

# Thingkho *Le* Malcha

A Daily Newsletter by KSO Media & Documentation Cell



## VOTES AGAINST BIREN



## KUKI VICTIMS' UPDATE

As on 13.04.2024



**173**  
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.

# KANGPOKPI'S "EMPTY POLLING STATIONS" SPEAK VOLUMES AS KUKI COMMUNITY ABSTAIN DURING FIRST PHASE OF POLLS

Most of the Polling Stations out of the 178 in Kangpokpi District witnessed complete voter abstention during the first phase of the Lok Sabha Election, today.

The Kuki community constituted the majority population in most polling stations across the three Assembly Constituencies - 46-Saikul, 50-Kangpokpi, and 51-Saitu, while a few stations have the presence of Nagas and Nepalese.

The haunting "Empty Polling Stations" emblematic of the Kuki community's abstention, echoes their resounding dissatisfaction with the Government.

The 24 Polling Stations designated as "Special Polling Stations" for Displaced Voters both from Inner and Outer Parliamentary Constituencies, three Model Polling Stations and most of the 77 Polling Stations managed exclusively by women witnessed "Zero voter turnout" till the end of voting at 4:00 PM apart from other polling stations in 50- Kangpokpi Assembly Constituency.

A similar situation was also witnessed in the 46-Saikul and 51-Saitu Assembly Constituency.

However, a small number of polling stations, primarily constituted by communities like the Nagas and Nepalese, and the polling stations exclusively managed by Persons with Disabilities, saw voters participation exercising their franchise rights, albeit at a very low percentage.

It may be recalled that the Kuki Inpi Sadar Hills, the apex body of the Kuki tribes in the district had issued a strong statement urging all Kuki residents in Sadar Hills to refrain from participating in the upcoming Lok Sabha Elections.

However, it was clearly stated that their approach to the Lok Sabha Polls is not about "boycotting" but rather choosing to "abstain from voting".

Considering the public pressure, in collaboration with all



stakeholders recognized by the Kuki Inpi Manipur, the Kuki Inpi Sadar Hills and various Kuki civil bodies made the unanimous decision to abstain from voting in the Lok Sabha elections.

The unanimous decision was also endorsed by the Committee on Tribal Unity, or the CoTU and also at the local level by local town bodies and village authorities.

Speaking to the media, K. Shongreng, General Secretary of KSO Sadar Hills, underscored that the "zero per cent turnout" among the Kuki community in the Sadar Hills Kuki area is a stark testament to their profound disillusionment with the government. He emphasized to the Indian government that without addressing the political injustices faced by the Kukis through proper legal channels, discontent would persist among the Kuki community and its people.

"The unresolved political injustice we endure under the law of the land, compounded by inhumane killings, relentless assaults on our village and churches, and the rampant pillaging of our properties eludes us from the prospect of voting in peace", Shongreng asserted.

The total voter turnout in Kangpokpi District is expected to fall below 30%. Kangpokpi has 1,03,563 voters including 51,184 male voters and 52,378 female voters.

# CCPUR LS ELECTION 2024: PERCENTAGE PEGGED AT 72; POLL OFFICIALS, EVMS START ARRIVING

Polling ended on a peaceful note across the four Assembly segments of Churachandpur district today while poll percentage of votes in the district is pegged at 72.42 % at 5 PM today.

Meanwhile, polling personnel, EVMs, and security personnel have started arriving at the Mini-Secretariat Campus, Tuibong from their respective polling stations.


There are a total of 289 polling booths in the district. There are two special polling stations for I-Inner Manipur Parliamentary Constituency in the district with about 517 electorates and 13 special polling stations for IDPs for II-Outer Manipur Parliamentary Constituency in the district with about 3,759 voters. 119 polling stations were managed exclusively by female polling team.

The district has a total of 1,83,109 voters, including 87,612 male voters, 95,492 female voters and 5 third gender voters.



