

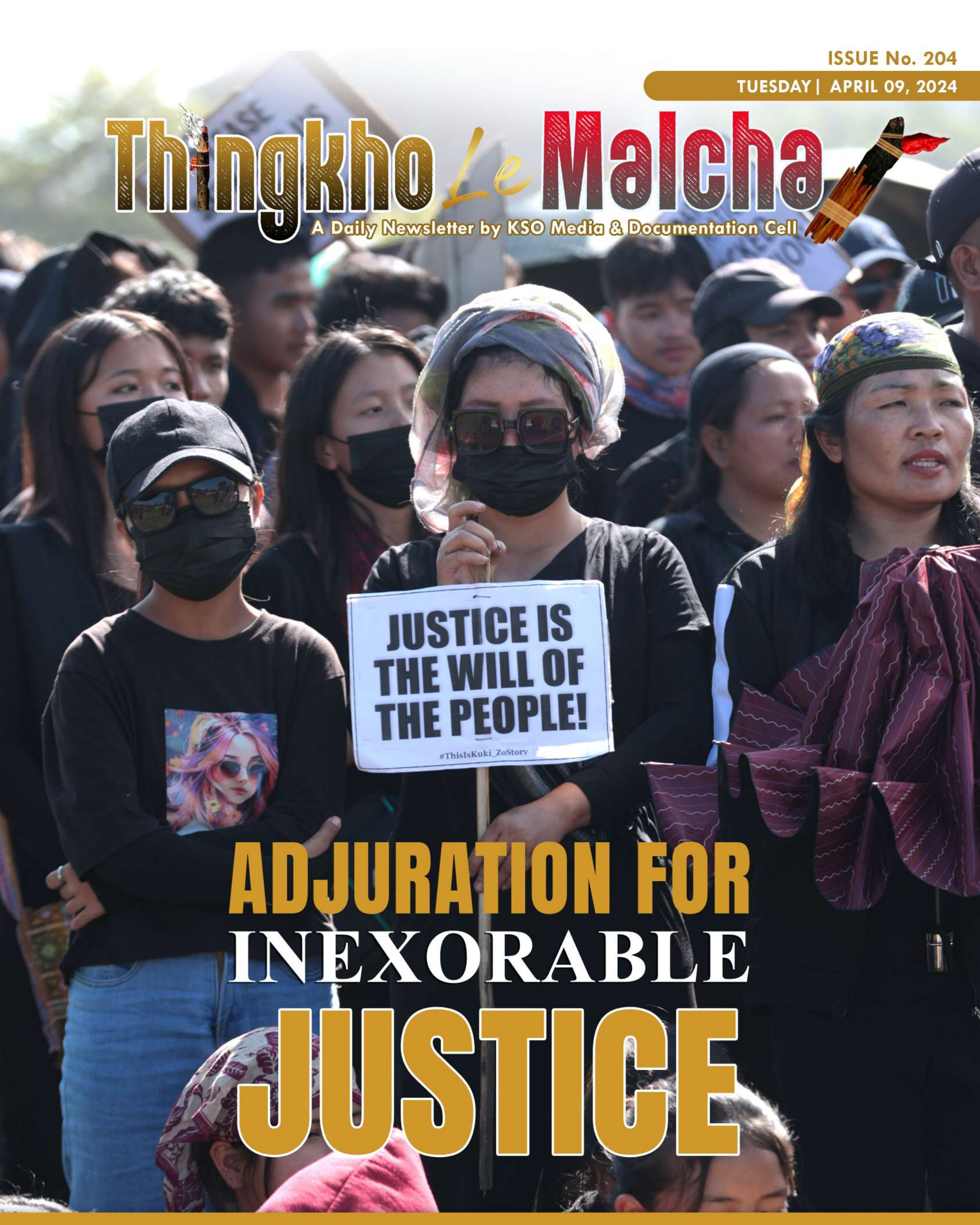
# Thingkho *Le* Malcha

A Daily Newsletter by KSO Media & Documentation Cell



**JUSTICE IS  
THE WILL OF  
THE PEOPLE!**  
#ThisIsKuki\_ZoStory

# ADJURATION FOR INEXORABLE JUSTICE





## KUKI VICTIMS' UPDATE

As on 01.04.2024



**170**  
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.

# CAPF PERSONNEL DEPLOYED IN VULNERABLE AREAS OF KUKIS DIVERTED; KUKIS' LIVES, PROPERTIES AT RISK

It is very unfortunate to learn that the Centre government has relocated the neutral security forces of CRPF and BSF deployed in the most vulnerable areas of the strife-torn Manipur, particularly in most attack-prone Kuki areas located in the periphery of the Meiteis' territory, to the state of West Bengal for election duty.

Amidst hectic preparation and jungle training carried out by the Meitei radicals and militant groups with imminent attacks on the Kukis' territory after elections, the central security forces have been withdrawn from the vulnerable Kuki areas, which once again places the security of Kukis' lives and properties at risk.

One wonders as to why the neutral forces have been withdrawn amid tense situations in Manipur. Has the Centre government totally abandoned the Kukis' security? Why is the present regime insensitive to the threat of Kukis' lives and properties? Is the government treating the Kukis as second class citizens?

Nearly five thousand central armed police personnel of CRPF and BSF will finally exit Manipur after months of deployment during the unabated violence that began in May. They will now be on poll duty in West Bengal, which had witnessed political clashes in 2019 Lok Sabha polls. With this, the state of West Bengal will see the highest deployment of central forces during the upcoming Lok Sabha elections season.

On Monday, the Union Home Ministry wrote to the police chiefs in Manipur, West Bengal and central armed forces asking them to coordinate with the state government and railway board for the deployment of the central forces. The 50 companies of CAPFs currently deployed in Manipur are part of the deployment of additional 100 companies (55 of CRPF, 45 of BSF) being



