed group burnt down Kuki-Zo houses of Vengnuam village situated near Uchathol and several houses located within Uchathol, a Meitei inhabited locality.

Uneasy calm prevailed in Jiribam district since the outbreak of the state-sponsored ethnic cleansing pogrom against the Kukis last year. However, the central security forces managed the tense situations between the warring communities of Meiteis and Kukis living in the area for the past more than one year.

Tension ran high in the aftermath of the brutal and cold-blooded murder of a Kuki young boy Mr. Seigoulen Singson @ Bosco S/o. Mr. Seikholet Singson of Phaitol village, Tousem Sub-division, Tamenglong District, by the Meitei armed militants on May 14, 2024. He was kidnapped and murdered on the night of 14th May whose decomposed and badly tortured body was later retrieved from Jiri River on 17th of May near Molzawl village. The spot in which he went missing was hardly 30 metres from the Police Commando outpost and as such it was pertinent to conclude that the police commandos were directly or indirectly involved in the crime.

The incident of May was not the first time the Kukis experienced such atrocities committed against Kuki-Zo tribal by the Meiteis, but there were various instances



of intimidation and attacks upon the Kuki-Zo tribal.

The peaceful environment was again shattered today by the Meiteis, arising out of their sinister design to escalate the tension by killing a man from their own Meitei community. The man was suspected to be kidnapped by the Meitei armed miscreants and was found murdered today.

As per preliminary reports, the man identified as Soibam Saratkumar Singh (59) had went out to check on his farm when some armed miscreants attacked him.

The Meiteis Arambai Tenggol also reportedly attacked the Police Station of Jiribam to loot arms and ammunition.

Amid rising concerns over potential disturbances and threats to public tranquility in Jiribam, the District Magistrate has imposed prohibitory orders under Section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code (CrPC) 1973. Krishna Kumar, IAS, District Magistrate of Jiribam, announced the order in response to unlawful activities by anti-social elements that could lead to widespread unrest, breaches of peace, and imminent danger to life and property.

# MEITEIS DEFY COURT ORDER, CONVERTS KUKI CHURCH OFFICE INTO BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENT

In a glaring display of law enforcement agency one-sidedness, the Chongthu Baptist Churches Association (Ch.BA) office complex in New Lambulane has been turned into a business establishment by the Meiteis, and no action has been taken by the Police.

In a viral photo that went widely circulated on social media platforms today, the ground floor of Ch.BA building was a turned into a 'Fast Food' store.

In the wake of last year's May 3 incident, the entire houses belonging to the Kukis in Imphal valley were set ablaze by the dominant Meitei community and radical groups, while the Kuki community residing in the valley were chased out.

It may be noted here that the Kukis settlement in Manipur is not confined to one specific district. As such all Church/denominational offices were located in the capital Imphal, considering the strategic conveniences for all.

The Kuki Baptist Convention (KBC) office building was vandalized while the Kuki Christian Church (KCC) office building was set ablaze last year by the Meitei radical groups.

Meanwhile, the Churachandpur Police foiled an attempt to encroach Khumujamba Leikai in Churachandpur district on June 4.

Khumujamba Leikai in Churachandpur district is a village where the Meiteis had been residing for the past many years before they fled during the conflict. The Meiteis in the Khumujamba Leikai were residing as a minority community in Churachandpur, a Kuki dominated district.

According to Manipur police, a report was received on Saturday evening that some miscreants had gathered at the Khumujamba area of Churachandpur district. A police team immediately rushed to the spot and cleared the area.

With the swift action of Manipur police, the area was



vacated and 24 people were detained and released on PR bonds later. Churachandpur police team was stationed at Khumujamba to prevent any untoward incident. The police will secure the area from illegal activities and encroachment as per Supreme Court guidelines.

It may be recalled that the Manipur government on October 10, 2023 urged its citizens not to encroach upon the properties of those displaced by the violence in the state. The Governor issued the directive based on a Supreme Court order passed on September 25. The Supreme Court order directed the state government to ensure the protection of the properties of displaced persons, as well as those which have been destroyed or burnt in the violence, and prevent their encroachment.

Deputy Commissioners and Superintendents of Police have been advised to take action and implement the Supreme Court's order.

