SATURDAY | APRIL 27, 2024

ISSUE No. 221

Thing Khoze Media & Documentation Cell

KHONGSAI

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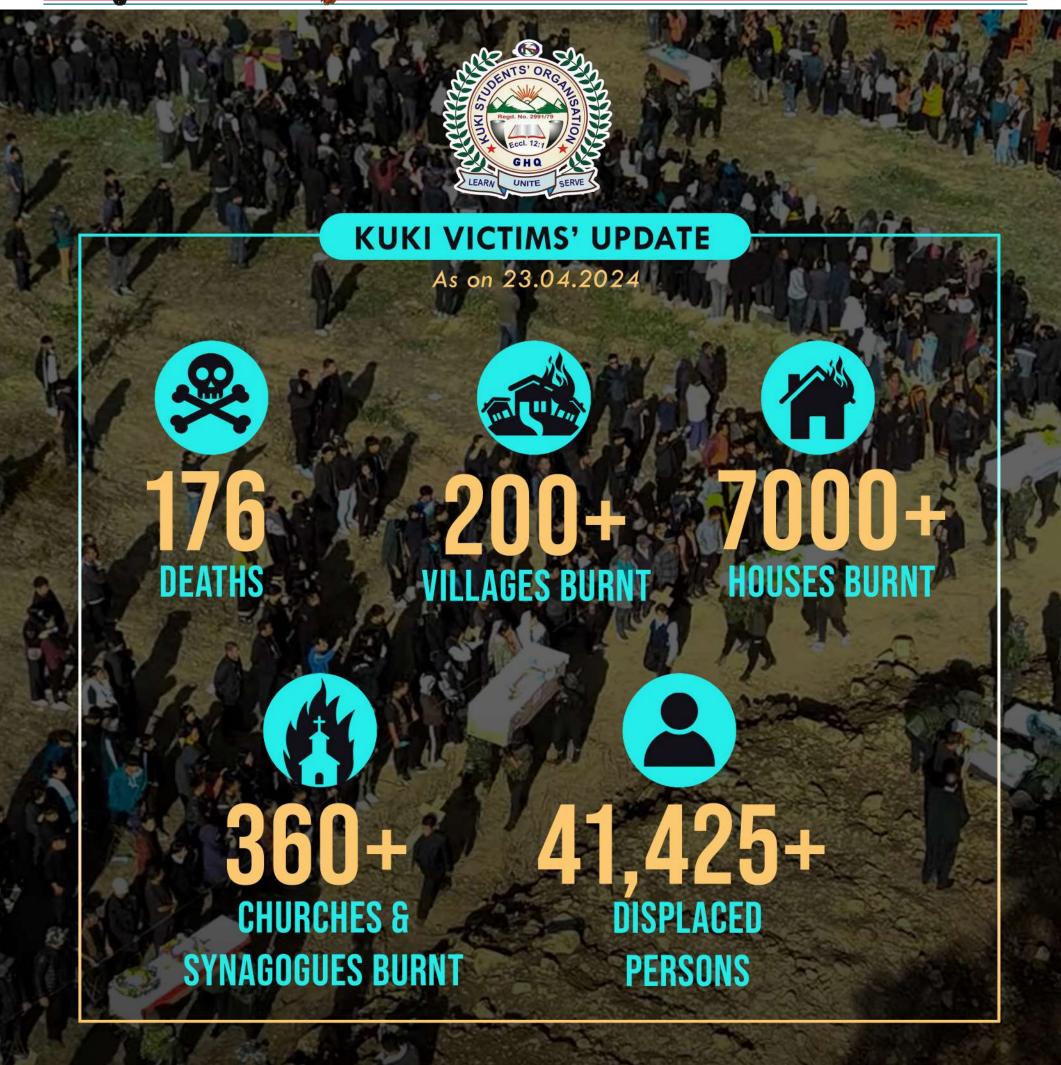


LAMMINLAL KHONGSAI (30 Y)

S/O NEHPAO KHONGSAI ADDRESS:HEBRON VENG, PHAIPIJANG, IMPHAL EAST DATE OF DEATH: 3RD MAY, 2023 PLACE OF DEATH: HEBRON VENG, PHAIPIJANG, IMPHAL EAST CAUSE OF DEATH: KILLED BY RADICAL MEITEI MILITANTS

Thingkho Le Malcha

ISSUE No. 221 SATURDAY | APRIL 27, 2024



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.