sent to West Bengal as requested by the Election Commission for smooth conduct of polls.

With this withdrawal, the Kuki areas which are still at risk and witness most attacks by the Meitei aggressors in the past including Saikul areas, Moltam areas, Kangchup areas and several other vulnerable areas have now been kept with insufficient security forces.

Mention may be made that even after 11 months of the ongoing state-engineered ethnic cleansing against the minority Kukis, the Meitei militants such as Arambai Tenggol, Meitei Leepun and Valley-based Insurgent Groups are still intensifying their preparations just to target and annihilate the Kuki-Zo communities after the ensuing Lok Sabha polls.

The militants' combat training and the passing-out parade of the Meiteis' radical groups of Arambai Tenggol are regular features on social media platforms. The jungle training performed by the Arambai militants to attack Kuki villages situated along the buffer zones highlights their preparation and determination to engage in conflict.

# DON'T WIELD THE INCIDENT OF KUKI-ZO WOMEN "PARADED NAKED" AS A MERE POLITICAL GAMESMANSHIP SAYS COTU


In a sharp response to Manipur Chief Minister N Biren Singh's recent statement regarding the gut-wrenching viral video of Kuki-Zo women being paraded naked, the Committee on Tribal Unity (CoTU) of Sadar Hills Kangpokpi District unleashed vehement condemnation and expressed profound outrage.

The video, which circulated widely in June 2023, two months after the incident, captured a deeply distressing incident of human rights violation, sparking national and international outrage.

During the Yuva Sammelan event held in Imphal on April 7, Chief Minister N. Biren Singh attributed the dissemination of the video to the opposition party, Congress, suggesting that it was a deliberate attempt to insult and discredit Prime Minister Narendra Modi amidst widespread criticism over his perceived silence on the situation in Manipur.

