

# Thingkho Le Malcha

A Daily Newsletter by KSO Media & Documentation Cell



## Khengjang RELIEF CENTRE

Khengjang JB School, Lamka

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

**Total Inmates Registered: 243\***

■ Male: 117

■ Female: 126

\*As on 7<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.

# DISMAYED OVER THE MOVE TO SCRAP FMR, KUKI'S TOP BODY URGES GOI TO REASSESS ITS COURSE OF ACTION

Extremely perturbed over the decision to implement border fencing along the Indo-Myanmar border and the move for the suspension of the Free Movement Regime, or the FMR, the Kuki Inpi Manipur, the apex body of the Kuki tribes urged the Government of India to reassess its course of action stating the unforeseen development has prompted a profound sense of concern within the Kuki-Zo community amid the continuous aggression against the community.

The Kuki top body also stressed the cruciality of recognizing that border fencing will not address the complex challenges fuelling the ongoing crisis in the strife-torn Manipur state.

Janghaolun Haokip, Information & Publicity Secretary of KIM said that the apex body of the Kuki tribes has consistently asserted that the ongoing crisis in the Manipur region is a state-sponsored and pre-planned ethnic-cleansing directed against the Kuki-Zo people.

He said that Chief Minister N Biren Singh's allegations, attributing the misuse of the Free Movement Regime to insurgents from Myanmar, illegal immigrants, and drug traffickers crossing into Manipur to foment trouble are but a futile attempt to obscure the genuine roots of the ethnic conflict plaguing the Manipur region.

He also alleged that such allegations are designed as diversionary tactics, deflecting attention from the true genesis of the ongoing ethnic crisis and the involvement of N Biren Singh-led state government in fuelling and sponsoring the conflict in the region.

He then said that such a move could also be perceived as a distraction by the Manipur state government, potentially providing an opportunity to the Meitei State Forces and Valley-Based Insurgent Groups (VBIGs) to carry out further aggressions against the Kuki-Zo people.



He further said that the persistent plea by the Manipur state government for border fencing is rather aimed at deceiving the Government of India to endorse its chauvinistic agenda against the Kuki-Zo people while asserting that the plea also seeks to mask the erosion of democracy and constitutional norms within the state of Manipur under the leadership of N Biren, leading to unprecedented devastation in the Manipur region.

He alleged that the complete breakdown of law and order, coupled with the tyrannical, totalitarian, and oppressive rule of N Biren Singh against the Kuki-Zo community, poses a direct challenge to the constitutional values and principles of our great country.

Therefore, the crisis demands a thorough understanding of its origins to formulate a pragmatic response aimed at restoring peace, normalcy, and stability in the region, he added.

The apex body of the Kuki tribes also implored the government to redirect its attention towards putting an end to the targeted ethnic persecution unleashed by the Manipur government upon the Kuki-Zo.

# ITLF TO COMMENCE PICKETING OF GOVT. OFFICES IN PROTEST AGAINST THE CONTINUED DETENTION OF TWO ARRESTED KUKI LEADERS

The Indigenous Tribal Leaders' Forum (ITLF) has announced the closure of all government offices in Churachandpur district and Pherzawl district from January 22 until the release of two innocent Kuki civilians, Philip Khongsai and Hemkholal Mate, is achieved. The decision comes in response to the Manipur Commandos' detention of the aforementioned individuals at Moreh on January 15, 2024.

On January 16, 2024, a Joint Condemnation Press Release was issued by the Indigenous Tribal Leaders' Forum (ITLF) in collaboration with the Committee on Tribal Unity (COTU), strongly condemning the unjust detention of Philip Khongsai and Hemkholal Mate. The release demanded their immediate and unconditional

release, highlighting that the Manipur State Government Commandos continue to unlawfully detain the two innocent civilians in their custody.

The responsibility of conducting office picketing has been entrusted to various student bodies, including Zou Sangnaupang Pawlpi (ZSP), Khangthah Zuun Pawl (KZP), Zillai, Kuki Students' Organisation (KSO), Hmar Students' Association (HAS), Mizo Zirlai Pawl (MZP), and Siamsinpawlpi, as mentioned by ITLF.

Additionally, ITLF has requested the Defense/Volunteer Department to take the lead in office picketing and collaborate with student organizations until further notice.