KUKI INPI MANIPUR REFUTES BASELESS ALLEGATIONS AGAINST KUKI VILLAGE VOLUNTEERS FOR ATTACK ON CRPF PERSONNEL

Refuting the baseless allegations against the Kuki village volunteers for the attack on CRPF personnel, the Kuki Inpi Manipur (KIM) has stated that the ruthless attack on IRBn (India Reserve Battalion) camp at Naranseina, Bishnupur District, by the Valley Based Insurgent Groups (VBIGs) resulting in the death of two CRPF personnel and the injury of several others was terrorising and deeply unfortunate.

In a statement issued on Saturday, the Kuki apex body said that the Central Security Forces have been in the forefront in protecting the lives of innocent civilians on both sides of the Buffer Zones and have been instrumental in ensuring public security, establishing social order, providing hope for restoration and normalcy amidst the ruins of the brutal ethnic cleansing perpetrated by the majority Meiteis against the minority Kukis.

Vehemently condemning such acts of terrorism against the Central Security Forces who have been providing safety and security to the people, the apex body of Kuki Tribes stated that such mindless activity is indicative of a total disregard for law and order and the impunity that the Valley-based Insurgent Groups (VBIGs) enjoys under the Manipur State Government.

Moreover, the Kuki Inpi Manipur is appalled by the swift finger-pointing against the Kuki Village Volunteers with regard to the merciless attack on the Central Security Forces, as highlighted by a few media establishments. "It is highly suspicious that this is a propaganda effort of the VBIGs to mislead the people and cast the Kukis in a negative light as a cover for their numerous antinational activities", it said.

Stressing that it was imperative for media organizations to uphold journalistic ethics by refraining from speculative reporting, the Kuki apex body said that media houses and its reporters should focus on thorough investigation and verification of facts before putting it out for the public.



PRESS RELEASE Lamka, the 27th April, 2024

04/KIM/PR./22-51: The ruthless attack on IRBn (India Reserve Battalion) camp at Naranseina, Bishnupur District, by the Valley Based Insurgent Groups (VBIGs) resulting in the death of two CRPF personnel and the injury of several others is terrorising and deeply unfortunate.

The Central Security Forces have been in the forefront in protecting the lives of innocent civilians on both sides of the Buffer Zones. The Security Forces have been instrumental in ensuring public security, establishing social order, and providing hope for restoration and normalcy amidst the ruins of the brutal ethnic cleansing perpetrated by the majority meiteis against the minority Kukis.

Therefore, the Kuki Inpi Manipur vehemently condemns such act of terrorism against the Central Security Forces who are providing safety and security for the people. Such mindless activity is indicative of a total disregard for law and order and the impunity that the Valley-based Insurgent Groups (VBIGs) enjoy under the Manipur State Government.

Moreover, the Kuki Inpi Manipur is appalled by the swift finger-pointing against the Kuki Village Volunteers for the merciless attack against the Central Security Forces, as highlighted by a few media establishments. It is highly suspicious that this is a propaganda effort of the VBIGs to mislead the people and cast the Kukis in a negative light as a cover for their numerous anti-national activities.

It's imperative for media organizations to uphold journalistic ethics by refraining from speculative reporting and instead focusing on thorough investigation and verification of facts. Rushing to assign blame without substantiated evidence not only risks misinforming the public but also perpetuates discord and mistrust within communities. As responsible stewards of information, journalists must prioritize accuracy and integrity in their reporting to ensure a more informed and nuanced understanding of complex situations like this.

At this solemn moment, Kuki Inpi Manipur stands in solidarity with the family of the bereaved CRPF personnel, and prays that such act of terrorism do not have a place in modern India.