While conveying its wholehearted endorsement of the democratic electoral process of the country, the Sadar Hills Kangpokpi's Kuki-Zo top tribal body implored political parties or individual alike to refrain and desist from appeasing the general public on the harrowing plight of the minority tribals, especially the Kuki-Zo community who are the victim of the alleged genocide as a political scoreboard.

"This is not a matter of political maneuvering; it is a matter of basic human dignity and justice. The attempt to deflect attention from the atrocities suffered by the Kuki-Zo women is not only reprehensible but also underscores a disturbing indifference towards



**COMMITTEE ON TRIBAL UNITY (COTU)**  
Sadar Hills, Kangpokpi District  
Administrative office : Kangpokpi DHQ  
Email : cotukangpokpi@gmail.com

Ref.No..... Date:.....

**PRESS REBUTTAL**  
Dated: 9<sup>th</sup> April 2024

A proposed of the recent statement made by the incumbent Chief Minister of Manipur, Mr. N. Biren Singh on the gut ranching viral video where two Kuki-Zo women were paraded naked by a mob of Meitei civilians in the presence of state security forces as a mere electoral vendetta between BJP and INC is highly regrettable and the Committee urge the Chief Minister to withdraw his statement.

The Committee while endorsing the electoral process of the country, would like to appeal to all political parties or any individuals to refrained and desist from appeasing the general public on the harrowing plight of minority Tribals, especially the Kuki-Zo community who are the victim of this genocide as a political score board.

Therefore, the Committee reiterates that as long as our Constitution of India remains valid and democracy is to be uphold; neither the high chair of the Prime Minister nor the Chief Minister can be absolved from the current political debacle which is facing the state of Manipur.

*Information and Publicity Secretary,*  
Committee on Tribal Unity, Kangpokpi

their plight", the Committee stated.

It then emphatically reiterated that as long as the sacred tenets of the Indian Constitution endure and democracy reigns supreme, neither the lofty seat of the Prime Minister nor the exalted position of the Chief Minister can evade culpability for the profound political crisis gripping the state of Manipur.

# LOK SABHA INC CANDIDATE ALFRED K. ARTHUR VISITS LAMKA

Congress party's candidate for Outer Manipur Parliamentary constituency, Alfred Kanngam Arthur, along with Victor Keishing, working President MPCC, and other Congress members visited Lamka today.

The INC candidate Alfred Kanngam Arthur along with T. Manga Vaiphei, Star Campaigner & Working President of the Manipur Pradesh Congress Committee and Lalnghet Hmar, President, Churachandpur DCC, met leaders of the Zomi Council, Kuki Inpi Manipur and Indigenous Tribal Leaders' Forum.

Speaking at the district and block level Congress workers meeting, Alfred Kanngam Arthur implored the gathering of the Congress District workers to stand up for the tribal rights and never compromise with their due share as enshrined and guaranteed by the Constitution of India. He also said that people should be united to fight against the rightful shares in all spheres, while promising to sincerely work for all sections of the society.

Victor Keishing has also told the Congress workers that secularism in India's democracy should be protected by all right thinking people. Blaming the BJP Government for reeling the State under a deep crisis since the past 11 months, Keishing urged all Congress workers to work harder to secure the trust of the people.

The district and block level Congress workers meeting was held at T.Manga Vaiphei's residence, Red-Cross



road, Lamka, attended by Alfred Kanngam Arthur, Manipur INC Outer Candidate, Victor Keishing, working President MPCC, Mangkholien Gangte, Secretary- MPCC, Mangchinkhup, Member-MPCC, and all district and block level Congress workers.

Alfred Kanngam Arthur along with party workers also visited KKL Relief camps at Sangai University, Kaparang. He interacted with relief camps inmates and heard their grievances.



**The only way to deal with tyrants is to resist them.**

— James Baldwin

## IT WAS NOT THE TRIBALS BUT MEITEIS WHO FIRST OPPOSED INCLUSION OF MEITEI IN ST LIST, SAYS MEITEI SOCIO-POLITICAL COMMENTATOR P. SONAMANI

Much has been said and discussed about the inclusion of the Meiteis, the majority community in Manipur, in the Scheduled Tribe category. The Meiteis' demand for inclusion in the ST list received stiff opposition from the tribal communities of Manipur.