The Governor's order also said that anyone seizing or damaging the properties of others would face legal action.

However, despite the Court's directives, the Meiteis have been encroaching the properties of displaced Kuki people from Imphal. Their properties have been looted while their institute buildings have been turned into business establishment or housing for the radical groups; and the law has turned a blind eye to the Meiteis' disobedience and transgression of court's directives.



# LAWLESSNESS IN IMPHAL: BIREN NURTURED ANTI-SOCIAL ELEMENTS HAUNT MEITEI COMMON PEOPLE

In the lawless state of the Meiteis' valley of Imphal, the people have been witnessing all sorts of criminal or anti-social elements which have been nurtured and patronised under the fascist regime of N. Biren Singh-led majoritarian government.

The common people are haunted with threats and intimidations from the banned armed groups and Biren's private militia groups of Arambai Tenggol and Meitei Leepun.

Any sort of crimes or anti-social activities such as killings, rampant extortions, threats, intimidations, etc., all are the subjects of daily affairs in the purported "undisturbed" area of the Meiteis' land, Imphal. The place has become one of the perfect areas for re-imposition of Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958 in order to maintain law and order and contain the sprouting extremist outfits.

The latest criminal activity was reported on Wednesday wherein one of the leaders of the Meiteis' civil society organisations was targeted and his house and properties vandalised. Some cadres from the Meitei armed groups, in four Gypsy vehicles, entered the residence of COCOMI Coordinator, Thokchom Somorendra, at Nambol Thiyam in Bishnupur district around 7 PM yesterday and vandalised properties including his vehicle.

The attackers, armed with sophisticated weapons, targeted Somorendra's property and threatened his wife, Irengbam Premabati Devi, by pointing guns at her head. Fortunately, Somorendra was not at home at the time of the incident.

In connection with the incident, the women's group held



sit-in protest today at Nambol Thiyam Community Hall.

A Meira Paibi leader participating in the protest demanded that the gunmen should explain the reasons for attacking the COCOMI Coordinator's family, and sought justice to be served against the perpetrators.

In another shocking incident, an 11-year-old girl was killed by a mentally challenged man in the Sapam area under Khongjom Police Station in Thoubal district this morning. The minor victim, who was on her way to school to write an exam, was struck on the head and forehead with a large iron rod by the accused at around 7:30 AM. The accused has been identified as 42-year-old Sapam Sharat, S/o Sapam Kalachand, from Sapam Sabal Leikai. The deceased girl, daughter of Khelendra and Jamuna from Sapam Maning Leikai, was a class 6 student of Ibemhal Visal Academy, Sapam Sabal Leikai.

In the aftermath of the incident, an irate mob apprehended and brutally thrashed Sharat, leaving him with severe injuries.

# AFTER BJP'S HUMILIATING DEFEAT IN THREE NORTHEASTERN STATE, ASSAM CM SARMA BLAMES PARTICULAR RELIGION

Once a Congress stalwart, Assam Chief Minister Mr. Himanta Biswa Sarma, in his career spanning over three decades, has seen his name crop up in several investigations and allegations.

Barely a couple of months before Himanta Biswa Sarma joined the BJP, in August 2015, a booklet accusing him of being a "key suspect" in a multi-crore Louis Berger scam was released by the BJP party. However, after his entry into the Saffron Party, his tainted images have been washed away by the BJP's Washing Machine.

From his rise as the BJP face in Northeast to becoming the Chief Minister of Assam, he has made several illogical statements in the media, attempting to gain all the spotlights.

Recently, after election debacle of BJP in the northeastern states, Himanta Biswa Sarma claims leaders of a particular religion worked against NDA in Nagaland, Manipur and Meghalaya.

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma claimed on Tuesday that the NDA lost the Lok Sabha seats in Nagaland and Meghalaya as leaders of a particular religion worked against the ruling alliance.

Speaking to reporters at the BJP's state office, Sarma remarked, "Leaders of a particular religion (Christian) openly worked against the BJP and NDA in Nagaland, Manipur and Meghalaya and that religion has tremendous followers in those states. That made the difference."

However, Himanta Biswa Sarma, instead of blaming one particular religion for their electoral debacle, should introspect himself and his alliance – the Northeast Democratic Alliance (NEDA). The electoral defeat of BJP and its ally in the Manipur, Meghalaya and Nagaland is all down to bad governance of their party and its allies.