Issued By: Department of Information and Publicity Kuki Inpi Manipur

"Rushing to assign blame without substantiated evidence not only risks misinforming the public but also perpetuates discord and mistrust within communities", KIM said, adding that as responsible stewards of information, journalists must prioritize accuracy and integrity in their reporting to ensure a more informed and nuanced understanding of complex situations such as this.

At this solemn moment, the Kuki Inpi Manipur through the statement expressed its solidarity to bereaved families of the deceased CRPF personnel, and pray that such acts of terrorism do not have a place in modern India.





COTU DENOUNCE BASELESS ACCUSATIONS IN CENTRAL FORCES ASSAULT, Says to lay hands on CF is against our own interests

The Kuki top body in Kangpokpi district, the Committee on Tribal Unity, or the CoTU, vehemently denounced the reckless finger-pointing from certain media outlets, including reputable ones, towards the Kuki community for the recent attack on central security forces.

The Committee in its press release stated that the depiction of the recent attack on CRPF personnel in Naranseina, under Moirang PS, Bishnupur District, as perpetrated by "Kuki Militants" in various national television channels like India Today, News X, and other reputable media platforms is deeply regrettable and misinformed.

The Committee pointed out that the area is two warring communities. predominantly inhabited by the Meitei community and there is no valid reason for the Kukis to encroach beyond the buffer zones but to protect our side of the geographical divide is the sole prerogative and not beyond. CoTU also pointed out that of Moirang PS, Bishnupur accountable for filing base Kuki village volunteers, for

It stated that upholding our side of the geographical divide is paramount, and the Kuki community has historically valued the neutrality of central security forces in safeguarding civilians from state-sponsored violence.

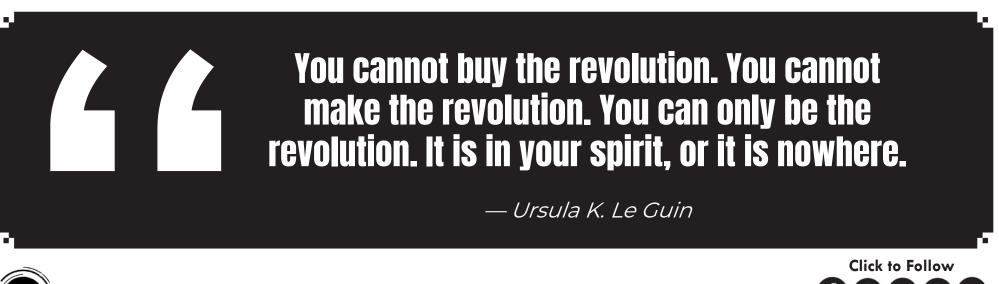
"Engaging in conflict with the Central Security Forces goes against our own best interests", asserted the Committee.



The committee further stated that the Meitei Community has a history of consistent and deliberate falsehoods over the past 11 months, combined with adept storytelling skills, in fabricating narratives against the Kuki community and their biased and untrue accounts in their media outlets have fueled greater animosity between the two warring communities.

CoTU also pointed out that the Officer in Charge of Moirang PS, Bishnupur District, must be held accountable for filing baseless FIRs against the Kuki village volunteers, for abusing his official capacity to persecute them.

CoTU while urging the national media to verify their sources and refrain from biased reporting, especially from regions known for such practices, stated that it is crucial to uphold journalistic ethics for fair and balanced reporting. The Committee also extend condolences to the families of the deceased CRPF personnel who were killed in the line of duty.



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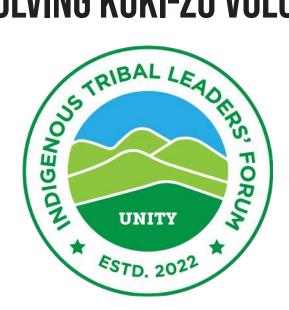
ITLF CONDEMNS ATTACK ON CENTRAL SECURITY FORCES; REFUTES UNSUBSTANTIATED MEDIA REPORTS OF INVOLVING KUKI-ZO VOLUNTEERS

The Indigenous Tribal Leaders' Forum (ITLF), a conglomerate of various Recognised Tribes in Lamka, Outer Manipur, vehemently condemned the attack on Kuki areas near Khoirentak in Manipur's Bishnupur district after midnight on Saturday (April 27, 2024), which resulted in the death of two CRPF personnel who were guarding the buffer zone.