Besides, there has been a conflict of ideas or opinions among the Meiteis themselves regarding the inclusion of Meiteis in the ST list. While a section of Meiteis, who want opportunities for jobs through reservations, supported the inclusion of the Meiteis in the ST list, there are also other sections of the Meiteis who are opposed to it tooth and nail. The Meiteis' ST demand under the aegis of the Scheduled Tribe Demand Committee of Manipur has received criticism from many sections of the Meitei community since the beginning of the movement.

The ongoing Kuki-Meitei conflict began in the aftermath of the tribals' Solidarity Rally against Manipur High Court's order directing the Government for sending a recommendation of Meiteis in the ST list. The Meiteis have been trying hard to shift the narratives that the conflict started because of the Kuki-Zo community's opposition to certain policies adopted by the state government, which have been gradually proven wrong.

In the midst of this conflict, the Meitei political commentator, P. Sonamani, has spilled the beans that the inclusion of the Meitei in the ST list was first opposed by the Meiteis themselves.

In an interview with a valley-based media house, Sonamani asserted that it was not the tribals but the Meiteis who first opposed the inclusion of Meitei in the ST list. "The demand for inclusion of Meitei among the Scheduled Tribes in India was first opposed by the



people from the Meitei community but not the tribals in Manipur," he said.

"Way back in 1944, the Scheduled Tribe leaders in the country tried to convince or tell the Meiteis to convert into a Scheduled Tribe and sought acknowledgement from the Meitei community. However, at that time, the Meitei leaders failed to accept it. At that time, no other communities raised their voice in opposition to the inclusion of the Meiteis in the Scheduled Tribe list. But, it was the Meiteis including the unknown personalities," Sonamani said.

Sonamani expressed confidence that even the ruling BJP party in the State would not dare to send the recommendation for inclusion of Meiteis in the ST list to the Centre, adding that even in the state assembly, the chief minister himself has made a statement that he would have to discuss with other stakeholders regarding the proposed inclusion of Meitei in the Scheduled Tribe list.

Sonamani also said the chief minister's statement was an indication that N. Biren Singh would not make any move for inclusion of Meitei in the ST list.

# ‘INDIA’S MAP WILL CHANGE...’: NIRMALA SITHARAMAN’S HUSBAND PARAKALA PRABHAKAR CAUTIONS AGAINST PM MODI’S RE-ELECTION

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman’s husband Parakala Prabhakar has said that if the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) comes back to power after winning the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, ‘India’s map will change’. Prabhakar said that in the event Prime Minister and BJP leader Narendra Modi is re-elected in the 2024 Lok Sabha polls, “a situation like Ladakh-Manipur will arise in the entire country.”

The video of Parakala Prabhakar, a renowned economist, sharing his insights was shared by the Congress on the microblogging site X. In the video, Parakala Prabhakar, the husband of BJP leader and India’s Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, is heard saying that if PM Modi becomes Prime Minister again in 2024, India will never witness another election process. “Ek aur chunav ki ummed mat kijiye,” Prabhakar was heard replying to the interviewer.

“Agar ye sarkar aayi to uske baad chunav hoga hi nahin (If this BJP government returns, then India will never see elections again)” Prabhakar said.

The economist husband of Nirmala Sitharaman also claimed that the constitution and map will change if PM Modi and his cabinet returns to power. “Aap isko pehechan bhi nahin sakenge (You would not be able to recognise this [India])”, Prabhakar said.

Citing statements made by BJP leaders and PM Modi, like ‘isko Pakistan jaane ka hai, jane do’ (If they want to go to Pakistan, let them), Prabhakar cautioned that these hate speeches will now rise from Red Fort in Delhi.

