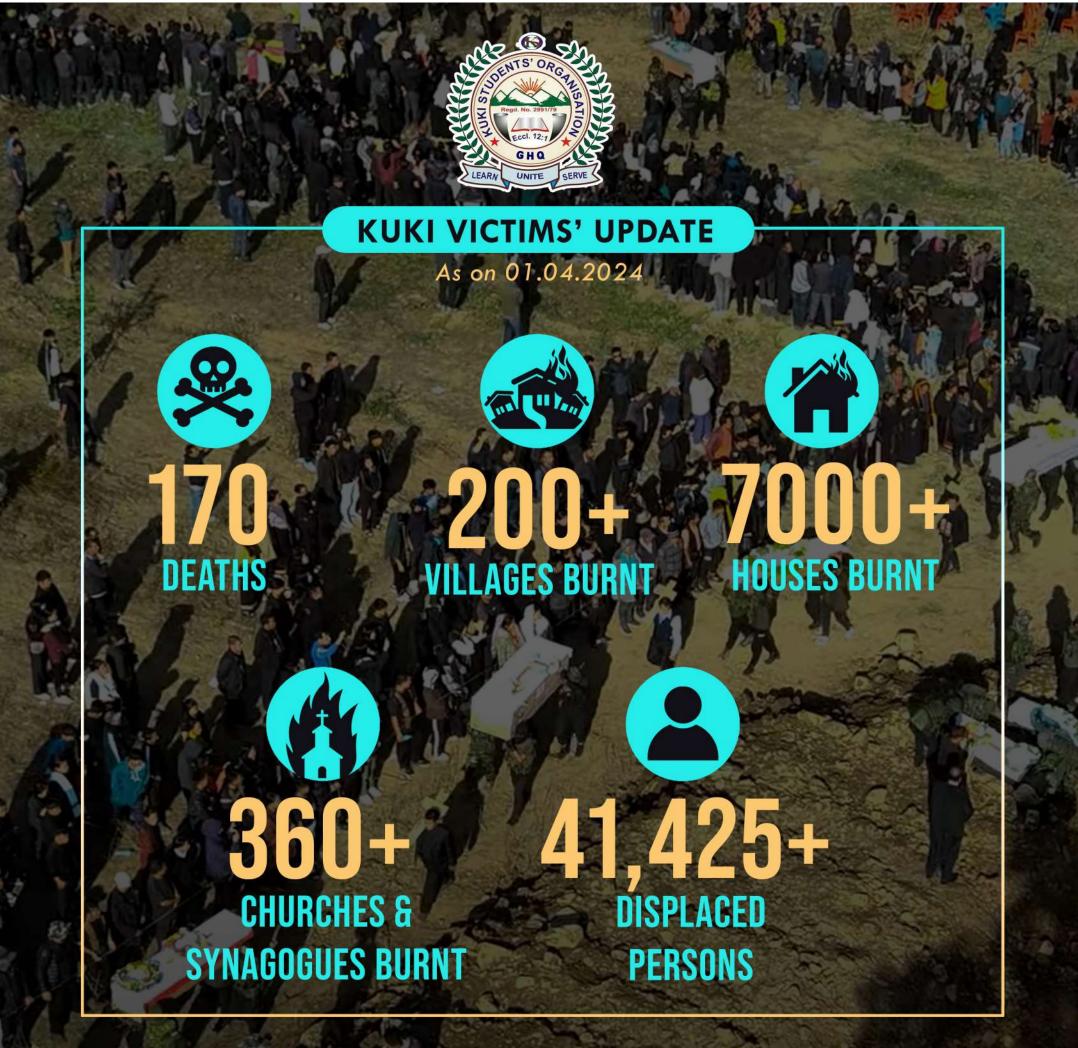




OF PROTEST AGAINST STATE-SPONSORED ETHNIC CLEANSING POGROM





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.













BJP INSTIGATES AND HALTS VIOLENCE IN MANIPUR AT ITS CONVENIENCE, CLAIMS INDIA BLOC

Thockhom Inaocha, a member of INDIA bloc representing All India Trinamool Congress, has said that the BJP government provided arms to both the Kuki and Meitei communities, exacerbating the ongoing violence.