AC-wise poll percentage at 5 PM is 57-Henglep – 79.6 %, 58-Churachandpur AC – 64.35, 59-Saikot – 72.42 % and 60-Singhat – 79.72 %; 15 Special Polling Stations – 75 %.

Two polling personnel each of the 18 polling stations were airlifted along with the EVMs in an IAF chopper and the rest of the polling teams were dispatched for their designated polling stations by road.



**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.

# VIOLENCE MARS FIRST PHASE OF LOK SABHA POLLS IN INNER MANIPUR PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY

Horrifying scenes of gunshots, unprecedented violence, destruction of EVM machines, reports of booths capturing, threat and intimidation of voters using muscle power marred the first phase of polls in the Meiteis' valley of Imphal.

A war-like situation occurred in most of the polling stations as a result of mass booth capturing by the private militia groups; Arambai Tenggol, Meitei Leepun and others.

Inner Manipur Parliamentary Constituency has been talibanized with armed gangs of Arambai Tenggol and Meitei Leepun running the show, brandishing sophisticated weapons inside the polling booths amid stringent security measures. The law enforcing agencies have no option but to remain mute spectators, thus giving free hand to the cadres of the militia groups.

Complete chaos prevailed in the Meiteis' valley and tranquility of the polling process was shattered when gunfire erupted at a polling station in Thamanpokpi, located under Moirang AC in Bishnupur district. Reports indicated that the disturbing incident resulted when the Arambai Tenggol captured the polling booth. Violence ensued, thus resulting in at least three casualties.

In addition to the violence in Thamanpokpi, reports have emerged of vandalism at a polling station under Thongju AC in Imphal East. This act of destruction has raised concerns about the safety and integrity of the electoral process, prompting security forces to mobilise and restore order.

Indeed, the Arambai Tenggol and militant groups have been interfering in the election at various places since voting began today. These armed groups have also reportedly intimidated voters outside polling stations.

In one instance, two heavily armed militants were seen running amidst the presence of a large number



of civilians, while Manipur police personnel present at the scene remained mute spectators. In another instance, an IPS officer was seen being complained to by the INC candidate over their inaction regarding a commotion that occurred between armed groups at a polling station in the Bishnupur district.

In Thongju Assembly constituency, approximately 20 individuals in camouflage attires arrived at polling station 5/31, located at the National Children's School, Khongman Zone 4. Voting at Polling Station 5/32, at Khongman zone 5 Community Hall, was also disrupted following interference by armed goons. When the voters of the area came to cast their votes, it was learned that the individuals in camouflage had already done mass proxy voting. The irate people later engaged in a heated argument with the polling officials and destroyed the EVM machine. At around 9:30 AM, voters of polling station 5/32 also seized the EVM machine and destroyed it.

Voting at Polling Station 5/32 was later resumed at around 2 PM however, no confirmation of the same on Polling Station 5/31. The Superintendent of Police (SP) of Imphal East, and Assistant Returning Officers of Kshtrigao and Thongju, arrived at the

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scene and took stock of the situation. Reports on social media indicated that capturing booths underway until late night till 10:00 PM in Thongju Constituency.

Voting at Polling station 4/44 Bamon Kampu under Kshetrigao Assembly constituency was disrupted following interference by goons of Arambai Tenggol. According to the Presiding Officer of the Polling Station, armed goons numbering around 20 came inside the Polling Booth and captured the EVM. Later, the armed goons threatened the voters who came out for voting. Angered over the action of the armed goons, the locals gathered and protested the incident prompting them to destroy the EVM machine. The Presiding officer reported the matter to the CEO.

At Arapti in Keirao Assembly constituency, armed militants disrupted voting at polling station 6/12. At least 6 persons, including a female voter, were reported injured after the armed goons assaulted them for protesting against their booth capturing. At around 9:30 AM, voting at the polling station came to a halt but later resumed after the situation was normalized by security forces. There are also reports of disruptions at polling station 10/1.

EVM machines at polling stations 10/6 and 10/7, located at Iroishemba Mamang Leikai under the Uripok Assembly constituency in Imphal West district, were also vandalized by irate voters who were denied voting by armed goons.