“Modi himself will give a hate speech from the Red Fort”, Prabhakar said during the interview, adding that it



won’t be done silently or subtly. The hate speeches will be ‘Khula Khel’, according to the economist.

Parakala Prabhakar also noted that the unrest that gripped Manipur due to the ethnic clashes between Kuki and Meitei communities will be the norm across India, if at all PM Modi returns to power.

Earlier in March, Prabhakar while speaking to a television news channel said that “electoral bond scam is not just the biggest scam in India but the biggest scam in the world. “After electoral bond corruption became public, now the fight is not between two alliances but between the BJP and the people of India.”

Pertinently, finance minister Sitharaman said last month that she has turned down BJP president JP Nadda’s offer to fight the Lok Sabha polls from Andhra Pradesh or Tamil Nadu because she did not have the funds to contest the polls.

Source: [Live Mint](#)

# CONGRESS DARES PM NARENDRA MODI TO CAMPAIGN IN STRIFE-TORN MANIPUR

Manipur Congress president K Meghachandra has dared Prime Minister Narendra Modi to campaign in Manipur for the upcoming Lok Sabha elections.

Manipur Congress chief K Meghachandra criticized PM Narendra Modi's remarks on the Manipur issue, alleging that the Prime Minister is not adequately addressing the ongoing violence in the strife-torn Northeast state.

Meghachandra rebuked the PM Modi's assertion that the Centre's timely intervention had brought relief to Manipur, stating that the situation in the state has not fully normalized.

Speaking to the media at the Congress Bhawan in Imphal city of Manipur on Tuesday (April 09), K Meghachandra, who also serves as a sitting Congress MLA, emphasized that peace has not been fully restored in Manipur, contrary to the PM's claim.

In an interview to The Assam Tribune, Prime Minister Narendra Modi asserted that timely intervention by both the central and Manipur governments had significantly improved the situation in the strife-torn state.

However, the Manipur Congress president highlighted the ethnic violence that erupted on May 03 last year, between Kukis and Meiteis, stating that residents of the hills (the Kukis) are unable to travel to the plains, and vice versa.

Meghachandra criticized the PM's statement as an attempt to save face and gain political advantage



ahead of the upcoming parliamentary elections, scheduled to commence on April 19.

He questioned why the Prime Minister had not visited Manipur for election campaigns, asserting that the invitation was extended to him.

Furthermore, Meghachandra expressed disappointment in the PM's perceived lack of seriousness regarding the Manipur issue, noting that the Congress is fielding candidates for both the Inner Manipur and Outer Manipur parliamentary constituencies, which are scheduled for April 19 and April 26, respectively.

Despite this, the BJP is contesting the Inner Manipur Lok Sabha seat and supporting the Naga People's Front (NPF) candidate in the Outer Manipur seat.



# ALLEGED COLLUSION: RPI (ATHAWALE) CANDIDATE IN MANIPUR ELECTIONS EXPOSED FOR TIES WITH BJP

Maheshwar Thounaojam, official candidate of RPI (Athawale) for Inner Parliamentary Constituency in Manipur has been time and again exposed for his manipulative statement since he seized violence as an opportunity to solidify his political status.

Recently, Maheshwar was seen campaigning for the 18th Lok Sabha election among a group of women where he could be seen clarifying about him being as second fiddle to BJP candidate Thounaojam Basantakumar.

Maheshwar and his party, the Republican Party of India (Athawale) has been partner of BJP in the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) in the centre. To this, many have accused him of colluding with the BJP. The Meitei public has largely blame the ruling BJP at the centre and state for prolonged violence in the state. They think voting Maheshwar is akin to voting BJP, which has supposedly drained his image as the front runner of the ensuing Lok Sabha election. Former Chief Minister and CLP leader Okram Ibobi Singh corroborated this claim.