Alleging that the BJP instigated and halted the violence at their convenience, Inaocha also accused the government of manipulating the conflict by using the colonial policy of Divide and Rule.

Expressing confidence that the Congress candidate in Inner Manipur parliamentary constituency will surely emerge victorious in the election, he said that Bimol was chosen as a candidate of the INDIA Bloc as per the voice of the people.

It has been reported that the BJP state government the State. has put a halt on the campaign activities of Bimol Akoijam which the INDIA bloc said is a violation of the election code of conduct. The India Bloc also declared Minister N that they might even boycott Amit Shah's planned visit Amit Shah if the state authorities continue with such tactics.

Meanwhile, the Working President of the Manipur Pradesh Congress Committee, Kh. Debabrata, in a separate media briefing, has also said, "The indifference and ill treatment by the BJP towards Manipur is indicated by the impending political visit of Union Home Minister Amit Shah on April 14, over 300 days after not fulfilling his earlier assurance on June 2 last year to return to Manipur ten days later with a solution to end the ongoing ethnic conflict".

The MPCC leader said that the BJP government in the state ought to boycott the impending visit of the home minister because Amit Shah is visiting after a long time without any solution after the state has been nearly torn apart.

Fearing humiliating defeat in the ensuing election, BJP BJP, Debabratta also demanded an official report has been making all kinds of baseless charges against from the state government on the supposed the common candidates fielded by INDIA Bloc Manipur, restoration of normalcy in Manipur.



asserted the bloc's convenor and CPI(M) Manipur State Secretary Kshetrimayum Santa.

All the political parties including Congress took a unanimous decision in the State Assembly on August 5, 2022 in favour of implementing NRC in the State.

There is a difference of opinion between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah, and this is creating confusion among the people, he said.

Shiv Sena (Uddhav Thackeray) Manipur president Toijam Devananda said that the Manipur crisis could have been brought to an end many months back had BJP desired it.

Speaking at a function, MPCC president K Meghachandra asked if Prime Minister Narendra Modi's restoration of peace in Manipur meant the sharp polarisation between communities.

He asked the Prime Minister to stop pretending to have concerns for the people of Manipur.

Stating that the recent remark by Modi in connection with Manipur violence could only be based on the inputs and reports from the State BJP, Debabratta also demanded an official report from the state government on the supposed restoration of normalcy in Manipur.



RACE TO OUTER MANIPUR LS SEAT: INDEPENDENT CANDIDATE'S CAMPAIGN MARRED BY INTIMIDATION, WHILE NPF CANDIDATE'S PROCEEDS PEACEFULLY

In connection to the upcoming 18th Lok Sabha election, the campaigning programme of Independent Candidate Dr. Alyson Abonmai and NPF Candidate Kachui Timothy Zimik evoked different reaction, the former being intimidated and the later allowed to campaign peacefully.

In a shocking turn of events, the campaign trail of Dr. Alyson Abonmai, Independent Candidate for the 18th Lok Sabha - II Outer Manipur, was tarnished by acts of intimidation, humiliation, and blatant disregard for democratic values.

Today, Dr. Alyson Abonmai and his team embarked on their official campaign journey to Noney and Tamenglong, eager to engage with the people of the constituency to seek their support. However, what unfolded before their eyes was nothing short of a nightmare. Upon arrival in Noney, the team was met with hostility by unknown miscreants claiming to be NSCN-IM cadres.

Supporters were chased away, renowned Zeliangrong artists were detained from performing, and even the freedom to pray was stifled as a pastor was sternly warned against offering prayers for the program. The situation deteriorated rapidly as Dr. Abonmai himself was prevented from addressing the public, and attempts were made to confiscate the cellphones of his team members. Flags were forcefully removed from vehicles, and even the basic act of purchasing vegetables and fruits from the market was denied.

In a poignant plea to the people and his supporters, Dr. Alyson Abonmai expressed his profound dismay at being humiliated on his own soil by anti social elements. Despite the challenges faced, his unwavering



commitment to serve his people remains and grows even stronger. Dr. Abonmai fervently appeal to all citizens and well-wishers to pray for him and continue to support him, urging for an end to such oppressive behaviour towards his fellow candidates. He emphasized the importance of free and fair elections, reaffirming the fundamental right of voters to choose their representatives without fear or coercion.