In a statement issued on Saturday, ITLF has strongly refuted the unsubstantiated media reports blaming "Kuki militants" for launching the attack. "The information, based on a report by Manipur Police, should be taken with a pinch of salt as it is controlled by the Meitei government", it said, and requested the media fraternity to seek clarity from both sides before accepting the version of an openly biased party.

The tribal leaders clarified that it was rather the Meitei militants who launched the attack on tribal areas.

The Forum also said that the Kuki tribal community have always appreciated the presence of central security forces and they have lauded their efforts in protecting the lives of civilians. Just yesterday, tribal residents of



Gamgiphai in Kangpokpi district held a protest against the Home Ministry decision to de-induct security forces from the buffer zones and asked the stationed central security forces to not leave the area, it mentioned.

"It is the Meitei population which has repeatedly stopped central forces from conducting their peace keeping duty by blocking their movement while Meitei militants attack tribal villages", ITLF said. The forum condoled the death of the two brave CRPF jawans in the line of duty and prayed for the bereaved families.



MISCREANTS KILL 22-YEAR-OLD MEITEI MILITANT

A 22-year-old militant belonging to the Meitei community lost his life in an attack made by the miscreants at the ravine of Sinam Hills, the hotspot of the ongoing ethnic violence between the two warring communities in the state, officials said on Saturday.

The Sinam hills share a border with Kangpokpi district which is predominantly inhabited by the Kuki communities.

Laishram Boycha also called Prem, 22, a resident of pm on Friday and his body was recovered on the Sinam Mamang Leikai, under the Imphal East district deep ravine at around 7 am on Saturday. and son of L Olendro, died when he was reportedly hit by a bullet.

The Meitei militant fell into a deep gorge from the hill mortem, officials said. slope while fighting gunfire with the miscreants at 4:30



His body has been deposited at the state government-run JNIMS hospital, Imphal for post-



South Asian Christians @S AsianXtians

Last night 2 CRPF jawans were martyred by militants in Naransena, which is a Meitei region with presence of Arambai & UNLF. When Manipur security advisor Kuldiep Singh was asked about the suspects, this was his answer. So that means the report by partisan Manipur police was fake.







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BhaiPal @RayiCis

One news outlet is reporting based on suspicions, while another is discussing accusations from @manipur_police, known for being communal and bias.

It's safe to say that neither of these groups has clear evidence, and it falls more under hearsay than scientific evidence. #Manipur



jaita Singh 🧇 vijaita

PF personnel killed in Mani ur in an attack by Kuki mili · Police official said.

Arijit Nobody and 9 others

9:00 am · 27 Apr 24 · 4,947 Views



deployed at Naransena area in Bishnupur

cistrict in the state Manipur Police

Follow



ORDER FOR RE-POLL IN 6 POLLING STATIONS OF OUTER LS CONSTITUENCY

The Chief Electoral Officer of Manipur announced, on Saturday, the decision to conduct re-poll at six (6) polling stations in the Outer Manipur Lok Sabha constituency on April 30.

