

# Thingkho Le Malcha

A Daily Newsletter by KSO Media & Documentation Cell



## K. Khomunnom RELIEF CENTRE

K. Khomunnom Believers Church Sunday School Hall, Lamka

Managed by  
Kuki Khanglai Lawmpi  
General Headquarters(KKL-GHQ)

**Total Inmates Registered: 186\***

Male: 98

Female: 88

\*As on 9<sup>th</sup> August, 2023





## KUKI VICTIMS' UPDATE

As on 10.01.2024



**158**  
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.



# KSO-GHQ CONDEMNS TORCHING OF SCHOOLS IN MOREH, ON-GOING ATTACKS AT KUKI AREAS

The Kuki Students' Organisation, General Headquarters (KSO-GHQ) vehemently condemns the criminally ruinous act of arson by the infamous forces of the Manipur State Police Commando in the Kuki Zo border town of Moreh.

“The unethical and shameless role of the state security forces in the burning down of educational institutions Viz. Mount Moreh Public School, Bethsaida Academy and Dr. Colvin Academy is a deliberate attempt to wipe out Moreh civilization as education serves as the foundation for a prosperous society.”

The Chief Minister N. Biren Singh's direction to wipe out education institutions in Moreh is in utter contrast to his so called “School Fagathansi Mission”. In the recent launching of School Fagathansi Mission organised at Moirang College, Bishnupur District on 13th January, 2024 (Saturday), he again changed his narrative for the violence in the state as due to lack of education amongst the masses and also rhetorically stressed the importance of education stating that with proper education, everyone would know the importance of preserving Reserved Forest and the provision contained in the Forest Act and the Indian Constitution. Nonetheless, he nefariously campaign for “School Fagathansi Mission” in the valley and School Destruction Mission in the Kuki- Zo inhabited hill Districts.

The systematic destruction of Churches and Educational Institutions, designed by N. Biren Singh and his cohorts to annihilate Kuki-Zo population is crystal clear since the 3rd of May 2023. A Meitei Professor from Manipur University during his speech in a public gathering said “If you want to destroy these people (Kuki-Zo), destroy their education”. However, KSO GHQ as a responsible student organisation working for the welfare of students will not tolerate and remain a mute spectator on such notorious act of burning down of schools in Moreh border town and will exert maximum effort to rebuild the schools along with the people of Moreh.



## KUKI STUDENTS' ORGANISATION GENERAL HEADQUARTERS

Administrative Office : KSO Complex, Tuibong, Churachandpur, Manipur  
Information Centre : Kuki Inn, Imphal, Manipur  
e-mail : ksoghq01@gmail.com  
Regd. No. 2991 of 1979

1. KSO Churachandpur (Manipur)	10. KSO Assam	19. KSO Mumbai (Maharashtra)
2. KSO Sadar Hills (Manipur)	11. KSO Dibrugarh (Assam)	20. KSO Pune (Maharashtra)
3. KSO Chandel District (Manipur)	12. KSO Silchar (Assam)	21. KSO Bangalore (Karnataka)
4. KSO Tengnoupal (Manipur)	13. KSO Karbi Anglong (Assam)	22. KSO Tamu (Myanmar)
5. KSO Ukhrul (Manipur)	14. KSO Tripura	23. KSO Hyderabad (Telangana)
6. KSO Jiri-Tamenglong (Manipur)	15. KSO Shillong (Meghalaya)	24. KSO Rajasthan
7. KSO Imphal (Manipur)	16. KSO Delhi & NCR (Delhi)	25. KSO Chandigarh (Punjab)
8. KSO Kamjong (Manipur)	17. KSO Kolkata (W.Bengal)	26. KSO Kerala
9. KSO Guwahati (Assam)	18. KSO Chennai (Tamil Nadu)	27. KSO Coimbatore (Tamil Nadu)
		28. KSO NC Hills (Assam)

Ref. No. Adm/005/2024/SK

Date 18-01-2024

### Press Release

The Kuki Students' Organisation, General Headquarters (KSO-GHQ) vehemently condemns the criminally ruinous act of arson by the infamous forces of the Manipur State Police Commandos in the Kuki Zo Moreh border town. The unethical and shameless role of the state security forces in the burning down of educational institutions Viz. Mount Moreh Public School, Bethsaida Academy and Dr. Colvin Academy is a deliberate attempt to wipe out Moreh civilization as education serves as the foundation for a prosperous society.