Dr. Alyson Abonmai is a renowned Social Worker, Social Activist, Philanthropist, Educationist, Environmentalist and also awardees of "The Best Social Reformer of the Year" and he is also an Independent Candidate contesting for the 18th Lok Sabha - II Outer Manipur.

In a separate incident, the election campaign programme of NPF Candidate Kachui Timothy Zimik was successfully held at Leipung Tampak Village, Chandel District. The campaign programme was attended by Minister Awangbow Newmai, Nagaland BJP leader Temjen Imna Along and Nagaland Deputy Chief Minister Y. Patton, among others.



OVER 24,500 IDPS TO CAST VOTES AMIDST SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS

Over 24,500 Internally Displaced Persons (voters) are among 20,29,023 voters to exercise their franchise in the two Lok Sabha seats for Manipur which will go to the polls on April 19 and April 26.

There would be 2,955 polling stations in the two Parliamentary Constituencies The Election Commission of India arranged 94 Special Polling Stations in 10 districts in the state to facilitate voting by the IDPs. The special arrangements were made as over 61,000 individuals belonging to the Meiteis and Kukis were displaced and they are taking shelter at different relief camps across the state owing to ethnic violence that started on May 3, 2023.

Manipur has two Lok Sabha constituencies: The inner Manipur constituency, encompassing the Meitei-majority valley areas, and the Outer Manipur constituency, designated for Scheduled Tribes (ST).

The Chief Electoral Officer of Manipur Pradeep Kumar Jha in a statement said that Imphal West would have 8 special polling stations (3 for Inner, 5 for Outer), Imphal East 9 (5 for Inner, 4 for Outer), Bishnupur 22 (11 each for Inner and Outer), Thoubal 2 (1 each for Inner and Outer), Kakching 5 (2 for Inner, 3 for Outer), Churachandpur 15 (2 for Inner, 13 for Outer), Kangpokpi 24 (4 for Inner, 20 for Outer), Tengnoupal 4 (1 for Inner, 3 for Outer), Jiribam 1 (Outer), Ukhrul 4 (Outer).

The ensuing elections will be conducted in two phases, with the Inner Manipur seat scheduled for polling



on April 19, while voters in the Outer Manipur constituency reserved for scheduled tribes will cast their votes on April 19 and 26. Manipur has 60 assembly seats.

Electors of 47 Assembly segments including all the Assembly segments of Inner Manipur PC and 15 Assembly segments of Outer Manipur PC would go to polls in the first phase on April 19.

The remaining 13 Assembly segments of Outer Manipur PC would go to polls in the second phase on April 26.

Notably, 32 Assembly segments come under Inner Manipur PC while 28 Assembly segments are clubbed under Outer Manipur PC.

Source: **NE Now**



Those who make peaceful revolution impossible will make violent revolution inevitable.

- John F. Kennedy





ZUF LEADER SHOT DEAD IN BISHNUPUR DISTRICT

In a suspected election-related violence, a self-styled Major of Zelianrong United Front (ZUF) was shot death at Chuangphun Nungang village, near Bishnupur district today.

The deceased has been identified as Alur Chiru of Dolang village. He was shot death by suspected cadres of NSCN-IM.

Meanwhile, the Chuangphun Village Authority strongly condemned the killing of an Individual Alur Thoitak Chiru allegedly a ZUF cadre, by unknown arm outfit in the middle of the Village.

In these sane Societies, shooting amongst brotherhood and kindred tribe is a barbaric, inhumane act and uncalled for, Gun culture and hunting brother is an ailment that plagues the Society.



The village Authority and the peace loving citizens of Chuangphun village asked for the involved party to state their intention and also seek a clarification at the earliest, for carrying out such act of killing right in front of the RNYOM-NTL office within the village, it added.

UPPK CADRE INVOLVED IN EXTORTION ARRESTED

Manipur police launched operations at two different hotspots resulting in the arrest of one active cadre of the United People's Party of Kangleipak (UPPK), also known as People's Revolutionary Party of Kangleipak (PREPAK-UPPK), and recovered a cache of arms, and ammunition on Wednesday, the police said on Thursday.

In the first operation, one cadre of the UPPK later identified as Angomjambam Mendel, 27 was arrested.