At Polling Station 3/11 opened at Sajet (A) Moirang Kampu under Khurai Assembly Constituency a, 75 year old person who came out to vote sustained bullet injury after the Arambai Tenggol goons, who came to capture the Polling station, fired rounds of gunshots after they were confronted by the locals of the area.

“5 armed men who came in a car entered the Polling station. They came out after some time, after which the local voters were confronted with a heavy exchange of words. While the local youth chased them away, the armed militants fired towards the civilians; thus, injuring

a 75-year-old man”, a woman who witnessed the incident told media persons. The injured person was then evacuated to Raj Medicity Hospital.

Report said that voting at the Polling Station 3/11 has been disrupted after angry locals destroyed the documents related to the election. According to the Presiding Officer, the confrontation occurred after the armed goons tried to pull up the Booth Agent of the Congress party from inside the Polling Station. A hectic confrontation broke out between a police officer and INC candidate Angomcha Bimol Akoijam, at Kyamgei Heibong Makhong High School in the Keirao assembly constituency over purported failure to address a complaint lodged by one of Bimol Akoijam’s agents.

The incident reflected tensions regarding perceived lapses in security intervention, adding to the charged atmosphere surrounding the electoral process.

There were also reports of election-related violence at various places, including Thongjao, Elang Khangpokpi, etc., in Kakching district. The Arambai Tenggol goons fired several rounds of bullets in Sugnu areas thus disrupting the poll process.

Mention may be made that the Arambai Tenggol goons had openly canvassed votes for the BJP candidate, Th. Bashanta Singh. There has been a report of tacit support to the armed private militia groups from the incumbent Chief Minister, N. Biren Singh and his political cohorts.

As there has been a complete breakdown of law and order in Imphal Valley, evident from the above cited events, the need for re-imposition of AFSPA in the Meiteis’ Kangleipak is of utmost importance to maintain control over the armed radical groups and VBIGs who has literally taken the law into their hands.

# PROF. BIMOL AKOIJAM RECEIVE A DOSE OF HIS OWN MEDICINE

With the voting for Inner Manipur Parliamentary Assembly Constituency concluded today, the Indian National Congress (INC) candidate Prof. Dr. Angomcha Bimol Akoijam must now have realized the destructive effect of nurturing and raising an armed radical group.

Horrifying scenes of gunshots, unprecedented violence, destruction of EVM machines, reports of booths being captured, intimidation of voters by the Arambai Tenggol marred the election for Inner Manipur Parliamentary Constituency today. All these violent activities have been directed against Dr. Bimol Akoijam and his workers, receiving a dose of his own medicine.

A hectic confrontation broke out between a police officer and INC candidate Angomcha Bimol Akoijam at Kyamgei Heibong Makhong High School in the Keirao assembly constituency over purported failure to address a complaint lodged by one of Bimol Akoijam's agents.

During the initial stage of violence, Dr. Bimol Akoijam has been a staunch and vocal supporter of the Arambai Tenggol and a mighty defender of their atrocities on national television. On many occasion, he justified the devilish act of Arambai Tenggol. Bimol even justified the parading of two women naked; saying all these types of atrocities happened even in Bihar and other parts of India, It is normal during wars and conflicts. In his sheer attempt to portray himself as the Hero of the Meiteis on social media landscape, saying all is fair in love and war, he even justified the barbaric act of beheading David Thiek by the radical group. Now, the group he strongly supported a few months ago turned their head against him by resorting to intimidation and threats against his (Bimol) workers. The Arambai Tenggol also resorted to booth capturing, damaging the prospect of Bimol's poll victory.

Furious Bimol reacted against Arambai's activities



stating, "The need of the hour is to find out the responsible person who harassed the Congress supporter. Those who threatened the Congress supporters and the Meiteis are not the Kukis. After the election, everything will be clear as to who the real patriots are and who the bootlickers are. I will not bow down; I will contest in the next election as well".