The Chief Minister Shri N. Biren Singh's direction to wipe out education institutions in Moreh is in utter contrast to his so called "School Fagathansi Mission". In the recent launching of School Fagathansi Mission organised at the Moirang College, Bishnupur District on 13th January, 2024 (Saturday), he again changed his narrative for the violence in the state as due to lack of education amongst the masses and also rhetorically stressed the importance of education stating that with proper education, everyone would know the importance of preserving Reserved Forest and the provision contained in the Forest Act and the Indian Constitution. Nonetheless, he nefariously campaign for "School Fagathansi Mission" in the valley and School Destruction Mission in the Kuki- Zo inhabited hill Districts.

The systematic destruction of Churches and educational institutions design by N. Biren Singh and his cohorts to annihilate Kuki-Zo population is crystal clear since May the 3rd. A Meitei Professor from Manipur University during his speech in a public gathering said "If you want to destroy these people (Kuki-Zo), destroy their education". However, KSO GHQ as a responsible student organisation working for the welfare of students will not tolerate and remain a mute spectator on such notorious act of burning down of schools in Moreh border town and will exert maximum effort to rebuild the schools along with the people of Moreh.

The KSO GHQ also condemns the on-going attacks on the Kuki-Zo by the state forces and would like to appeal the Ministry of Home Affairs GOI to withdraw the Manipur State Police Commoandos from Moreh as promised by the Hon'ble Home Minister Shri Amit Shah during his visit to Moreh for peace and normalcy to return at the earliest.



Sd /-  
Secretary, Information & Publicity  
KSO General Headquarters

The KSO GHQ also condemn the on-going attacks against the Kuki-Zo by the state forces and appeals the Ministry of Home Affairs GOI to withdraw the Manipur State Police Commandos from Moreh as promised by the Hon'ble Home Minister Shri Amit Shah during his visit to Moreh in 2023 for peace and normalcy to return at the earliest.





# JSB LAMKA, KSO CHURACHANDPUR START PICKETING GOVT OFFICES OVER CBSE AFFILIATION ROW, SUSPENSION OF ZEO OFFICIALS



In a follow up to their protest against the disaffiliation of 25 schools from CBSE and the unjust suspension of three ZEO officials and the recent torching of schools in Moreh allegedly by Police Commando personnel, the Joint Students Body (JSB) Lamka and Kuki Students' Organization Churachandpur took action today by locking various offices of District Administration in Churachandpur and Pherzawl districts.

The symbolic act is in continuation to the protest against the authorities' lack of response to their demands for reinstating the suspended officials and re-affiliating the schools under CBSE.

On Friday morning leaders of the JSB Lamka and KSO Churachandpur along with volunteers locked the gates of the two District Administration Offices. Briefing the media, Joint Secretary of JSB Lamka, Samuel Taithul said there has been no positive response to their demand for reversal of disaffiliation of the 25 schools in Kangpokpi and Churachandpur districts from CBSE.

Samuel said, "We have found it necessary to lock down government offices in order to vent and

demonstrate our frustration and anger at the lack of response from the government." He also claimed that the disaffiliation of the schools took place due to the political pressure and interference by the state government.

"The student bodies want the central government to be able to resist the influence and pressure exerted by the state government", he added.

Making their stance clear that all the schools that were once affiliated to the CBSE but were later disaffiliated must be affiliated again; Samuel further said that the government offices which are locked shall remain so indefinitely until their demands are fulfilled.

Yesterday, the 18th January 2024, various schools and students in Churachandpur and Kangpokpi district headquarters took up a mass rally demanding reversal of disaffiliation to 25 Schools by the CBSE, reinstating the three suspended ZEO officials and to protest and condemn the torching of three schools by Meitei police personnel in Moreh.

# WILL NOT ALLOW 'ONE- SIDED COMMUNAL GOVERNMENT' FAVOURING ONLY THE MEITEIS TO FUNCTION IN KUKI-ZO AREAS; ITLF NOTIFIES

Indigenous Tribal Leaders' Forum has issued a public notice on Friday declaring that they will not allow 'one- sided communal government' favouring only the Meiteis to function in the Kuki-Zo areas.

ITLF stated that 48 hours have now passed since they, along with COTU, jointly demanded the unconditional release of two Kuki-Zo civilians detained by the Manipur Police in Moreh. However, the two have not been released from police custody.

"As our demands were not taken into consideration by the government, as stated we will not allow the one-sided communal government favouring only the Meiteis to function in the Kuki ZO areas", ITLF added.

The government will be solely responsible for any untoward incident that may transpire in the process,it added.

On January 16, The Indigenous Tribal Leaders' Forum (ITLF) and Committee On Tribal Unity (COTU) had refuted the despicable attempt by the Meitei government and propaganda handles on social media to link the two kuki zo civilians, Philip Khongsai and Hemkholal Mate, to the death of a Meitei police officer in 2023.

On January 15, Moreh Youth Club President Philip Khongsai and Hemkholal Mate were with the womenfolk protesting against a proposed commando outpost at Chikim village in Moreh when Meitei policemen suddenly fired live rounds at the unarmed protesters, injuring a couple of women in the process.