The Arrest was made in an operation at a hiding location from Imphal East District.



He was involved in extortion and monetary demand cases, the police said.



OLD HABITS DIE HARD: LOOTING OF KUKI PROPERTIES BEGINS IN IMPHAL MINUTES AFTER CENTRAL SECURITY FORCES DEPARTURE

Even after the Supreme Court of India's order to protect the abandoned properties of the Kukis in the "valley of death- Imphal" since last year, incidents of looting continued to this day. The abandoned houses of Kukis their properties are often burnt, vandalised or looted.

Yesterday, minutes after the central security forces departed for election duty to other states, the Meiteis, in their usual self, started looting the abandoned Kuki properties in Imphal.

Recently, a video surfaced on various social media platforms where Meitei womenfolks were seen taking away the abandoned properties of Kukis in Imphal at Langol area in Imphal West district.

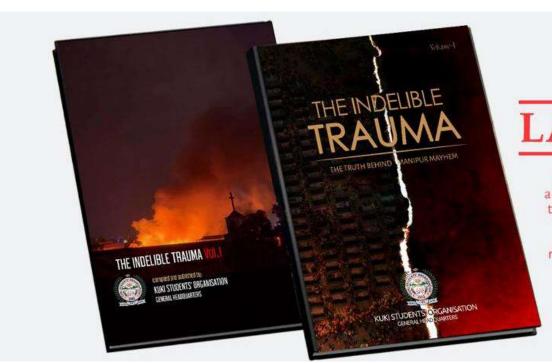
One wonders why the security forces are still unable to protect the properties of the Kukis even after the Supreme Court's order.

When law and order have been totally broken in Manipur, there's no longer any use for District Collectors and Superintendents of Police. The state is inching towards a year under what seems like the dictatorship of CM Biren, which is basically eroding democracy and secularism. Under him, people live like animals dying



to eat, unsafe from their predators with lack of basic necessities.

Notably, the Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has ordered the withdrawal of around 5,000 Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF) personnel from Manipur to be deputed at various states for security in the impending election process, while the two Lok Sabha seats in the violence-hit State will witness polling on April 19 and April 26.



LAUNCHING SOON

This treatise is being prepared and published to unravel the lies and perfidy of our adversaries and put in perspective the authentic truth so that it stands as a testimony of the genocide that is being perpetrated on us and our people

With the hope and expectation that the perpetrators of these reprehensible crimes are brought to justice; and ignite a glimmer of solace and consolation to our indignant souls.











NO VIOLENT ACTIVITY AFTER POLLS ANNOUNCEMENT INDICATES N. BIREN SINGH'S HANDLING OF MANIPUR MAYHEM

There are signs of let-up in violent attacks on the Kukis in Manipur after the announcement of parliamentary elections.

This is primarily due to the hectic engagement of the narcissist leader N. Biren Singh and his political cohorts including his radicalised militia groups; the Arambai Tenggol and Meitei Leepun, in campaign for the ensuing 18th Lok Sabha elections with the interest of protecting their political power by hook or by crook.

They ceased to operate any kind of violent activities against the minority Kukis for the time being as all the state machineries are engaged for election-related processes. However, the militant groups are still preparing for another wave of violent oppression against the Kukis as soon as the polls are over in the State.

Since the beginning of the State-sponsored ethnic cleansing pogrom, the communal Meiteis accused the Kukis of attacking their territory of Imphal valley. However, the fact of the matter is that all gunfights and violent activities in the fringe areas were results of the Meitei radicals' provocative attacks on the Kuki villages while it is only retaliatory act from the Kukis. There has been no instance of the Kukis starting any violent attack on the Meiteis.

If the communal and radicalised Meiteis' accusation of the Kukis as the first attacker to the Meiteis is to be true, there could have been many more attacks from the side of the Kuki volunteers even after the announcement of the Model Code of Conduct. The Kukis have no candidate to contest in the ensuing elections



and there has been no election-related activities till today. The gunfights usually stop whenever the Meiteis cease their aggressive acts and operation against the Kukis in the peripheral areas.

Even after 11 months of the ongoing stateengineered ethnic cleansing against the minority Kukis, the Meitei militants such as the Arambai Tenggol, Meitei Leepun and Valley-based Insurgent Groups are still intensifying their preparations aimed only at the annihilation of the Kuki-Zo communities after the ensuing Lok Sabha polls.