---

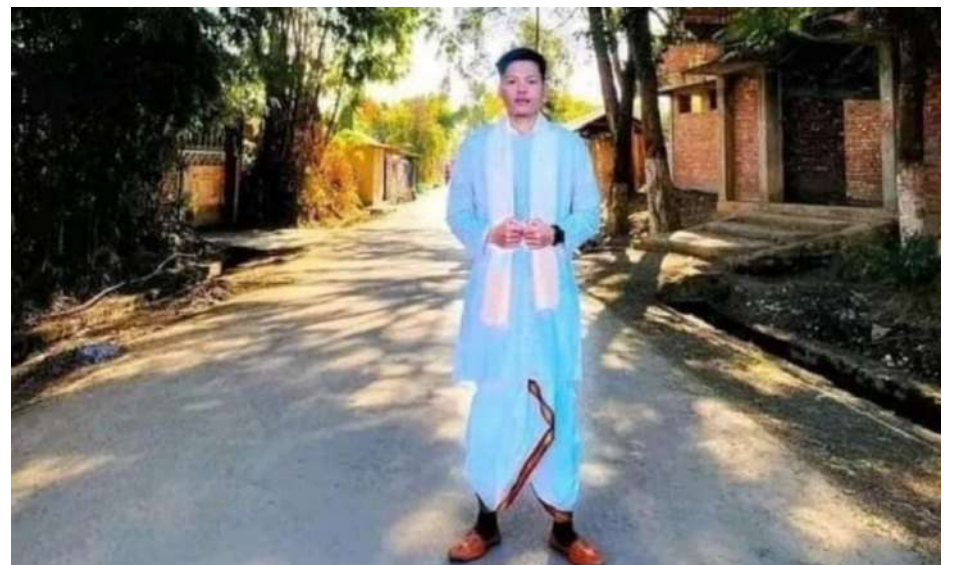
## ONE MEITEI GUNLOOTER SUCCUMBS TO INJURY

One Pebam Sanatomba, who was injured in the firing incident at Naransena last Thursday passed away at 2.30 pm on January 21.

As per source, Sanatomba along with other meitei mob tried to loot 2nd IRB camp at Naransena with the intent to use the looted weapons to attack the Kuki people.

Security forces stationed at the vicinity interfered to thwart the attempted loot and in the process Sanatomba was shot by the security forces when he along with other Meiteis tried to intrude into the IRB camp. However he managed to escape with injuries. Later on Sunday evening Sanatomba succumbs to injury.

The ethnic cleansing pogrom of the majority Meitei community against the Kuki populace since 3rd of May 2023 have crossed 8 months and there has been various instances of arms loot. A number of armories of the state forces have been looted in broad daylight in the presence of the state forces personnel who did little to nothing to stop such loots, in some cases rather aiding the mob in looting government armories. The recent attempted loot of 2nd IRB camp at Narasena



stands to confirm that even after 8 months the Meitei community still persists in attempting to loot weapons and ammunition from government armories for use in their whimsical attacks on the Kuki community. The state government with profound knowledge and detailed reports of such events still chose to look the other way which only infers the state's intention towards one particular community and its stand in quelling the ethnic violence in Manipur.

# CONGLOMERATE OF MEITEI MILITANT GROUPS CORCOM BOYCOTTS INDIA'S REPUBLIC DAY, THE DAY TO BE OBSERVED AS BLACK DAY IN MEITEI AREAS

Coordination Committee(CorCom), the joint body of the Meitei militant groups has yet again announced the annual boycott of India's Republic Day, which falls on the 26th day of January.

As declared before every Republic Day in the past many years, CorCom declared that 26 January is a 'Repressive Day' and not a people's day.

CorCom which was formed in 2011 is a conglomerate of seven valley based militant outfits; Kangleipak Communist Party, Kanglei Yawol Kanna Lup, People's Revolutionary Party of Kangleipak, its progressive faction PREPAK Pro, United Nations Liberation Front and United Party of Kangleipak.

In a statement released by the organization, the rebel group said that while India celebrates January 26 as Republic Day, but for the people of Kangleipak(Manipur), it is known as the 'Repressive Day' for the people.