Philip and Hemkholal were then detained, followed by a vicious campaign to vilify them by claiming that weapons were found in their possession and that they were among the suspects in the killing of Moreh's SDPO last year, it added.



Indigenous Tribal Leaders' Forum (ITLF)  
Conglomerate of Recognised Tribes in Lamka, Outer Manipur

File No: ITLF-PN-202463

Friday, 19 January 2024

## PUBLIC NOTICE

On 16th January 2024, ITLF and COTU jointly demanded the unconditional release of two Kuki-Zo civilians detained by the Manipur Police in Moreh. 48 hours have now passed since the demand was made and the two were not released from Police custody.

As our demands were not taken into consideration by the government, as stated we will not allow the one-sided communal government favouring only the Meiteis to function in the Kuki-Zo areas. The government will be solely responsible for any untoward incidents that may transpire in the process.

(PAGIN HAOKIP)

Chairman,

Indigenous Tribal Leaders' Forum (ITLF)

(MUAN TOMBING)

Secretary,

Indigenous Tribal Leaders' Forum (ITLF)



To authenticate ITLF's press releases, please refer to our website <https://itlfmediacell.com>

The two Kuki-Zo bodies had demanded the immediate and unconditional release of the duo and declared that they will not allow the one-sided and communal government favouring only the Meiteis to function in Kuki Zo areas if the two were not freed within 48 hours. Government's failure to consider the demands has prompted the two bodies to not allow the Meitei-Centric government to function in Kuki-Zo inhabited areas henceforth.



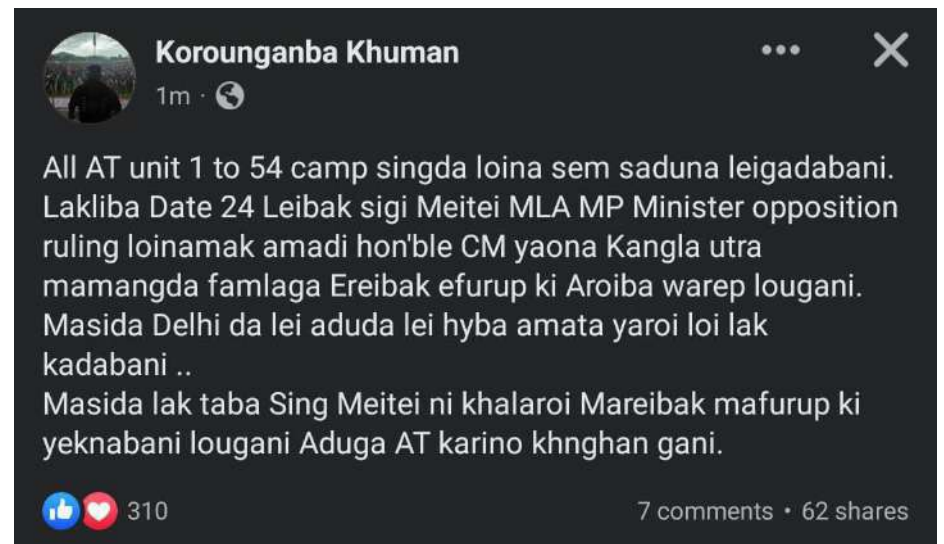
# ARAMBAI TENGGOL CHIEF'S SUMMONS OF MEITEI LEGISLATORS RAISES ALARM OVER CONSTITUTIONAL CRISIS IN MANIPUR

The preamble of India declares India as a Sovereign Socialist Secular Democratic and Republic. Today in Manipur, Arambai Tenggol makes a joke of the Indian constitution, forgetting the violation and abuse of citizens' rights and duties it respectively endowed and prescribed, the state government themselves and the elected representatives can be given an ultimatum. Internal sovereignty, democracy, national security and constitution are threatened in the state of Manipur.

Arambai Tenggol Head summons the democratically elected representatives of Manipur, Ministers and The CM himself, for their presence at Kangla Fort with a warning that non-compliance of which will lead to disastrous consequences. He asked for their presence to discuss the strategy to annihilate the Kuki-Zo community. If the head of government, his minister and the legislators are not safe, then democracy and the citizens especially the minority are critically threatened. Democracy is as good as death and the Constitution is non-functional with the government in the wrong hands.

He and his organization, Arambai Tenggol, are habitual offenders of various laws of India. Possessing and openly flaunting illegal arms, murders, utilizing police vehicles to commit crimes, donning official Police uniforms, etc. are just a few examples of the many violations. The Government's blind eye towards him and his organization meant either the organization is colluding with the government or the government surrendered itself to the Arambai Tenggol. Both the probability is worrisome for India in general and the minority community within the state.