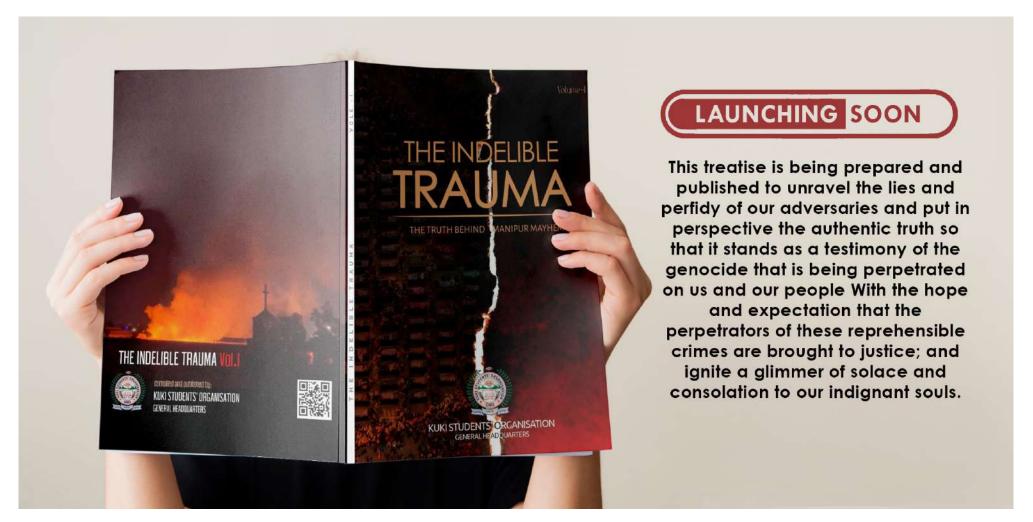
This action came in response to a directive from the Election Commission, declaring the previous polls held on April 26 at these stations null and void.

The affected polling stations include 4 polling stations under 44-Ukhrul (ST) Assembly Constituency, namely 44/20 –Shangshak (A), 44/36 Ukhrul (A), 44/41 Ukhrul (D-1)Moirangkampu Sajeb and Thongam Leikai in the Khurai constituency and 44/50 Ukhrul (F); 1 polling station under 45-Chingai (ST) Assembly Constituency – 45/14 – Chingai and one polling station in 47-Karong (ST) Assembly Constituency – 47/33 Oinam (A1).

Earlier, the Congress had demanded for re-polls in 17 polling stations, citing allegations of booth capturing and election rigging.



Manipur went for the second phase of Lok Sabha elections on Friday. Voting was held in all 13 assembly segments of the Outer Manipur parliamentary constituency. A total of 70.06 percent voter turnout was recorded as of 5 PM on the day of voting.







ARAMBAI TENGGOL MILITANTS SNATCH CAR BELONGING TO A Liangmai naga in imphal

In a relentless move by the Meitei radical groups and the militants to exert their dominance in the Meiteis' valley of Imphal, several incidents of crimes have been committed, with utter disregard for the law enforcement agencies.

There were also several instances of the radical groups confronting the state and central forces in valley areas. Besides the radical groups, the proscribed Meitei militants have also been imposing monetary demands on business establishments and non-local businessmen to feed their self-interest needs.

In the backdrop of the heightened tensions between the Kuki and Meitei communities, the self acclaimed "neutral communities" had also met the brunt of the armed Meitei radicals' atrocities, they had been tortured and harassed by the Majority Meitei community in Imphal. Incidents like the brutal killing of Lucy Marem, kidnapping of naga girls working in parlours and harassment of naga business women (vegetable sellers) are a few examples of the atrocities amongst others.

In a latest development, a swift car belonging to an individual from the Liangmei Naga community was snatched forcefully at gunpoint by five armed Meitei men at Nagamapal, situated in the heart of the capital city of Imphal.

According to the victim's testimony, he shouted and made attempts to make the people aware of the situation when the crime happened. But, the Meiteis nearby refused to react, knowing that the act was perpetrated by the Arambai Tenggol militants and that the victim does not belong to the Meitei community.

The incident once again, showed the complete breakdown of law and order in the valley. Although the Meiteis claimed that there is an absence of law and order in the hills, particularly in the Kuki dominated hills, there has been no reports of similar incidents happening in the hills.



It may be mentioned that the patron of the Arambai Tenggol, Maharaja Sanajaoba and his adviser N. Biren Singh has been ruling the Imphal valley by way of dictatorship. Despite the presence of abundant state forces and central forces, the Meitei radical groups and militants are allowed free movement in the valley, brandishing sophisticated weapons looted from the police stations.