The militants' combat training and the passingout parade of the Meiteis' radical group; the Arambai Tenggol, are regular features on social media platforms. The video clips show the Arambai militants' training to attack Kuki villages situated along the buffer zones, highlighting their preparation and determination to engage in conflict.

As part of the preparation for the polls, 162 companies of central paramilitary forces have

Contd.







already been deployed in the state. The state is set to get 200 companies of central paramilitary forces for the general elections, voting for which will start later this month.

Meanwhile, the Election Commission of India has set up special polling stations to ensure that internally displaced persons (IDPs) could exercise their franchise.

Manipur Chief Electoral Officer, PK Jha, had said that the authority has identified IDPs spread across 10 districts. There are 60,000 inmates staying in various relief camps. The state will have 24,000 to 25,000 voters in the IDP format. "IDPs can choose the polling station. Around 94 special polling stations have been identified

across the state to facilitate voting by internally displaced persons", said Jha. "Some 94 special polling stations have been created for inner and outer Lok Sabha polls".

According to Jha, 29 polling stations have been identified for the inner Lok Sabha constituencies and 65 for the outer seat. There are 24 special polling stations in Kangpokpi district, 22 in Bishnupur district, 15 in Churachandpur district and 9 in Imphal East district.

At least 220 people have been killed, 1,500 injured and 60,000 displaced since the start of the ethnic cleansing on the 3rd of May last year.





After demolishing more than 500 churches in Manipur since May 3, 2023, another demolition occurred yesterday (10/4/24). This time, the Believers Eastern Church in Manipur was demolished by the ethno-religious fanatics.

Who will intervene to stop these horrific acts of violence?



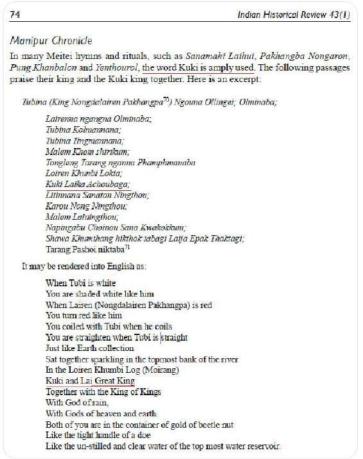


2:08 pm · 11 Apr 24 · 2,238 Views





Till today, I thought "Kuki" was a Bengali term that was unknown to the Meiteis. How surprised was I to find that it occurs in traditional Meitei hymns as well!



2:30 am · 11 Apr 24 · 7,753 Views







As Manipur continues to remain in the grip of ethnic From breaking his silence only 79 days after the strife since violence first broke out on May 3, 2023 Prime Minister Narendra Modi has said that because of the "timely intervention" by the central government and the "efforts" of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)-led state government, there has been a "marked improvement" in the situation in the state.

"We believe that it is our collective responsibility to deal with the situation sensitively. I have already spoken about this in the Parliament. We've dedicated our best resources and administrative machinery to resolving the conflict. Because of the timely intervention of the Government of India and efforts made by the Government of Manipur, there has been a marked improvement in the situation of the state," he said in an interview with The Assam Tribune on Monday (April 8).

"Home Minister Amit Shah stayed in Manipur while the conflict was at its peak, holding 15-plus meetings with various stakeholders to help resolve the conflict. The Central Government has been consistently extending its support, as required by the state Government. The process of relief and rehabilitation is ongoing. Remedial measures undertaken include a financial package for the relief and rehabilitation of people living in shelter camps in the state."

violence started in the northeastern state, to being forced to speak inside parliament because of a noconfidence motion against his government, to his failure to visit the strife-torn state along with the continued violence and collapse of law and order in the state in the last eleven months shows that Modi's claim on "timely intervention" rings hollow.

Toll of violence

According to data put out by Manipur governor Anusuiya Uikey on February 28, a total of 219 people have been killed since May 3, 2023.

The Wire has earlier reported, putting this data into perspective by comparing this toll to Jammu and Kashmir-considered as the benchmark of internal disturbance in the country- which saw 13 civilian killings between January and November 15, 2023, according to a reply in parliament by MoS home Nityananda Rai in December.