Bimol added, "To all those concerned, you have cross all the limits. I have been protecting you all since the past. But now, it is over. Everything has its limit. You must all stop such act". His entire stance to protect the Arambai Tenggol in the past seems futile now. He is now shouting his voice hoarse against the same group that he once glibly defended. He is unlikely to get the votes of the majority of his community anyway despite his short fame as their voice on national television.

Indeed, for Mr. Bimol, this type of election related violence occurred in other parts of India too, why the need for howling in pain, as they are the ones he stood up for in the past. By the way, all these are part and parcel of election process in Manipur in case he is too accustomed to life outside Manipur.

# MANIPUR CONGRESS DEMANDS RE-POLLS IN 36 POLLING STATIONS UNDER 11 ASSEMBLY CONSTITUENCIES

The Manipur Pradesh Congress Committee (MPCC) has written to the CEO Manipur, urging for conduct of Re-polls in as many as 36 polling stations under 11 Assembly Constituencies of Inner Manipur Parliamentary seat.

Amidst reports of rampant incidents of violence following the alleged malpractices carried out by the armed militants in the valley of Imphal during the first phase of polls, the Manipur Pradesh Congress Committee has written a complaint to the Chief Electoral Office Manipur requesting for fresh polls in 36 polling stations.

As per the letter, the polling stations which fall under 11 assembly constituencies of Heingang AC, Khurai AC, Kshetrigao AC, Thongju AC, Keirao AC, Andro AC, Yaiskul AC, Sekmai AC, Konthoujam AC, Oinam AC, Moirang AC and Sugnu AC required Re-polls as a result of booths capturing.

The General Secretary (Admin), MPCC, stated that the said polling stations witnessed booth capturing, rigging of polls and force voted/ casting of votes by unknown armed miscreants and closing the poll by the mob.

In respect to Khurai AC, the MPCC stated that one person was injured in a gunshot fired by unknown miscreants and many voters were also threatened, thus panicking the voters in the polling station No. 3/11 of 3-Khurai A/C.

In polling station 5/32 of 5-Thongju A/C, the voters of the

INC Candidate were thrashed out by one opponent leader. Some unknown armed miscreants were seen proxy voting while polling agents of the INC Candidate were threatened and expelled from the polling station by the said unknown armed miscreants in polling station No.6/29 of 6-Keirao A/C and polling station No. 7/38 of 7-Andro A/C.

Another incident was also reported where there is a mismatch of the numbers of casted votes in EVM and VVPAT in the polling station No. 14/18 of 14-Yaiskul A/C. In this regard, the Congress' Booth Agent of the said polling station has lodged a complaint to the Presiding Officer asking for re-poll.

Also, in polling station No. 18/22 of 18-Konthoujam A/C, voters were denied the right to exercise their franchise and almost all the votes were casted by armed miscreants.

In polling station Nos. 25/1 and 25/2 of 25-Oinam A/C, there was proxy voting by armed miscreants.

MPCC requested the CEO Manipur to take up the necessary actions for the conduct of re-polls/fresh polls of the above-mentioned polling stations in the interest of justice.

It is worth mentioning that the elected MLAs in the majority of the ACs which the Manipur Congress demands for re-polls are all represented by BJP MLAs.



**It's not the voting that's democracy;  
it's the counting.**

— Tom Stoppard



# SHUTDOWN STRICTLY ENFORCE IN EASTERN NAGALAND ON POLLING DAY; SHOW CAUSE NOTICE SERVED, ENPO RESPONSE

The Eastern Nagaland People's Organization (ENPO) announced an indefinite total shutdown across Eastern Nagaland region on polling day.

The indefinite shutdown called by the ENPO in Eastern Nagaland region was effective from 6:00 PM of Thursday (April 18). The shutdown has caused disruption in the electoral process for the sole Lok Sabha seat from Nagaland.

In response to this development, the Nagaland CEO's office issued a show-cause notice to the president of ENPO, questioning the rationale behind the shutdown and warning of possible legal action under sub-section (1) of section 171C of the Indian Penal Code (IPC).