In Manipur, the state has witnessed continued violence for the past one year. However, the double engine



government at the centre and state has done nothing worthwhile to contain violence that has already lasted a year. Even the Meitei voter who has been sold hate and vitriol for the past 12 months seems to be fed up and disillusioned. The mandate also indicated the strong-arm tactics of the people against Arambai Tenggol, a radical Meitei militia group believed to be close to the Biren Singh government. Its cadres had allegedly threatened Akoijam during the campaign.

Mr. Sarma's statement is also illogical in a sense that the BJP candidate lost in Inner Parliamentary seat where 90% voters are the Meiteis, whose religion is mainly Hinduism and Sanamahism. Besides, a responsible citizen never believes in bluff but in logic and reasoning. Also, the tribals are not that easy to manipulate. They are not a fool to easily swallowed the hallow promises of the BJP.

Sarma, like his political bosses in New Delhi, is known to have made irresponsible and illogical statements in the media – his style of functioning. Polarization doesn't really work among the tribals. Instead of admitting his own failure as the head of NEDA, he chooses to polarize the people of northeast based on their religion.



## MIZORAM: DEATH TOLL IN AIZAWL LANDSLIDES REACHES 30

One more body was recovered on Tuesday, taking the death toll in multiple landslides in Mizoram's capital region Aizawl to 30, a police officer said.

The body of an 11-year-old girl was recovered from the debris of a landslide in the Melthum area by rescue teams, he said.

He said that four people, including a six-month-old infant, are believed to be still missing.

At least 16 people died when several houses and worker camps caved in due to the impact of a massive landslide at an abandoned stone quarry in the border area of Melthum and Hlimen on Tuesday morning.

In Hlimen, six people died when a landslide swept away two houses and another three died at Aizawl's Salem veng locality due to a landslide.

Two persons died due to a landslide at Falkawn village about 15 km from Aizawl and one each died in Kelsih and Lungsei villages in Aizawl district in landslides.

Officials said that search operations are still being carried out in two landslide-hit areas at Melthum and Aibawk villages by government rescue teams and some local volunteers.

Earlier on Monday, the Central Young Mizo Association (CYMA) had called off search operations by YMA



volunteers as per Mizo customary practice.

Meanwhile, sources said that a dead body, suspected to be a victim of landslides, was fished out from Tlawng River near Lungleng village in Aizawl district on Tuesday.

According to Mizo customary practice, a missing person is searched by volunteers for seven days after which the operation has to be called off.

The identity of the victim is yet to be ascertained, it said.

Source: NE Now News



**When a clown moves into a palace, he doesn't become a king. The palace becomes a circus.**

*- Turkish Proverb*

# THE BUZZ

SOCIAL MEDIA



**Gaurav Gogoi** ✓  
@GauravGogoiAsm

I condemn the irresponsible and reckless statement of the Chief Minister of Assam Himanta Biswa Sarma. He does not have the maturity to accept the responsibility for the losses of the NDA in Nagaland, Meghalaya and Manipur. I appeal to the Chief Ministers of the respective states to publicly condemn the statement. Together we must preserve the unique identity of the Northeast. [economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/elections...](https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/elections...)

7:33 pm · 06 Jun 24 · 180K Views



**HSA JHQ Delhi** ✓  
@HSADelhi

Election results declared and SURPRISE! SURPRISE!

Meiteis have resumed their reign of terror on the Hmar-Kuki-Zo tribals yet again. All 10 Hmar houses in Uchathol village, Jiribam district were burnt by #MeiteiTerrorists  
There have also been reports that Hmar churches were also burnt down. They have culturally appropriated our Victory/War chants by adding Refugee to suit their false narratives. All hope is lost!!!