While Manipur is experiencing a bloody conflict for over 8 months, there is no reason for the state to celebrate Republic Day. Instead, the day should be observed as a "Black Day" and the people of Manipur should observe the day by hoisting a black flag, it added.

Therefore, CorCom is calling for a total shutdown on the day, starting from midnight of January 25 until 6 pm of January 26, CorCoM stated.

However, the release mentioned that religious activities, medical services, and fire services will be exempted



from the purview of the proposed shutdown.

The statement added that the ongoing crisis has devastated Manipur and CorCoM blames India for everything that is happening today.

In the past few decades, the Indian Republic Day in Manipur's valley areas is usually marked with IED blasts orchestrated by various Meitei terror groups as a mark of protest against the Indian Union and as a way to further their secessionist agenda. The public out of fear of mortal retribution hardly moved outside their houses in Meitei dominated areas. Unsurprisingly, the day this year has also been declared a Black Day by the terror groups who have incessantly fought the Indian forces for decades for an independent Kangleipak territory outside of India.

# PEACE IN MANIPUR REMAINS ELUSIVE AS ARAMBAI TENGGOL ASSERTS CONTROL

The prospect of peace in Manipur appears distant, primarily due to the reluctance of Chief Minister Biren Singh to rein in his private armed militia, Arambai Tenggol, which functions as an unofficial and de-facto state police force. The evident fear amongst the Chief Minister, ministers, and MLAs to confront Arambai Tenggol within their own jurisdiction raises concern about the safety of Kuki people in Manipur. The fact that Meitei leaders are reportedly hiding in Delhi, expressing fear for their lives, further adds to the prevailing uncertainties.

The inability of CM Biren Singh to assert control over the situation in the small Imphal valley raises questions about his decision to deploy Meitei commandos at Moreh, where peace could potentially prevail without their intervention. The audacious summoning of democratically elected representatives by an armed militia group, as seen in the recent order issued by the Chief of Arambai Tenggol for Meitei elected representatives to attend a meeting on January 24, is an unprecedented and alarming development.

Various MLAs, including Heirok MLA Th. Radheshyam and Education Minister Basanta Kumar, have publicly confirmed their participation in the January 24 meeting, signaling a surrender of their constitutional mandate to an armed group. This near-collapse of an elected government and the surrender of its position to Arambai Tenggol marks a critical and concerning turning point in Manipur's political landscape.

Such incidents challenge established democratic processes, erode the authority vested in elected representatives, and signals a breakdown in democratic principles. The armed group's use of coercion to influence elected officials raises concerns about the stability of democratic institutions. The power vacuum created by the surrender to an armed group may lead to a parallel administration operating outside legal frameworks, compromising citizens' rights and safety.

The Arambai Tenggol's control over Manipur's political landscape becomes more alarming against



**Korounganba Khuman**

4 m · 🌐



All AT unit 1 to 54 camp singda loina sem saduna leigadabani.  
Lakliba Date 24 Leibak sigi Meitei MLA MP Minister opposition ruling loinamak amadi hon'ble CM yaona Kangla utra mamangda famlaga Ereibak efurup ki Aroiba warep lougani.  
Masida Delhi da lei aduda lei hyba amata yaroi loi lak kadabani ..  
Masida lak taba Sing Meitei ni khalaroi Mareibak mafurup ki yeknabani lougani Aduka AT karino khnghan gani.  
Masida afa fatta nasana pugadabani.



You and 3.7k others 216 comments • 987 shar

the backdrop of the recent killing of state police personnel in Moreh, which has sparked demands for the removal of CM N. Biren Singh. While discussions about the Chief Minister's resignation took place, the delay and subsequent hold on the decision, citing absentee Meitei MLAs, raise questions about the state of governance.

Despite some MLAs applying for leave, citing health issues, and the alleged fear of dire consequences from Arambai Tenggol for any absentees, there is an apparent lack of willingness to confront the armed group. Manipur is now a reminiscent of mini Afghanistan, governed by an armed gang.