Arambai Tenggol ticks all the criteria for terrorist organisations under UAPA. Equality before the Law is hung to death just for their sake and they are kept above the Law itself, Supremacy of law which is binding even to the president and the Prime Minister



of the country has the Arambai Tenggol as an exception. Otherwise, despite the crimes they committed and the laws they violated, they still walk the streets of Imphal valley. Arambai Tenggol, despite threatening the sovereignty, democracy and national security of India continues to exist.

The Kuki-Zo community has suffered enough from the terror activities of Arambai Tenggol using illicit weapons looted from state armouries including now through the use of drones, the laid back attitude of the government to reclaim these weapons is telling that the terrorist organisation Arambai Tenggol cannot exist without the sponsorship and partnership of the state.

The questions, since the advent of the ethnic clashes, remain unanswered; when will the central government admit there is a constitutional crisis in Manipur? When will Arambai Tenggol be held accountable for the atrocities they committed? Will they be rightly placed where they should be, a terrorist organisation under UAPA or will the State government continue their partnership with Arambai Tenggol and put India at risk?

# MEITEI SOCIAL MEDIA HANDLE EXPOSES ARAMBAI TENGGOL'S EXCESSIVE BRUTALITY

The Arambai Tenggol, a private armed militia associated with the state Chief Minister N. Biren Singh and Rajya Sabha MP Leishemba Sanajaoba, has been a controversial topic within the Meitei community due to their alleged atrocities against their own people, involving brutality, savagery, and extortion activities. A Meitei social media user using the pseudonym "Hingchaba Meitei," choosing to remain anonymous, has exposed the extreme brutality of this private armed group. The post has gained massive traction, leading to accusations that the account is handled by the Kukis.

Singer and Lyricist Dr. Akhu Chingabam, a member of the band IMPHAL TALKIES, became a victim when he was abducted at gunpoint by the Khurai Unit of Arambai Tenggol from his Khurai residence while bathing his toddler. He was released a few hours later on December 29, 2023. The incident appears to be linked to two of his social media posts.

On the morning of December 29, 2023, masked armed men from the Khurai unit of Arambai Tenggol forcibly entered Akhu's house, abducted him at gunpoint, and took him to an area in Imphal west, specifically Iroisemba, where a company office owned by an influential individual is being used as a detention and torture center, as well as the unit HQ for the area. This location has witnessed numerous instances of illegal torture and beatings of innocent Meitei people for various reasons, including social media posts, non-payment of extortion money, partying, fighting, and alcohol consumption. Most beatings are related to financial matters.

At this location, Akhu was severely beaten by the C-in-C (Commander-in-Chief) of Arambai Tenggol. The C-in-C became enraged when Akhu's wife contacted Mr. Kuldeep, the Security Advisor of the Government of Manipur, feeling his authority was challenged. After the beating, the C-in-C brandished an illegal 9mm pistol and fired a warning shot near



Akhu's ear, indicating a potential threat for the future. Subsequently, Akhu was handed over to his family and coerced into posting on Facebook that he was unharmed and at home.

This incident, instigated by a difference of opinion expressed in a post, raises concerns about the actions of the Arambai Tenggol and the psychological trauma endured by Akhu, potentially leading to Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). The post also hints at another incident involving Dr. Dhanraj, a cardiologist from Thangmeiband Lourempurel Leikai, who reportedly faced severe beatings by the same C-in-C of Arambai Tenggol over extortion of money, leading him to cease his medical services. Further details on this incident are expected to be provided in the future. The exposé promises to continue shedding light on the alleged inhumane crimes committed by this armed group.



## MIZORAM CM LALDUHOMA REITERATES CARE FOR IDPS FROM MANIPUR, ADVOCATES FOR PRESIDENT'S RULE IN MANIPUR

Mizoram CM Lalduhoma today reiterated his government's commitment to look after the people who have fled the conflict torn Myanmar as well as the internally displaced people of Manipur. He assured that they will be taken proper care of, and will only be returned when situation normalizes.

Lalduhoma who attended the NEC Plenary Meet at Shillong chaired by Union Home Minister Amit Shah also batted for talks between the Government as well as the tribal groups in Manipur and bring a lasting solution to the present situation.

The Mizoram CM said that he is not aware of the Centre's decision to end the Free Movement Regime along the Indo-Myanmar border.

Regarding this he said, "I have seen only in the media (Govt decision to withdraw FMR), but I have not received any official information about this. Prime Minister and Home Minister do not mention anything about this to me. I have not received anything in writing."

Regarding the Manipur situation, the Mizoram Chief Minister also expressed concern and said that a solution is of utmost necessity for which every stakeholder must come on board the table for talks. CM Lalduhoma said, "There has to be a solution between the Government of India, Govt of Manipur and the tribal leaders."