Separate Administration is the only solution

#JusticeForKukiZoHmar  
#UnionTerritoryForKukiZoHmar

@dhruv\_rathee @INCIndia @IndiaTodayNE @ndtv @Rainbow\_VOM  
@TribalArmy @AlJazeera @EastMojo @ABC @UN @NamtaUs @Pontifex  
@VanlalvenaK @Lal\_Duhoma

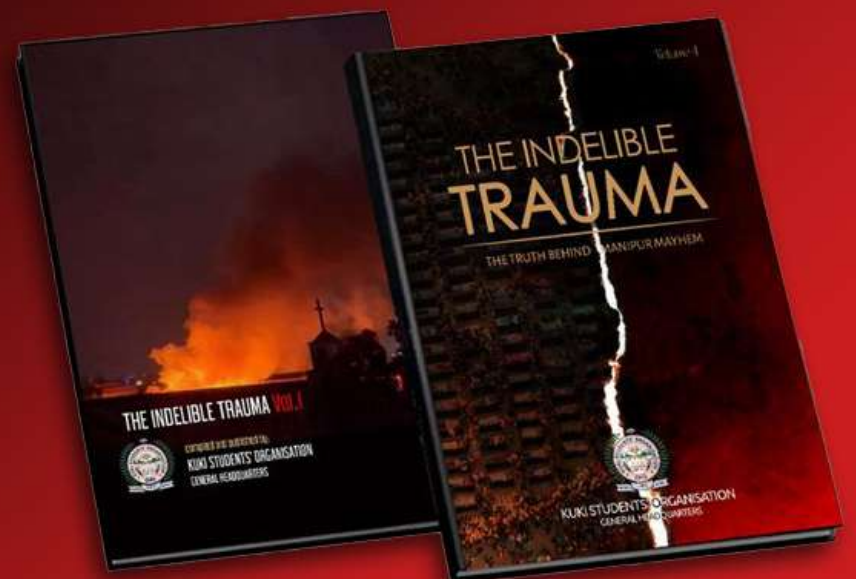


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**FEATURED ARTICLE**

## Manipur Has Spoken: But Will the New Govt Finally Pay Attention?

**Ninglun Hanghal**

Why and how did the INC win in Manipur, and that too by huge margins? The immediate answer would be the impact of the violent conflict that erupted last year in the state, which is still simmering today.

There have been more than enough expressions of anger over the BJP government (both in the state and the centre), whom voters in both of the two Lok Sabha seats have blamed for the crisis. Most importantly, the state BJP chief minister, as the leader of the government, whom voters feel is not doing enough on either side of the divide.

The violence formed the backdrop and 'agenda' behind the general election of 2024 in Manipur. Campaigning and voting were held amid an ongoing conflict between the Meiteis, voters of the Inner Manipur parliamentary constituency, and the Kuki-Zo, who are voters of the outer parliamentary seat.

While Kuki-Zo voters have strongly expressed their grievances over the Biren Singh government, a large section of the Meitei voters, too, were unhappy with how Singh handled the situation.

Voters have shown and voiced in many ways and

terms how Manipur was "forgotten" by the union government and left to fend for themselves in this crisis.

Most importantly, the silence in the ongoing violence from the central government did shape the voters' turn to the Congress in the parliamentary election. This cannot be ruled out. It may be mentioned that while the incumbent Prime Minister has not set foot into Manipur and the Union Home Minister's visit with few promises and no visible signs of improvement in the situation, only adds to the growing despair.

Meanwhile, significantly, Rahul Gandhi of the Congress visited the state drawing a huge response. He kicked off the Bharat Jodo Yatra from Manipur, giving a strong signal and message. His visit and personal interactions touched the hearts and minds of the general public in Manipur.

The violent conflict that has gone on for over a year now is one of the reasons why and how, this time, the parliamentary election was taken "seriously" in Manipur. Otherwise, people at large

*Contd.*



*Contd.*

are “indifferent” to Lok Sabha elections. Even though Manipur and the northeastern states at large usually do not see much election excitement for Lok Sabha elections in the past, this time it witnessed major ripples.

In the silence of the general public, especially the Kuki-Zos abstentions from voting, or in terms of various forms and levels—election discussions, debates, social media

The tension that built up in the pre-poll, during the poll, and post-poll, the uneasy calm, the boycott call, and the campaign did indicate that this election, unlike any other in the Lok Sabha elections in Manipur, witnessed enthusiasm and saw one of the tightest fights with high-profile candidates.

This election is indeed one of the most interesting ever for Manipur, which normally follows the trend of the ruling party winning the Lok Sabha polls with voters not giving much attention. This time, either people ardently campaign or abstain, sending out strong messages and assertions.