The governor's data also states that 187,143 persons were placed under preventive detention and later released. At least 10,000 FIRs have been lodged in connection with the violence. Contd.





An indication of the failure of the N.Biren Singh-led BJP-ruled state government to probe the violence is evidenced in the data provided by Uikey, that 38 cases – all linked to arms-related violence – have been handed over to central agencies including the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and the National Investigation Agency (NIA).

Further adding to the questions of the state government's role in providing justice, the Supreme Court on August 25 last year ordered the transfer of several Manipur violence cases being probed by the CBI, including the sexual assault case of two women seen in a viral video being paraded naked, to Assam. The Supreme Court has sought a status report from the state government CBI, NIA, last month.

Eleven months on, a total of 50,000 internally displaced persons are living in relief camps across the north eastern state.

Weapons looted, continued violence

While Modi has claimed that the "best resources and administrative machinery" has been devoted to resolve the crisis, eleven months on violence has continued along with looting of arms and ammunition contributing to the violence.

In February, at least one person died and two others were injured when a mob attacked the Fifth Indian Reserve Battalion station located in Chingarel Tezpur in Manipur's Imphal East district, and looted a considerable amount of weapons.

Reports of arms looted by the mob came first from the valley districts, leading the N. Biren Singh government to urge people to return them. Provisions were made at various locations across Imphal to facilitate the return of the looted arms. However, only a fraction of it has been recovered by state police so far.

Parallel state by Arambai Tenggol

Questions have also been raised about whether the radical Meitei dominated outfit Arambai Tenggol enjoys the backing of the chief minister.

On February 27, an additional superintendent of police for the Imphal West district, Moirangthem Amit Singh was abducted by 200 men allegedly under the banner of Arambai Tenggol.

Subsequently Manipur Police commando personnel across five districts laid down their arms as part of a strike against the kidnapping.

In January, the outfit had commanded all the 37 Meitei MLAs and two MPs to reach the Kangla Fort in Imphal to take an oath to maintain Manipur's territorial integrity. Their leaders also physically assaulted two of the MLAs. The Fort was the seat of the Manipur kings till 1891. Significantly, the chief of the outfit came to the Fort that day in a police vehicle.

The two MPs included-Raj Kumar Ranjan Singh, minister of state for external affairs in the Modi government and L. Sanajouba, who is the titular head of Manipur and resides within the Kangla Fort premises. Sanajouba was sent to the Rajya Sabha in 2020 with BJP's support and is the founding leader of Arambai Tenggol.

Modi's continued silence

While Modi has claimed that he has already spoken about the issue in parliament, it must be remembered that it took a no-confidence motion to make him speak on the floor of the house.

Contd.







On August 10, in his reply to the no confidence motion moved against his government in parliament-that lasted around 2 hours 20 mins, Modi spoke about Manipur for barely ten minutes.

This occurred despite the opposition saying that the goal of the no-confidence motion was to get the prime minister to address the ongoing violence in Manipur inside parliament.

Prior to this, Modi had maintained silence on the issue and only spoke on July 20, 2023- 79 days after the violence started-outside the parliament, after a video went viral on social media the day before - showing two Kuki women being paraded naked in Kangpokpi on May 4.

Zero visits to Manipur

Eleven months since the violence started, the prime minister is yet to visit the strife-torn state. While activists and opposition delegations have visited the state, Modi has kept away.

In the last two months Modi has visited neighbouring Assam at least twice-including an elephant and jeep safari to Kaziranga National Park and Tiger Reserve but has not visited Manipur.

The prime minister who is known to campaign extensively across the country during elections, also avoided campaigning in Mizoram before the assembly elections in December. In October, then Mizoram chief minister Zoramthanga, whose Mizo National Front was in alliance with the NDA had said he will not share a stage with Modi if he comes to campaign for the polls, citing attacks on churches in Manipur.

Modi's refusal to meet Manipur BJP MLAs

Modi has also avoided meeting the BJP's legislators in Manipur despite the MLAs visiting the capital several times and a letter from the Manipur BJP unit to national

president J.P. Nadda to persuade the prime minister to meet the MLAs delegation.

The Wire has reported that the letter written in October that included the names of six top organisational post holders in the state including Manipur BJP chief A. Sharda Devi, came after at least three such delegations visited Delhi in June, September and October seeking to meet with Modi.