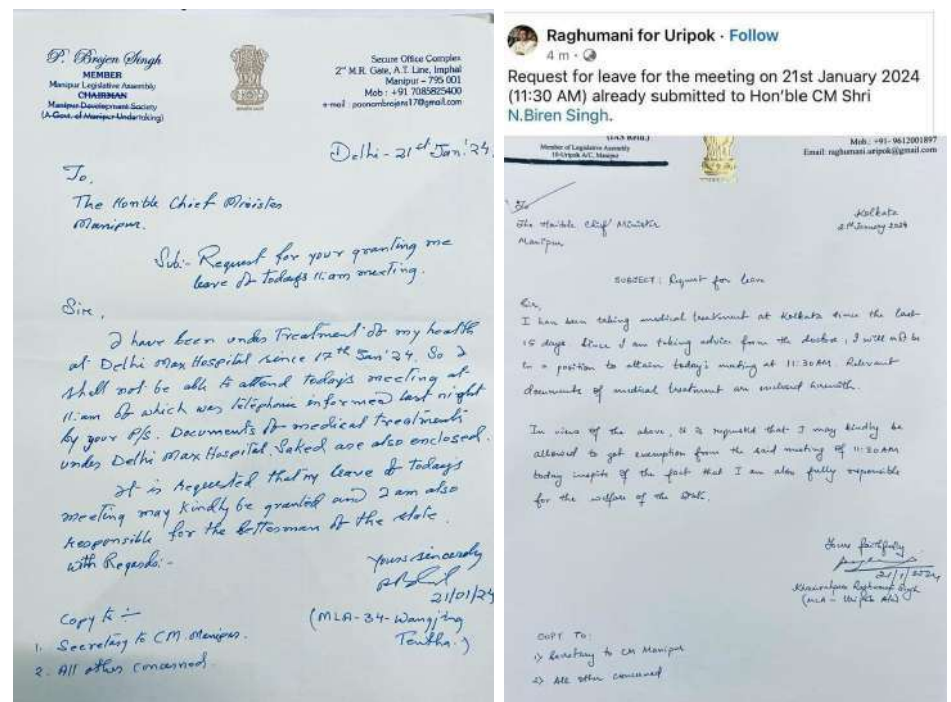
Until the central government and Manipur's current dispensation take decisive action against Arambai Tenggol, the dream of peace in Manipur remains elusive.

# AMIDST RISING CALLS FOR RESIGNATION, BIREN UTILIZED HIS SIGNATURE PHRASE 'LEMNA THAROI' TO QUELL MEITEI MOB DISSENT

After orchestrating yet another high-profile resignation spectacle, Chief Minister N. Biren Singh employed his trademark phrase, 'Lemna Tharoi,' today to quell the recent call of the Meitei mobs for his resignation. Sources reveal that a cabinet meeting was held at the CM Secretariat this afternoon, but no concrete decisions were made as about 6 MLAs, including dissenting figures like Karam Shyam, Th. Radheshyam, and Kh. Raghumani, refrained from attending, opting instead to camp in Delhi to advocate for Biren's removal.

In his typical style of grandiose, yet empty promises, Chief Minister N. Biren addressed his critics during the 52nd Statehood Day Celebration, pledging that the state government would take decisive actions to protect the lives and property of all civilians. Acknowledging the deteriorating law and order situation, Biren shifted the blame on the central security forces for his shortcomings. He stated that the Central Security forces were not acting proactively, deliberately and selectively forgetting that the state forces were the most lethargic in not preventing the looting of arms from their armouries, and that the Meitei state forces were the ones conniving with the VBIGs and AT to attack the Kukis.

Meanwhile, Sujata Thokchom, Convenor of Imagi Meira, sharply criticized the BJP-led government under Chief Minister N. Biren Singh, highlighting the failure of the 60 lawmakers to adopt a clear stance to end the escalating violence and death toll in Manipur over the past eight months. Frustrated with the government's inability to provide a clear explanation, she urged the lawmakers to address the pressing issues affecting the state. Commenting on reports of lawmakers contemplating resignation, Sujata called for discretion in such decisions, advocating for a smoother transition and cautioning against dramatic resignations in light of capable individuals available for the Chief Minister's position.



## Advice of TLM to Meitei CM Biren:

Resignation can also be tendered via fax/ email/ post. The CM is requested to explore these options.