Under sub-section (1) of section 171C of the IPC, any voluntary interference with the free exercise of electoral rights constitutes the offense of undue influence during an election.

The president of ENPO has been asked to respond promptly to the show-cause notice.

In response to the perceived failure of the government to fulfil its promises on the Frontier Nagaland Territory (FNT) issue, ENPO, along with other tribal bodies, the Eastern Nagaland Women's Organisation (ENWO), and the Eastern Nagaland Students' Federation (ENSF), urged the Eastern Nagaland Legislative Union (ENLU) and the public to respect their decision and abstain from voting in the Lok Sabha elections.

To address concerns raised by the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) Nagaland, the Eastern Nagaland Peoples' Organization (ENPO) has issued a comprehensive response to the show cause notice delivered yesterday.

The ENPO reiterated that the primary objective behind the public notice published on April 18, 2024, was to



mitigate potential disturbances in the Eastern Nagaland region and minimize the risks associated with the assembly of anti-social elements. Stressing the criticality of maintaining law and order, particularly in a period of Public Emergency, the ENPO underscored the voluntary nature of the shutdown initiative undertaken by the people of Eastern Nagaland.

According to the ENPO's communication with the Election Commission of India on April 1, 2024, the decision to abstain from participating in the Lok Sabha elections 2024 was informed by prevailing circumstances and the sentiments of the Eastern Nagaland populace. The organization emphasized that the notice issued on April 18 is aimed at safeguarding the safety and well-being of residents and not to influence election proceedings.

Addressing allegations of coercion or enforcement, the ENPO clarified that it lacks the authority to enforce resolutions or orders and operates solely on voluntary participation and consensus among Eastern Nagaland residents. Furthermore, the organization extended its assurance of full cooperation to the CEO Nagaland, offering to provide additional clarification or information to resolve any misunderstandings.

**NEWS ANALYSIS****After the Election Distraction, What Then?**

Elections have always been one of the most divisive factors in any democratic society in any part of the world. We too have felt this dividing element within our own society as citizens of a democratic state who have the freedom and right to pick a candidate of our choice. It would not be an overstatement to say that all toxic, cancerous and so far un-reconcilable divisions among our society have stemmed from elections. They take root as differences in choice of candidates and eventually mature into full blown hatred of and enmity with the other side. Neighbours have built walls between themselves, siblings have broken relations, members have left certain churches and formed new ones, and communities have collectively aligned themselves against another and more, all in the name of election. It is a well known fact that certain CSOs, underground groups etc too have their own affiliation when it comes to elections. No other disagreement has had such a profoundly distasteful and long-lasting fractious impact on relations between people. It poisons an entire relationship resulting in irreconcilable differences.

As such, at a time when unity is of utmost and supreme importance, when our collective leadership decided that there should be no candidate from our community during this General Elections to the Lok Sabha, the masses did not object, maybe partly due

to the assumption that it was a part of boycotting the election as a whole. And there was also the more obvious challenge – arriving at a consensus candidate amongst ourselves would have been near impossible. We are well aware of the nature of elections. If two best friends can differ on a choice of candidate, a nation of kindred ethnic tribes with too complex of a history would have found it difficult to agree on a single person to represent us all. And from what we have seen in the valley for the past few weeks leading to the elections and on today, the polling day itself, it is obvious that we have dodged a bullet in that regard.

One would assume that at a time of war, a community would come together despite all differences and agree on a candidate. But the reverse has happened in the Manipur valley. Despite the war, the Meitei community has not been able to come together on a consensus candidate and with multiple candidates from multiple parties, the valley has devolved into a warzone once more, this time among themselves. Threats, violent intimidation, actual acts of violence on candidates and supporters and virulent sentiments among opposing supporters have preceded the polling day which witnessed booth captures by armed

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men at different polling stations and the law and order enforcement agencies standing either mute spectators or enablers to all the above.