Amit Shah's visit

While Modi has stated that union home minister Amit Shah visited the state, when the violence was at its peak, he only visited the state in the first month of the violence-since then hundreds have been killed, thousands displaced and violence has continued.

Shah was in Manipur from May 29 to June 2, 2023 and has not visited since.

In December, the Supreme Court refused to entertain a PIL seeking the centre's intervention in Manipur and said that the committee chaired by Justice (retired) Gita Mittal was already looking into the issues related to the violence and other aspects. But Kuki civil society organisations, Indigenous Tribal Leaders' Forum (ITLF) and Committee on Tribal Unity (COTU), had expressed dissatisfaction and denied that the committee had contacted them at all for the report submitted to the apex court.

Refusal to remove chief minister Biren Singh

Despite the continued violence in the state and dissatisfaction with the BJP chief minister N. Biren Singh, the party has refused to remove him with Shah even defending him inside parliament.

Contd.













While speaking on the no-confidence motion in parliament, Shah said that there is "no need to change" Singh as he has been "cooperative."

He also raised questions about the timing of the release of the video of the two Kuki women being paraded, just before the beginning of the parliament session.

On Sunday, Singh said that the viral video has been circulated by the Congress in order to "insult" Modi.

Manipur's two Lok Sabha seats to vote in two phases

In an indication of the strife in the state, its two parliamentary seats will vote in two phases in this month's Lok Sabha elections, (April 19 and April 26), with the state's chief electoral officer Pradeep Kumar Jha stating that 24,500 people will be voting from relief camps.

The ethnic strife has led to the state being virtually split into two between the hill and valley districtsa first in Manipur's post independence history.

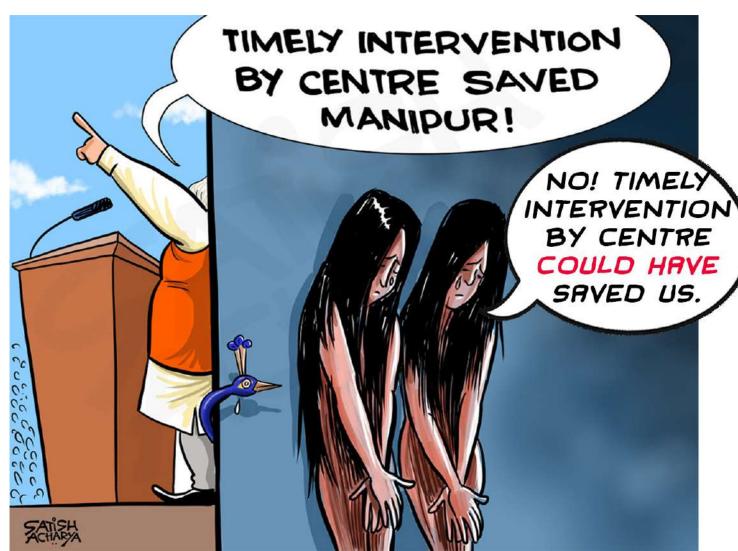
About 50,000 people who have been displaced in the violence, are living in relief camps in five valley districts and three hill districts.

However, the 9,000-odd people of the state who fled to neighbouring Mizoram may not be able to cast their vote in the upcoming Lok Sabha polls.

First published by **The Wire**



THE
TIMELY
INTERVENTION
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A tale to tell

I have got a tale to tell With my eyes brimmed with tears.

I have got a tale to tell About how I survived the valley of death.

I have got a tale to tell
About the helpless nights spent on the cold hard ground with famished stomach.

I have got a tale to tell About how I went through the five stages of grief.

I have got a tale to tell About how I fight for my basic human rights.

I have got a tale to tell
About how insignificant my life is in the eyes of the regime.

I have got a tale to tell About how my brothers and sisters were killed with silence.

I have got a tale to tell About the tainted truth I tried so hard to rectify.

I have got a tale to tell About waiting for the day my people shall be set free and never be put to shame again.

I have got a tale to tell About how the lord of Lords bestowed his mercy upon me and my people.

I have got a tale to tell
With my heart heavy yet brave and strong.

- Florence Mengneivah Baite