Addressing a group of reporter, Maheshwar said there is party politics regarding his candidature in the upcoming Lok Sabha election. His candidature is not about Congress or the BJP, people are making baseless propaganda to defame his image.

However, a keen observer of Indian political scenario would find the statement of Maheshwar funny, as his president Mr. Athawale has clearly stated that his party is with the BJP to solely defeat the Congress and keep them out of power.

This was well collaborated by the BJP candidate for Inner Manipur Mr. Thounaojam Basantakumar in his interview with Raj Nongthombam, the editor of



SKTV. In the interview, Basantakumar did not see Maheshwar as a foe; he said that the candidature of Maheshwar is just a friendly fight between coalition partners.

Asked about probable vote swing in this election between coalition partners, Basanta said the BJP with strong base organizational structure will not swing their vote for another ally and the RPI (Athawale) is a not a threat to him.

When asked about the reason why the BJP did not put up candidate in Outer seat but a coalition partner contesting against them in Inner seat, Basanta said this has been done by the Central Election Committee of the BJP to demonstrate its accommodative stance. For the BJP, RPI (Athawale) is the plan B if they happened to lost in the Inner seat.

The above statement negates all the claims made by RPI (Athawale) candidate Mr. Maheshwar Thounaojam that he is not at all related with the BJP or the Congress. He has gone the extra mile by feeding the general public with all this lies just to gain poll victory.

# MANIPUR POLICE RESCUES KIDNAPPING VICTIMS, ARRESTS SUSPECTS FOR ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF DRUGS AND AMMUNITIONS

In a series of successful operations, Manipur Police has rescued multiple kidnapping victims and apprehended several suspects involved in abduction and extortion cases across the state. The police, in their latest efforts on Monday, April 8, managed to free hostages and apprehend perpetrators from various districts, including Imphal East.

Two individuals, Md Juma Khan and Ram Bahadur Khadkar, both residents of Imphal East, were arrested in connection with one abduction case. Meanwhile, in another operation, five individuals, identified as Khoirom Sanathoi Meitei, Thokchom Mothomar Meitei, Laisharam Ahendrajit Meitei, Phandom Ango Singh, and Haorokcham Chitranjan Singh, were apprehended for their involvement in a separate kidnapping incident.

The Manipur Police, through rigorous search operations and area domination exercises, also seized a significant cache of weapons and ammunition in Champhai Hill and Imphal East. This included firearms, live ammunition, hand grenades, and communication equipment.



Additionally, in Bishnupur District, two suspects, Md Nurhaman and Ibem, were arrested with a substantial amount of suspected opium and brown powder, believed to be heroin.

Further intensifying their crackdown on illegal activities, the police detained two more individuals, Khaying Longvah and Ngahanyui Kashung, in Khabeisoi, Imphal East District. The suspects were found in possession of contraband heroin powder weighing approximately 1 kg, along with a vehicle.



When they saved #Manipur



10:13 am · 09 Apr 24 · 6,549 Views



Ravinder Kapur. @RavinderKapur2

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PM constantly lies !

Sometimes I laugh , get angry or I'm surprised at his lies .

How can a PM lie all the time to the country.

Manipur has been burning for over 10 months and he lied about Manipur without blinking , it's a sin