One person at the receiving end of such threats is the Congress candidate for the Inner Manipur PC, Dr. Bimol Akoijam, a former professor at the Jawaharlal Nehru University. He was once a staunch, vocal and public supporter of the Meitei extremists and a mighty defender of their barbaric atrocities on national television. He justified the naked parading of Kuki women and jested about the beheading of David. Yet today, on account of the elections, he is at the receiving end of the unjust might he once defended. He is now shouting his voice hoarse against the same forces he once glibly defended. And he is unlikely to get the votes of the majority of his community anyway despite his short fame as their voice on national television. And the BJP, with the support of armed Arambai Tenggols will most likely make sure the election is won before the day is over. One viral video shows armed men in civilian dress carrying weapons rushing past some Manipur police personnel, also armed, on their way to disrupt a polling booth and capture it for the BJP. It is safe to assume that these are cadres of the Arambai Tenggol, as said out loud in another viral video by an elderly man who says, "If not Arambai Tenggols who else could carry arms like that?" (paraphrase). The police just watch them run by, doing nothing to stop the armed men. This is the situation in Manipur valley. In their blind bloodlust, the Meiteis have created a monster that they can no longer control, a monster that doesn't care who it bites as long as it has teeth. The armed men in the video are seen disappearing into the distance as sounds of lampposts being struck are heard. This striking of lampposts is a peculiar feature of this conflict, signalling a disturbance in an area and calling for people to mobilise. It signals the breakdown of law and order. Law and order, already broken in the valley, witnessed another low in the valley today with shots being fired at voters, booths being captured by brute force, and chaos and utter lawlessness reigned, courtesy of the Arambai Tenggols. This is a militia with no discipline, humanity or principles leading many

Meiteis on social media to decry the depths of despair to which they have plunged themselves. But it is their own doing, in nurturing terrorists such as the Arambai Tenggols who have no regard for friend or foe. They only serve their political masters, and the general Meitei populace were given a peek into their true nature and the bleak future that awaits them.

If, in the middle of a war, an election brought about such fragmentation in a society which is much more homogenous than ours, one can only imagine what could have happened in ours had we not stopped the floodgates of candidates from our community which is bound together by ethnic, cultural and linguistic affinity but much more complex internally, perhaps, in part, due to the same factors that make us kindred. So everyone agreed that no candidate would participate in the elections. But the conundrum came when the question fell to the public's role. Should the public vote or not, is a question various CSOs have tried tackling and some have issued directives in this regard. But this time, the directives, where issued, find no such unanimous acceptance among the general populace.

For an undecided, it is extremely hard to pick a stand as there are rational, highly intelligent people on both sides passionately advocating for their stand either to vote or to boycott the elections. Those who advocate for a boycott quote the atrocities that have been inflicted upon us, the justice that still eludes us and the silence of the central government, its indifference to our sufferings and its tacit support of our adversaries that must justify a boycott against the elections as a sign of protest and a powerful symbol of our voice against the tyranny of the powers both at the centre and the state. A recent horrific event in which the corpses of two Kuki village volunteers who were said to have been killed by bombings

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from the central armed forces were butchered by Meitei militants ignited the latest spark of boycott. The two Kuki village volunteers' corpses were hacked, butchered and a severed hand was nailed to a tree. That severed hand, much like the beheaded head of David, served as a strong symbolism. How do we vote when our hands have been cut off and justice denied? And also there is the issue of the candidates. Since there are no candidates from our community, if we vote, we vote for a candidate from a community that once inflicted these very same atrocities on our people in the not too distant past. Hence why vote at all?