# LICYPRIYA KANGUJAM'S TRANSFORMATION: FROM CLIMATE ADVOCATE TO FUNDRAISER OF MEITEI MILITIAS

Self-Styled Environmental activist Licypriya Kangujam, known for her global advocacy on climate issues, has taken an unexpected turn by actively promoting anti-Kuki sentiments in Manipur and engaging in fundraising for the Meitei militias, specifically Arambai Tenggol, through various social media platforms. Licypriya is not only vocal in her support but is also involved in procuring high-tech drones and other warfare equipment for the said militias, intending to deploy them against the Kuki people.

This shift in Licypriya's stance, from a renowned climate activist to openly endorsing a terror group and participating in terror funding, raises concerns about the ethical alignment of her actions. Raising funds for terrorist activities and acts of violence is unequivocally considered a serious crime under various national and international legal frameworks. Section 17 of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 explicitly declares that raising funds for violence and terrorism is a punishable offense. However, the Government of Manipur has chosen not only to remain silent on the matter but has also lauded her as a patriotic figure. Licypriya's public acknowledgment of acquiring drones for use in the current Manipur crisis is further problematic, given that Indian drone regulations strictly prohibit the use of advanced drones by civilians or civil organizations.

The longstanding Meitei and Kuki Divide in Manipur has deep-rooted historical and socio-political complexities, making reconciliation challenging, as the wounds inflicted go beyond physical injuries to affect the very soul of the communities involved. The central government's silence on the ongoing civil unrest in Manipur adds to the tension, reflecting a politics of majoritarianism against the minority Kuki community. The ramifications of this silence may exacerbate the strife-torn state's instability if not addressed promptly.

Licypriya, who has often advocated for climate change, is now under scrutiny regarding her true identity



as a Climate Activist. She has been observed, in numerous instances engaging and promoting hate-filled content against a specific community. Additionally, there are concerns about her involvement in fundraising activities aimed at harming a particular community. The term "activist" typically implies a commitment to humanity, making it perplexing for someone claiming to be an activist to be associated with such inhumane actions.

It is evident that the driving force behind these questionable activities is her conniving father, Dr. Kangujam Karnajit, who has allegedly deceived numerous students through a fraudulent organization. He appears to be exploiting Licypriya's child-like fame to further his personal agenda and financial gains. Placing a 12-year-old child in the hands of an unscrupulous father who exploits her innocence raises serious ethical concerns.



# HAS NOT FOUND TIME TO VISIT MANIPUR: CONG SLAMS PM AFTER HIS STATEHOOD DAY WISHES

The Congress on Sunday attacked Prime Minister Narendra Modi after he greeted the people of Manipur on their statehood day, saying he has expressed his wishes through social media but 'has not found time nor thought it necessary' to visit the state which has gone through so much pain and agony since May 3 last year.

Congress General Secretary Jairam Ramesh also said violence persists and social harmony has been destroyed in the state, and alleged that the PM maintains his silence and refuses to meet political leaders and parties from the state.

The Congress leader's attack came after Modi, in a post on X, said, "On Manipur's Statehood Day, my best wishes to the people of the state. Manipur has made a strong contribution to India's progress." "We take pride in the culture and traditions of the state. I pray for the continued development of Manipur," he said.

In a post on X, Ramesh said, "The Prime Minister tweets on Manipur Statehood Day but has not found time nor thought it necessary to visit the state which has gone through so much pain and agony since May 3rd, 2023."

"The distress of the people of the state continues. Violence persists. Social harmony has been destroyed. But the PM maintains his silence and refuses to meet political leaders and parties from the state," the Congress General Secretary in-charge communications said.



"The good wishes he has expressed through social media are yet another demonstration of his hypocrisy," Ramesh said.



**The object of war is not to die for your country but to make the other bastard die for this.**

*– George. S Patton*

# PM WOULD'VE CONTROLLED MANIPUR VIOLENCE BY FOURTH DAY: RAHUL GANDHI IN ASSAM

Former Congress president Rahul Gandhi Sunday claimed that if there had been a prime minister of the grand old party, the violence in Manipur would have been controlled by the fourth day, news agency PTI reported.

The senior Congress leader was addressing a rally at Nagaon district of Assam as part of the Bharat Jodo Nyay Yatra. Accusing the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) of not interested in dousing the fire of ethnic violence in Manipur, Gandhi claimed that even PM Narendra Modi could control the violence in the Northeastern state within three days with the help of the Indian Army.