@SupriyaShrinat 🔥



From Supriya Shrinat

5:37 pm · 09 Apr 24 · 1,638 Views

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**ANALYSIS**

## Journey through Conflict: Richest and Choices

A perpetual concern at the heart of the ongoing conflict, among various issues, is the oxymoron that the constitution provides hill people the right to settle anywhere while Meiteis aren't accorded such a right. This debate has been demystified by asserting our precarious indigenous rights and highlighting the uneven distribution of endowments and other rights. A related discernible concern is the growing population in the valley—an issue apparently problematic for the valley only. However, a contrarian question can also be raised wherein the debate must begin among ourselves as to why we let our economy slip into the valley. While the valley's economic gain germinated due to the addition of skilled workers from the hills, the hill areas, in places like Kanggui, Chandel, Kamjong, and Tengnoupal, suffered economic downturns as economic transactions gyrate within the valley. So, why did the wealthy individuals leave their 'ancestral' country to seek better options elsewhere? Because as a consequence of such actions, resources that can trickle down to common persons are no longer abundantly available to us. As the drain theory argues, here, locals do not benefit from resources earned by the locals themselves. It relocates elsewhere (to Imphal and other metropolitan cities). But this is at best an ominous take on our society since casting aspersions on an external force suggests that we are somehow coerced into such migration, which is ludicrous. Rather, our resources are

transferred not because external forces demand us to, but because of the system that our society produces.

What is such a system, and how do we get our act right as a consequence of this conflict? Unfortunately, confronting the 'system' is outside the remit of this space, but the topic of resources demands immediate intervention. One immediate result of the ongoing ethnic conflict has been the advancement of the 'people-centric' policy initiated under Kuki Inpi Manipur (KIM), which, if it succeeds, will, for the first time, devolve power directly to the people. KIM's R&R department has, among various initiatives, taken the role of creating a 'Mipi Khopi', a settlement for and by the people. This pivotal task and its policy formulation have to be scrutinized fairly, but surely it has provoked us to think. Here, the hope is that conflicts, such as the present one, as cataclysmic as it can be, shall give us the prospect of reconstructing broad-based institutions that will facilitate collective gain for our society. Conventional wisdom suggests it does. But does it, really?

*Contd.*

Contd.

The French Economist Frédéric Bastiat introduced the parable of the broken window fallacy, which goes: the son of a shopkeeper broke their window pane. The shopkeeper is miffed but was convinced by bystanders that, because of his son's act, another person would be able to sell a window pane. So, his misfortune, in essence, becomes a fortune for another person. The whole point is that 'misfortunes' such as the broken window, or in our case, conflict can have a silver lining. Because the reconstruction of smouldering ruins will lead to a rise in post-conflict activities. This analogy, according to Bastiat, is just a fallacy. The resource that is spent on buying a new window pane could have been used for another purpose had the son not committed such an act in the first place. Comparatively, it can be argued that the ruined assets left in Imphal could have been used instead to kick-start our decadent economy in the first place.

However, the 'opportunity cost' of Bastiat isn't the end. His conceptual argument has been criticized by Keynesian economists after the Second World War. In defense, they argued that the 'reconstruction' purpose will indubitably strengthen Europe again. And evidently, it did. So, focusing their wealth and skills in villages and communities can yield substantial dividends for both the rich and the poor. As the KIM initiative progresses, we must bring out our collective conscience so that we can rebuild our society better than it used to be. The substitute for living spaces for Imphal must not be Guwahati, Shillong, or Delhi again. This time around, it has to be in our own land, in our own country. One hopes that as a People's Town, KIM will stay committed to eliminating or thwarting any undemocratic agendas that previously justified elites migrating to a more lenient system.



## THE POLL MACHINERY





# Long Live, Brave Hearts

Sons of Abraham and daughters of Sarah,  
Your hearts are brave and your minds, steel.  
You're not afraid of raining bullets  
Nor are you terrified of incoming mortars.  
When enemies come forward, you don't retreat,  
All because you don't want history to repeat.  
You don't mind shedding blood  
If its for your nation you must cut.  
You are terrific Heroes and Heroines,  
Whose names shall live and last and so on.  
Our book has a prologue like every other story,  
But our epilogue, nobody knows.  
Not me, not you, not a single soul.  
Victory is a prize targeted by all  
But only time will tell who deserves it at all.  
We have seen great leaders of the nation,  
But greater leaders are patriots and martyrs.  
We'll march and march, to the very last line  
We'll see to each and every bit of this with time.  
Soon, when our nation go down in the book of history,  
People all over the world will know about our story.

*~ Nengngainem Haokip*