On the other hand, advocates for voting use the very same arguments above – the atrocities that have been inflicted upon us, the justice that still eludes us and the silence of the central government, its indifference to our sufferings and its tacit support of our adversaries – as strong arguments in favour of voting against such a government which allows all these to happen. They may have cut off our brethren's hand, but those that still have hands must use it to vote against and vote out the government that allowed our brethren's hand to be cut, is the argument. One way of defeating the enemy is by making sure they lose through the act of the very hands they have tried to cut off. But it is also argued that our numbers do not put us in a position to affect such radical changes but still advocates of voting will say that the act of voting against tyranny is an act of protest in itself. As such, such arguments in favour of either stand are strong and evoke deep passion among the masses and have caused quite a stir and debate. But to be clear, these are just two oversimplified scenarios and they are not the only choices facing the Kuki nation today. Each area, owing to its geo-political landscape may face its own dilemmas. A fuller, in-depth analysis is required to exposit the full intricacies of such a complex labyrinth.

But in the end, as there is no general consensus on the issue, individuals will stand by what they believe. And as our top bodies have been unable to arrive at a consensus among themselves, the general public will do what it believes to be in the best interest of

our community, whether by voting or abstaining. And the election results and ensuing drama will maybe shed light on which was the right path to have taken. But at this stage, we cannot afford to be simply reactive. Our leaders ought to be wise enough to test all possibilities and weigh every probable outcome and take decisions based on it and not wait to watch and see what happens. By then, it will have been too late for us.

And now as the polling day winds down and the largest exercise of democracy in the world gets over, we will still be left with the conflict that started almost a year ago with no seeming end in the near future. With the election distraction over, one can only hope that our focus remains sharp on the war at hand, the situation of displaced people and the way forward for us all. It can be safely deduced that due to the current situation in the Meitei society arising out of the elections, the Arambai Tenggols and Meitei militants, in an attempt to garner public sympathy once more, will want to divert the public's attention and divert their anger by upping up their war on the Kukis. And Biren will make sure they are amply supplied to that end. Hence, even as we watch the drama unfolding in the valley today, we must not let our guard down and be complacent. The enemy still lurks and judging by what has transpired, they will try their best to be even more venomous towards the Kukis. Everyone, from people in leadership positions to the general masses, must have a clear head and sharp focus on the war. We must put aside our differences of opinion during this brief distraction and come together again to face the enemy that still bays for our blood and seek our annihilation. The election was just a distraction, it was never our real battlefield anyway. The battle still lies ahead. And the outcome of the war is still to be decided and our actions or inactions. Our decisions or indecisiveness can still cost us the war should we ever let the distraction carry us away. We must not let the distraction be the battle.

THE SOCIAL MEDIA BUZZ



Tamal Saha  
@Tamal0401

Inner Manipur Constituency

This is what has happened at the polling booth in Moirangkampu Sajeb in #Manipur. Miscreants came and opened firing. One 65 year old man injured and now hospitalised. All election papers burnt down. One evm machine destroyed and set ablaze. Locals say miscreants wanted to take one polling agent away. Polling has been stalled, officers locked the booth and left.



4:57 pm · 19 Apr 24 · 30.1K Views



তনময় I Tanmoy I  
@tanmoyofc

Follow

Free and Fair Election in Mother Murder Of Democracy

Inner Manipur Constituency, It is clear that the Police are standing quietly watching the Drama of Booth Capturing.

@ECISVEEP Did not invite any Foreign Guests to watch the #Manipur Election ?