“Manipur has been burning for several months, but our prime minister hasn’t gone there till date. Had it been a Congress PM, he would have gone there in three days and the fire there would have been doused on the fourth day,” PTI quoted the former Congress president as saying.

“If the prime minister gives an order to the Army, in three days they can stop it. But, the BJP doesn’t want to douse



the fire. That’s why the PM doesn’t go there and order the Army to stop the ‘tamasha,’” he added.

The former Congress president claimed their workers and leaders were attacked by the BJP workers. Their vehicles were attacked and media persons accompanying the party’s Bharat Jodo Nyay Yatra were “manhandled” by the BJP crowd.

## THE BUZZ SOCIAL MEDIA

Voice Of The Hills  
@VoiceOfTheHill

In 45 days, 26 deaths in the Meiteis Community became a global concern. On May 4, 2023, the Kuki\_Zo death toll also reached 26, triggering speculation about Myanmar's involvement, even among those unfamiliar with the issue. #IndiaUnderAttack #MeiteiWarCrimes #ManipurViolence #SaveKuki\_Zo



11:18 AM · Jan 21, 2024 · 593 Views

BhaiPal  
@RayiCis

This pictures tells a thousand words.

The attackers of the hills Armbhai Tenggol leader and his goons, militant who daily taunt and die in the hills and cry foul when they do suffer for their own consequences now helped by wanna be Greta now to kill kuki Zo in the hill.

#Manipur



Aboriginal\_Kuki and 9 others

4:10 PM · Jan 21, 2024 · 852 Views



FEATURED ARTICLE

## The Scrapping of the Free Movement Regime is Unlikely to Serve India's Interests

David Hanneng

India's international boundary with Myanmar is around 1600 kilometres long. The Free Movement Regime (FMR), implemented by the Modi government in 2018 with the Burmese government, as the name suggests, allowed unhindered movement by people up to 16 kilometres on both sides.

Besides encouraging more interaction between the same ethnic communities living along the Indo-Myanmar border, it was also implemented with the hope of giving a fillip to India's ambitious Act East Policy. India's eastern corridor, incidentally, is the only border through which overland trade is feasible, and the government wants a slice of the Southeast Asian markets that are currently dominated by China.

While the current conflict in Manipur, the insurgency in the Northeast, and the imbroglio in Myanmar might have compelled the government to think of halting the FMR, one wonders if its withdrawal would reap any significant benefits.

So, given these factors, will scrapping the FMR and fencing the borders be in India's best interests?

### Communities Lived Together for Hundreds of Years Before Boundaries Divided Them

Apparently, the government's intended policy reversal stems from its desire to stop three things:

1. Illegal immigration
2. Insurgents in the Northeast using Myanmar as a safe haven
3. The inflow of drugs

However, in states like Mizoram and Nagaland, the opposition to the cancellation of the FMR needs to be understood in its historical context.

For hundreds of years, various communities, especially the hill tribes, lived in the undulating hills which are now separated by an international boundary. For instance, the Singphos of Arunachal Pradesh and the Kachins of Myanmar share very close cultural ties; the Nagas have people living on both sides of the border with a Naga Self-Administered Zone on the Myanmar side. The Chin-Kuki-Mizo (Zo) people have the Chin state besides controlling large parts of the Sagaing division. In India, besides Mizoram, they also live in other northeastern states, especially Manipur, which borders Myanmar.

The Meiteis are known as Kathe in Myanmar, and the Kabaw Valley was once under the suzerainty of the Manipuri Kings. Thus, the reality of communities living together for hundreds of years before different national and international boundaries divided them,

*Contd.*

*Contd.*

needs to be taken into consideration.

In an interesting case, in the Konyak Naga village of Longwa, the international boundary runs through the middle of the village Chief's house with one side in India and the other in Myanmar. The Rih Dil (lake) in the Chin State of Myanmar (that was bombed on 7 January by the Junta forces), which is about three kilometres from the Mizoram border, holds cultural and religious significance for the Chin-Kuki-Mizo (Zo) people.

While we talk only about people coming to India from Myanmar, reverse migration has also taken place over the years. The town of Kanan in the Chin State of has a considerable number of immigrants from India.