While a lot of election-related activity is being seen in the Imphal valley in the inner parliament constituency, no Kuki-Zo contested the election, and over half of them abstained from voting. A displaced population who fled outside the state—a good number of them—could not cast their votes. Many Kuki-Zo voters call for boycotts, and districts like Kangpokpi—predominantly Kuki areas—witness empty polling booths

In the past general election, Manipur voters, especially in rural areas, were not as serious as in the state election. In many assembly constituencies, voters did not even know the candidates. Manipur MPs were never “popular” at large among their voters in Manipur. Many do not even know who their MP(s) are.

The most common refrain is, “What could two MPs in

parliament do to the sea of 543?” This refrain is also true in the sense that MPs from Manipur, or for that matter, the northeast regions, do not have much impact or say in the Indian Parliament.

It was different this time. Either the abstention or the interest shown by the voters resulted in the incumbent party losing ground. For the first time, Manipur also takes parliamentary representation” with seriousness. Though only two in number, an MP in the parliament is considered as important as a representation in the state assembly. Manipur has only two seats in the lower house of the Indian Parliament.

The two warring communities were, fortunately, or unfortunately, divided categorically between these two seats. Nevertheless, the poll result indicated that both the warring groups did desire a “change” in their representation. They no longer have faith in the BJP and are opting for the Congress.

The Meitei and Kuki-Zo constituencies and the polling showed a stark difference. The Inner Manipur constituency saw more noise and campaigning for the candidates. While the outer Manipur constituency and areas of the Kuki-Zo were quiet. Even the Naga areas did not witness much of the election extravaganzas.

However it did witness sporadic violence in both, and a re-poll was held in some polling stations in the two constituencies.

A huge celebration erupted in Imphal; the inner parliamentary constituency saw more celebrations, with people thronging the winner’s residence and party headquarters. While the outer

*Contd.*



Contd.

constituency and the tribal hill areas did not see any such major events. The Kuki-Zo constituencies are silent.

There is relative calm as of now in Manipur. People in general were anxious, and there were mixed emotions. Many are hoping that the post-poll will bring some respite. Though many are sceptical as to whether elections can change the prevailing situation.

Nevertheless, the election process that has been going on for over a month now has brought the situation in Manipur to a kind of stillness. There have been no reports of violence or attacks on villages. There is an “uneasy calm” and disquiet. There is a common response that “anything can happen anytime.”

Buffer zones remain. Volunteers on both sides continue to man the “border” or “line of control.” There is no inter-district communication or connectivity between Meitei and Kuki-Zos. The only airport in Imphal, the

state capital, is still inaccessible to the Kuki-Zo people. Moreover, the Kuki-Zo are struggling with hardships with daily essential commodities and medical health supplies.

The election process and its results bring an expectation. The hope is that post-election, maybe the stillness will continue and possibly lead to further calm and a slow return to normalcy. Now that the voters and citizens of Manipur have voted for a “change” a huge responsibility is placed on the two new winners.

The question is, will the two new MPs be able to deliver? Or will they, as usual, be lost in the sea of the hundreds of MPs in Delhi and not be able to raise their hands? It remains to be seen.

First published by [East Mojo](#)



**THE  
FIRST  
REACTION  
AFTER POLL  
FAILURE**







# UNTOLD BEAUTY

-Valentina Mangte

There's beauty in the promises,  
A hope to rely amidst the ominous,  
in the times of dark death night,  
The hope of Promises will guide us bright.

There's beauty in the unknown,  
There's joy in spending some time alone.  
Out of the crowd, out of all the chaos  
Nothing to worry, nothing to cause.

There is beauty in those smiles,  
Incredulous! you might become fragile.  
There's a surprise for those who believe it,  
Which reveals itself with time in bits.

There is beauty in the broken pieces,  
Affixing is an art to all whom it pleases.  
Art is Creating a masterpiece from the unknown,  
But you, you are a masterpiece on your own.

Beauty in broken things many fail to see,  
Feeling peace in the fresh air they need,  
Times when life gets too hard to endure,  
Remember, strongest are the ones whose hearts were pure.

There's Beauty in feeling all phases of life,  
Without sorrow one will forget the value of life.  
Going to and fro, up and down,  
Is a part of life to have you around.