The Mizoram CM said that President's Rule has been expected for long and that the IDPs have the right to seek refuge in any part of the country. Backing his statement, Lalduhoma said, "That's what (President's Rule) we are expecting since very long because the situation does not change and sometimes it gets worse. It affects us to the extent of extending assistance to them and of course they are Indians and the Constitution of India provides that any Indian can settle anywhere in the country. So right now it is necessary for them to stay in Mizoram and so long as normalcy returns to the state of Manipur. We will look after them."



**Without victory,  
there is no survival.**

*–Winston Churchill*





Humanitarian Series **PART-6**

**ITNA PROJECT**

A Response to Humanitarian Crisis in Manipur by Centre for Community Initiative (CCI)

The outbreak of a humanitarian crisis in Manipur, which began on May 3, 2023, has left many people without homes. Currently, the state is providing shelter for over 50,000 Internally Displaced People (IDPs) in more than 204 relief camps. In Lamka alone, there are over 25,000 IDPs spread across more than 120 relief camps.

They strive to ensure that every child, regardless of their background or circumstances, has equal access to educational opportunities. By embracing diversity and promoting inclusivity, the iCLCs aim to empower these children and enable them to reach their full potential.

In response to this dire situation, Centre for Community Initiative (CCI) has undertaken various initiatives under Project ITNA (A Response to Humanitarian Crisis in) ITNA means “Love.”

**2. Nutrition Food:**

At relief centres, children are not only offered an enriching educational experience but are also provided with wholesome meals to promote their overall well-being and optimal growth, and babies are provided baby-food accordingly. The provision of nutritious food is a crucial aspect of our commitment to ensuring the students’ health and proper development.

Let’s take a closer look at the highlights of CCI’s responses:

**1. Inclusive Community Learning Centre (iCLC):**

Inclusive Community Learning Centre (iCLC) operates in eight relief centers across Lamka town, catering to over 600 Internally Displaced Children (IDC) by offering education, social skills, life skills and other appropriate programs. The primary objective of these iCLCs is to build up their skills and mainstreaming them in the society by including all IDCs including children with disabilities. By providing these programs at these relief centers, the iCLCs strive to create a nurturing and inclusive community for the IDCs. These centers serve as a safe haven where children can access quality education, despite the challenges they face due to displacement. The iCLCs are committed to fostering an environment that promotes holistic development and growth. Through a comprehensive curriculum, these centers aim to equip the IDCs with the necessary knowledge and skills to thrive academically and personally. Furthermore, the iCLCs recognize the importance of inclusivity in education.

**3. Health and Psychosocial Support:**

CCI is actively providing psychosocial support to the children who attend the iCLCs. In our unwavering commitment to the well-being of the children attending the iCLCs, CCI has taken proactive measures to provide them with essential psychosocial support. We understand the importance of nurturing their mental and emotional health, alongside their physical well-being. Moreover, recognizing the unique needs of female inmates, we have taken steps to distribute sanitary pads to over 3,000 women. By addressing this fundamental requirement, we aim to ensure

*Contd.*





Contd.



their dignity and promote a hygienic environment within Relief Camps.

#### 4. Welfare of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs):

CCI is dedicated to enhancing the well-being of individuals with disabilities (PwDs) including the IDP community. Our efforts encompass the establishment of a comprehensive database that identifies and records the PwDs among the IDPs. Additionally, we actively support the issuance of 54 Unique Disability Identification (UDID) cards to those PwDs who are IDPs. In collaboration with the District Medical Board (Disability), we organize assessment camps at the District Hospital in Lamka. These camps serve as a platform for evaluating the needs of PwDs and ensuring they receive appropriate assistance. As part of our commitment, we also distribute 20 wheelchairs and other essential aids and appliances to further enhance their mobility and independence.

#### 5. Economic Sustenance for Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) - Livelihood Support:

CCI is committed to providing economic sustenance support to 25 IDPs, enabling them to sustain themselves based on their existing skills and profession. Through our partnership with the Oak Foundation, we have facilitated various trades such as tailoring, weaving, tea stall management, and store operations for these individuals. Our primary objective is to empower IDPs by equipping them with the necessary tools and resources to generate income and achieve financial independence. By leveraging their existing skills, we aim to foster self-sufficiency and resilience within the IDP community.

#### 6. Clothing:

We have gratefully received generous donations of

clothing, weighing approximately 5,000kg, from various regions across India. These much-needed garments have been efficiently distributed to several relief camps in Lamka town, ensuring that those affected by the crisis have access to proper clothing. It is worth noting that each of the 10000 individuals in these camps has received three pieces of clothing, thanks to these contributions.