### **A Variety of Factors Need to be Considered**

If one revisits history, Burma (now Myanmar) became a part of British India after the third Anglo-Burmese War, only to be separated again in 1937. Unlike India's western border, where the Partition involved lots of bloodshed, Burma in the east had a relatively peaceful transition when it became a separately administered colony of Great Britain.

One of the reasons for this was that various communities, now divided by the 'artificial' boundary created by the British, could still move across the line freely as they had done for hundreds of years. They felt 'at home' in both the countries.

Moreover, even before the FMR was implemented in 2018, there was free movement across borders, and it is not known to have changed the demography of India since its independence. Instead of curbing and disrupting the age-old ethnic relations that exist in this borderland, shouldn't India instead think of developing closer ties to develop a natural 'buffer' in its eastern frontiers?

For one, in Myanmar's civil war, the tide is slowly turning in favour of the pro-democracy forces and the people who entered India might soon return. Secondly, the number of people who have migrated to India

(roughly 50,000-70,000) cannot be compared to the humungous migrations to Assam and West Bengal from Bangladesh in the past.

Moreover, even if India fences 1600 kilometres of the international border, manning and patrolling these porous borders in a hilly terrain like the Northeast is going to be very difficult, if not impossible.

After having to spend so much money on the western and northern frontiers, India will have to squeeze the limited defence budgets. Is it worth it? While it might prevent migrations and interactions among common people, will it stop those with illegal intentions in a region with such thick vegetation, ravines, and gorges? Unlikely.

### **India is Not the 'Promised Land' as It is Played Out to Be**

Additionally, fencing the border is in no way going to stop the violence that is purely within Manipur. Though a narrative has been created that the Chin-Kuki-Mizo groups are getting help from their ethnic kin in Myanmar, one must not forget that they themselves are facing the might of the military Junta.

Though an exact survey is yet to be carried out, those who entered Manipur are believed to be roughly around 3000, belonging to diverse ethnicities including Myanmar's majority Bamar community. They can't be held responsible for a conflict of this magnitude. India should look within for the problems in Manipur as the state continues to be on the edge even after eight months, instead of pinning the blame on some migrants who fled their country just to save their lives

Myanmar had often been used as a launch pad to attack the Indian armed forces. Since many Meitei secessionist groups hiding in Myanmar have now entered India, the central government would want to stop them from returning and bring them to the

Contd.

negotiating table. The recent peace agreement signed with a faction of the United National Liberation Front (UNLF) is a welcome development.

Trying to stop them from entering Myanmar again by fencing might be impractical. The insurgency problems in the Northeast are India's internal matter that needs a political solution, and Myanmar as a country has never been a threat to India. At best, India can use its leverage over the Junta government to not give a haven to these insurgents like they did with the Bhutanese government with respect to the United Liberation Front of Asom (ULFA).