#LokSabhaElections2024  
#LokSabaElections2024 #INDIAAlliance  
#Vote4INDIA

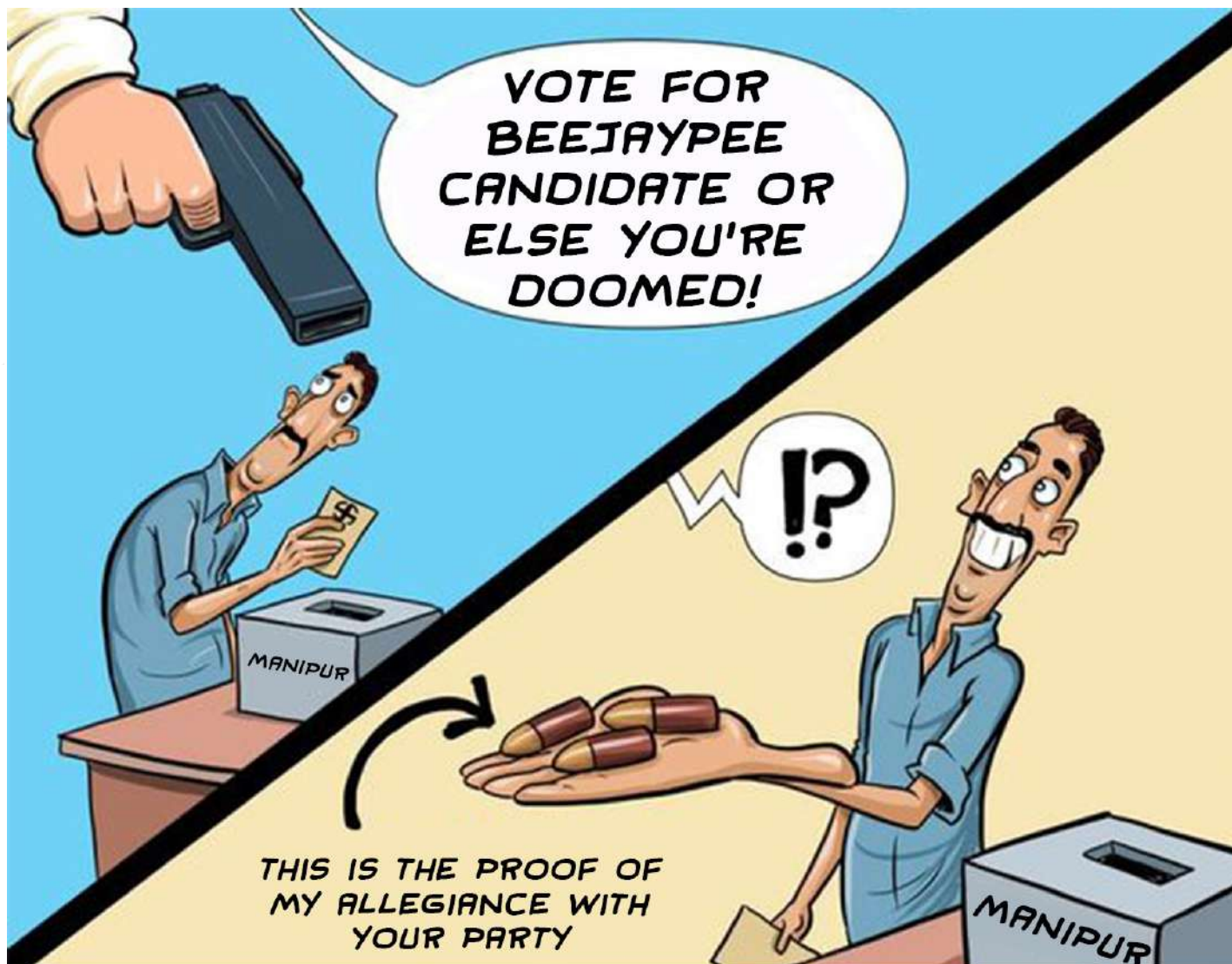
Vid @vijaita



4:16 pm · 19 Apr 24 · 21.3K Views



THE MANIPUR'S 'FESTIVAL OF DEMOCRACY'





## *Echoes of Valor: A Tribute to Fallen Heroes*

In fields where green grass gently sway;  
The fallen heroes quietly lay.  
Their courage strong, their spirits brave;  
In silent sleep, they found their grave!

They marched with honor, stood so tall;  
Answering duty's noble call.  
Through fields of strife, they bravely trod,  
Their sacrifice, the gift of God!

Their names we carve on monuments high;  
To honor those who dared to die.  
Their memories linger, ever near;  
In hearts that hold them dear!

So, let us pause on this solemn day;  
To remember those who paved the way.  
For freedom's price, they gladly paid,  
Our fallen heroes, forever praised!

*- S. Souminthang Mate*