#### 7. Dry Rations and Daily Essentials:

With the generous support of our partners, we are able to distribute essential resources to over 1000 households. These resources include 2125 kilograms of rice, pulses, and toiletry essentials.

Through the collaboration with our partners, we ensure that these vital resources reach the households that require them the most. By distributing 2125 kilograms of rice, pulses, and toiletry essentials, we aim to alleviate the hardships faced by vulnerable communities. We understand the importance of these basic necessities in maintaining a healthy and dignified life. Thanks to the support of our dedicated partners, we are able to make a significant impact on the lives of over 1000 households.



#### 8. Management of Relief Camp (Closed):

We effectively managed the Relief Centre at MARC from May 3, 2023, until its consolidation with another Relief Centre in August 2023.

#### Contact:

Centre for Community Initiative  
Malsawm Ability Resource Centre (MARC),  
Pearsonmun, Lamka - 795006  
Contact No. : 6909859042  
Email: info@communityinitiative.in





FEATURED ARTICLE

## On Delisting Some Kuki-Zomi Tribes in Manipur | Explained

ABHINAY LAKSHMAN

**The story so far:** The Manipur Government has been asked by the Centre to examine a representation seeking the delisting of certain Kuki and Zomi tribes from the Scheduled Tribes (ST) list of Manipur. Following this, Chief Minister N. Biren Singh announced in Imphal that a special committee might be formed to look into it. The representation was sent by Maheshwar Thounaojam, National Secretary of the Republican Party of India (Athawale) in Manipur, who argued for the inclusion of Meiteis in the ST list by seeking the exclusion of certain Kuki and Zomi tribes.

### What led to the representation?

This attempt to initiate a process for the possible de-scheduling of certain Kuki and Zomi tribes comes as the State runs into the eighth month of the ethnic conflict between the valley-based Meitei people and the hills-based Kuki-Zo (ST) people. The conflict, that began on May 3, 2023, is said to have been triggered by an order of the Manipur High Court, which directed the State government to send a recommendation on the Meiteis' inclusion in the ST list to the Centre.

Now that a similar request has been forwarded by the Centre to the State government, this time over a representation to delist Kuki and Zomi tribes, there is potential for the widening of existing divides among the communities in the State. Among the key reasons for which Meiteis have argued for ST status has been their

inability to own land in the forested hill districts, where only STs can own land. This is the first time members of the Meitei community have tried to argue for their inclusion on the ST list by arguing that certain Kuki and Zomi tribes did not deserve to be on it. This move could also have implications on the criteria used to define groups as STs; unchanged since the Lokur Commission introduced them in 1965.

### What does the representation say?

In Mr. Thounaojam's representation, objections have been raised against the inclusion of three specific entries in the ST list of Manipur — "Any Mizo(Lushai) Tribes", "Zou", and "Any Kuki Tribes" over time. The principal argument being made for the exclusion of these three entries has been that they are not "indigenous" to the land of Manipur. The representation claimed that there had been no mention of these particular tribes residing in the land of Manipur in pre-Independence Censuses. It also said that the ambiguity of "Any Mizo (Lushai) Tribes" and "Any Kuki Tribes" in the ST list has allegedly aided illegal immigrants from Myanmar and Bangladesh in obtaining benefits meant for STs in India.

*Contd.*



*Contd.*

### **Do these claims hold true?**

The argument that these communities were not residing in the land of Manipur at the time the first Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) list was published in 1950 does not hold ground. To begin with, this order had listed three tribes for Manipur — “Any Kuki Tribe”, “Any Lushai Tribe” and “Any Naga Tribe”, under which respective sub-tribes were to be subsumed. Secondly, there is no empirical evidence, as of yet, to show that these tribes names’ presence in the ST list has aided any form of organised illegal immigration into Manipur, beyond individual instances and the rhetoric presented by the Meitei community.

However, the First Backward Classes Commission had noted in its 1955 report that these three broad tribe classifications originated under the British administration, adding that several communities such as Paite and Hmars refused to be identified under the umbrella of Kukis. Accordingly, the Commission had recommended that for tribes of Assam and the hills of Manipur, individual tribe names be added to the ST list instead of umbrella tribes, for which these lists must be redrawn entirely given the dated nature of the information. Subsequently, when the ST list for Manipur was revised in 1956, it included 29 entries with individual tribe names, save for one — “Any Mizo (Lushai) Tribe” — which was retained. This list also included the tribe “Zou”. But Mr. Thounaojam’s representation has claimed that neither of these entries were specifically recommended by the First Backward Classes Commission.