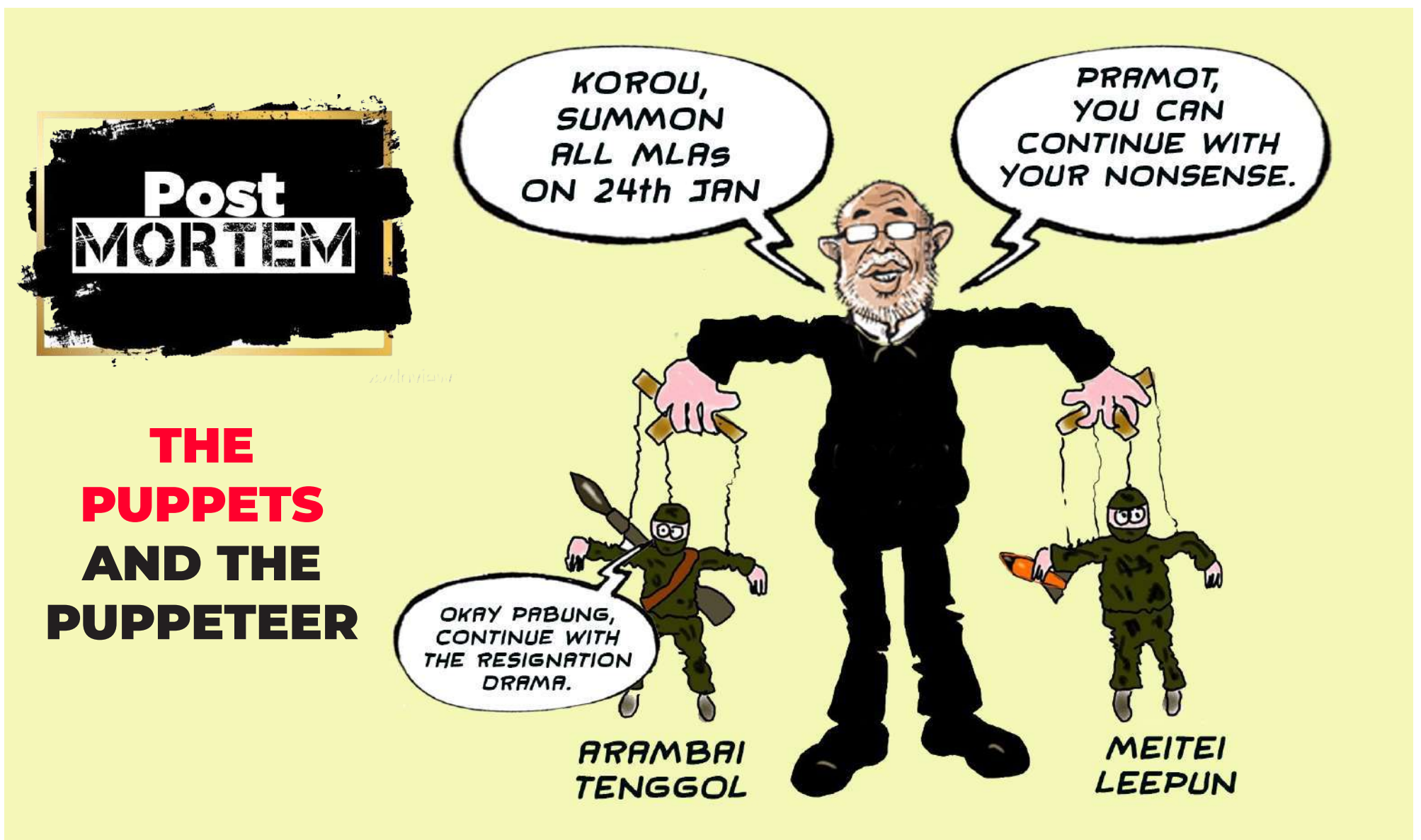
Many in India wrongly believe that it is an 'American dream' for the people of Myanmar to land in India. Since Myanmar is a much smaller country in terms of both size and population, many of the tribes fare much

better there. Henry Van Thio from Chin Hills has served as one of the Vice-Presidents of Myanmar under the National League for Democracy since 2016 — a position no tribal from Northeast India has held so far. Moreover, unlike Bangladesh, scarcity of cultivable land is not a problem in Myanmar.

India is not the 'promised land' for the Burmese people as it is played out to be, except for those who have been forced to flee the civil war.

First published by [The Quint](#)

*(Dr David Hanneng is Assistant Professor at Gushkara College, West Bengal, and is a Tata Samvaad Fellow. He writes on issues that affects the Northeast.)*





# This is Our Land and Not Yours!



We are well-versed in our own land.  
We need no hypocrites to preach to us,  
about how to take care of it.

In our land, we know  
how the seasons change,  
how the trees grow,  
how the plants resprout,  
how the sparrows hatch,  
how the butterflies metamorphose,  
and how the lilies bloom.

We need no laws of Wildlife Sanctuaries,  
Reserved Forests, National Parks  
to preserve our land.  
We can protect it ourselves.  
Yes, we can!  
We had taken care of it,  
for a thousand years,  
before you came to our land.

For a thousand years,  
we had taken care of our land,  
without your help.  
Yes, we had!  
Way before you exploited,  
our forests for timber, plywood,  
firewood, and many more.  
Yes! Way before,  
you discovered the minerals in our land.

Listen! You hypocrites.  
God blessed our land abundantly,  
with natural resources,  
for our children's children to inherit,  
not yours to snatch away from them.  
For this is our land, and not yours!

*~Jamminthang Lhungdim,  
M. Songgel*