Again in 1965, when the Lokur Commission prepared its report, it had also noted that there has been a “splintering tendency” among Kuki tribes. “Sub-groups and even clans wish to establish themselves as distinct entities in the political and social structure,” the Commission had said of the Kuki tribes. This “splintering tendency” among the Kuki tribes grew over the years, according to representatives of Kuki-Zo communities in Manipur, which eventually led several communities to adopt their unique community’s identity. By the end of the century, most people who would be considered

under the umbrella of Kukis had already established their independent tribe names that had been added to the ST list over the years. Yet, there remained a need to address the need of a minority number of people who wanted to identify as Kukis, a Zomi representative explained. As a result, in 2002-2003, the entry “Any Kuki Tribes” was added to the ST list of Manipur.

But the Bhuria Commission Report of 2002-2004 on Scheduled Tribes had observed that this particular addition had led to confusion about who would be classified under this entry. It had thus recommended mentioning tribe names in the ST list in order to nip “inter-tribe differences” in the bud. To reconcile the argument of whether whole tribe names or specific tribe names should be in the list, the Lokur Commission had, however, chosen to classify tribes as a larger group with sub-tribes, including synonyms.

- The Manipur Government has been asked by the Centre to examine a representation seeking the delisting of certain Kuki and Zomi tribes from the Scheduled Tribes (ST) list of Manipur. Following this, Chief Minister N. Biren Singh announced in Imphal that a special committee might be formed to look into it.
- This attempt to initiate a process for the possible de-scheduling of certain Kuki and Zomi tribes comes as the State runs into the eighth month of the ethnic conflict between the valley-based Meitei people and the hills-based Kuki-Zo (ST) people.
- In Mr. Thounaojam’s representation, objections have been raised against the inclusion of three specific entries in the ST list of Manipur — “Any Mizo(Lushai) Tribes”, “Zou”, and “Any Kuki Tribes” over time. The principal argument being made for the exclusion of these three entries has been that they are not “indigenous” to the land of Manipur.

Source: [The Hindu](#)



THE SOCIAL MEDIA BUZZ

Adivasi @tribal18  
@DyttoDytto5

So these are the meiteis so-called Farmers , woodcutter, etc  
@aajtak @ABPNews @ndtv  
@AmitShah @narendramodi @CBItweets @NIA\_India



10:42 AM · Jan 19, 2024 · 2,047 Views

Kautilya3  
@Kautilya33

The Manipur CM said on 26 June that the Centre would take care of the hills, while he would focus on the Valley.

The Meiteis threw a fit, and he walked back on it the next day. Since then he has been making persistent attempts to occupy Moreh.  
#WhyMorehBurns

Manipur CM office  
June 26, 2023

HON'BLE CM N BIREN SINGH REITERATES CALL FOR RETURN TO PEACE IN THE STATE

Hon'ble CM N Biren Singh has today reiterated his call to the people of the State to let bygones be bygones and to give peace a chance in the State.

Briefing media persons at the Imphal International Airport premises on his return from the National Capital this late evening, Hon'ble CM said that the Union Home Minister is minutely monitoring the situation in the State following advice of the Prime Minister.

Speaking of his visit to the National capital, Hon'ble CM said the visit was made to seek some advice of the Union Home Minister and to apprise him of the prevailing scenario in the State including that there has been no death since June 13 other than some few untoward incidents occurring. The Union Minister was also apprised of the efforts taken up by the government to restore peace in the State, he added.

During the meeting, the change towards peace witnessed in Manipur was appreciated, but at the same time the Union Home Minister also strongly expressed the need to find ways to restore peace in the State, he added.

The Union Home Minister has also expressed a strong concern on the visible lawlessness witnessed in the valley areas in the past few days despite firing incidents ceasing in the hill-valley periphery areas, Hon'ble CM said highlighting some incidents of vandalism and barricading of security forces along the roads.

Hon'ble CM said that highlighting these recent incidents which suggest to lawlessness to the Union Home Minister, he was also apprised that the State Government is putting all efforts to enforce rule of law and has even started arresting those involved.

During the meeting, it was stressed that it is time for the government and its machineries to meet Civil Society Organisations and other stakeholders to discuss and understand their demands. The Union Minister has assured to take maximum responsibility for the hill districts and at the same time instructed the government to ensure that peace is restored in the valley with cooperation of the civil society organisations including Meira Paibis, he added.

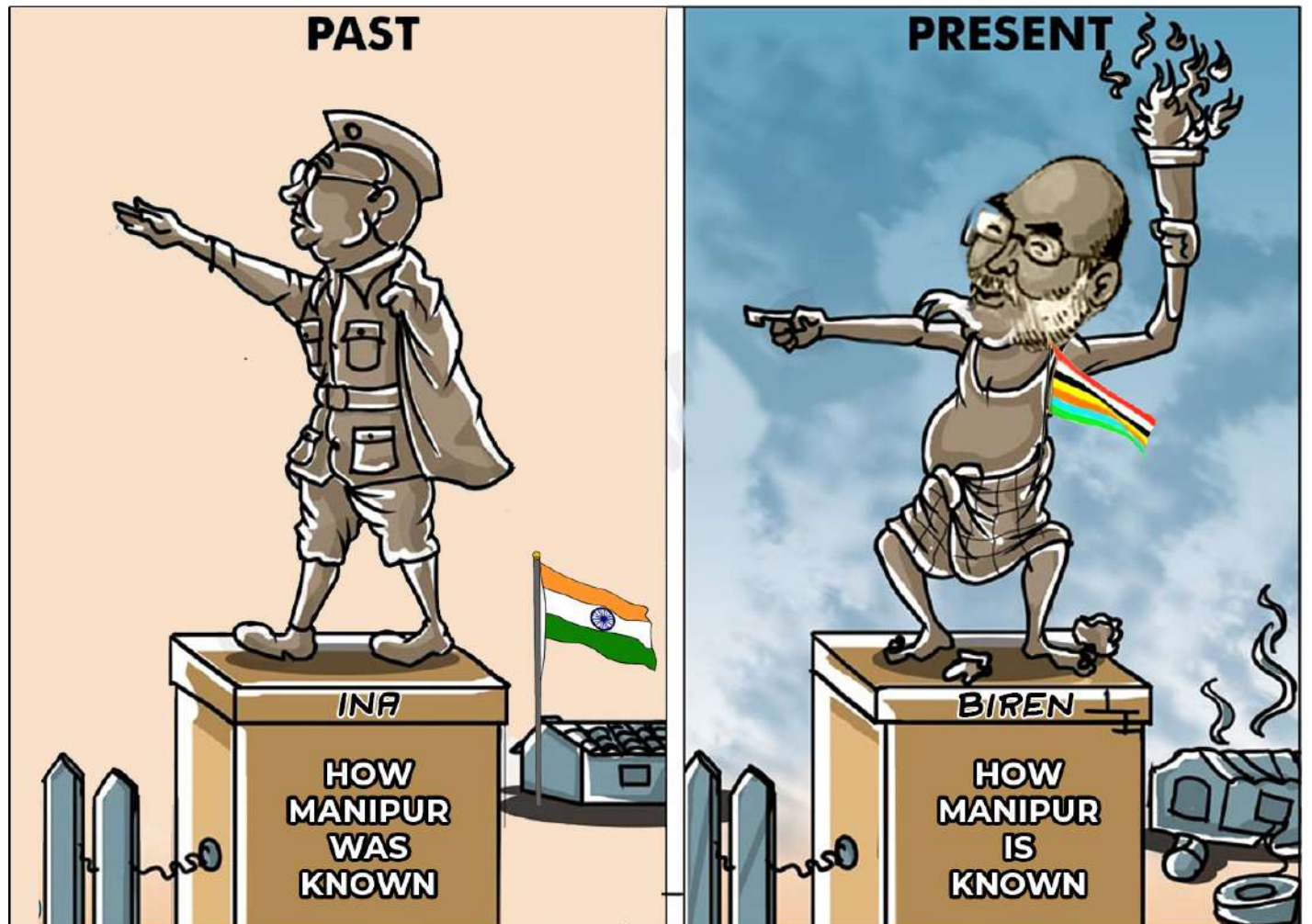
The meeting was also attended by Rajya Sabha MP Leishemba Sanajaoba and Speaker Shri Th Satyabrata Singh among others.

Rajya Sabha MP Leishemba Sanajaoba and IPR Minister Dr. Sapam Ranjan Singh accompanied the Chief Minister during the press briefing.

6:17 PM · Jan 19, 2024 · 2,347 Views



THE  
AMBASSADOR  
OF THE  
PAST  
VERSUS  
PRESENT







## To our fearless Kuki-Zo Frontline Tahchapas & Tahchanus

Today enliven you all, conjure up that tougher the day, the glorious day is near-at-hand, don't hold your breath, keep fighting for our freedom.

Strike a note, a great freedom fighter once said "Give me blood and I'll give you freedom", there is no freedom without blood and the fighter blood never go in vain. The day will come when the fighter blood will say "You can no longer stonewall my freedom". One day your descendent will proudly say "I'm free by the blood of my Hero" then a new history will be given birth to and will remain forever on our soil till the world revert into the hands of the Creator.

Let no "weapon cut the spirit", let no "fire burn it", let no "wind dry it" a wake within yourself and within the heart of a warrior to overcome this battle. Heed that, it is better to die fighting for freedom than be a prisoner all the days of your life. So keep fighting for freedom and justice.

- *Mangcha Chongloi*