Such act of unlawful activities are patronised by the Meiteis' titular king and Rajya Sabha MP, Leisemba Sanajaoba and the chief minister N. Biren Singh to stay in power, pretending to be the saviour of the Meitei community and the followers of their Sanamahi religion. They control the state machineries and several central security agencies as the home-minister, thereby allowing the radical groups to act to their whims and fancies with impunity.





Thingkho Le Malcha



Since the beginning of the current ethnic cleansing campaign, which has been spearheaded largely by the Arambai Tenggols, the Imphal based Meitei media houses have become minting places of fake news, propaganda, and one-sided news alone. Any violent incidents involving armed men have been blamed on the "Kuki militants."

Dissemination of such lies and fabricated information has been widely assisted by social media accounts handled by Meiteis and those sympathetic towards the dominant community. One simple example was how the Kuki militants were accused of committing the unfortunate incident at Lilong on New Year day where at least five Pangals (Manipur Muslims) were killed. And most of the national and international media houses who have been covering Manipur violence since May 3 are aware of this fact.

The manufacturing of fabricated news has been openly backed by state machineries including the DIPR, Manipur Police and the state government including the Meitei chief minister N. Biren Singh and some of his Meitei cabinet colleagues and legislators. neutral central forces were posted in the area, no such unfortunate incident took place. In the meantime, the first phase of the Lok Sabha poll, which covers the whole valley districts, was

In a very unfortunate incident that occurred on the intervening night of 26 and 27 April 2024, two CRPF personnel were killed and another three were injured in a deadly attack on the CRPF personnel posted at the 2nd IRBn at Naranseina in Bishnupur district. However,

what is more unfortunate is that the one-sided narrative war often manufactured by these Meitei media houses reached another low as it was quickly spread as an act committed by "Kuki militants" even before conducting a preliminary inquiry.

Incidents in the past two weeks beginning with the brutal murdered of two Kuki village volunteers (KVV) at Phailengmol Area in Kangpokpi district on 13 April, whose dead bodies are yet to be recovered, have shown that the extremists section of the Meitei community is desperate on concealing their crimes. In that incident, the two innocent KVV were allegedly killed, or injured, in a heavy bomb attack carried out by the Bihar Regiment in connivance with the Arambai Tenggols with whom they had a friendly meeting and joint operation together prior to the incident. Videos have been widely shared on social media. It may be noted that while neutral central forces were posted in the area, no such unfortunate incident took place.

In the meantime, the first phase of the Lok Sabha poll, which covers the whole valley districts, was scheduled on 19 April. A few days before the poll, the Arambai Tenggol, Meitei Leepun, and former BJYM President Barish Sharma and his gang, were actively engaged in various electoral malpractices

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including issuing dictates, disturbing election meetings for Congress candidate Dr. A. Bimol Akoijam and circulation of voice messages, all in favour of the BJP candidate. The series of incidents including gunshots near polling stations, the threatening of Congress workers, physical assault on voters and polling agents belonging to parties/candidates other than the BJP, and the alleged booth capturing in many polling stations, led to the destruction of EVMs and polling booths in many polling stations. This eventually resulted in a repoll in 11 polling stations on 22 April.

Perhaps to continue their assault on the Kuki areas, and at the same time, to cover-up their numerous crimes, the Meitei armed militants have attacked Luwangsanggol & Phaileng villages along Gamgiphai border areas in Kangpokpi district, which is a border area with Sekmai in Imphal West district, for two consecutive days on 24-25 April. This was followed by another assault on the Sinam Kom areas of Saikul subdivision in Kangpokpi district on the afternoon of 26 April, the day the second phase of polling for the Lok Sabha elections was held. It is worth noting that the news about the withdrawal of Central Forces from Gamgiphai area was vehemently opposed by the people of Kangpokpi, and a protest rally was held to stop them from leaving this strategic location on that very day.

In the evening, while the KVVs guarding the buffer zones in Sinam Kom & Thingsat areas remained alert contemplating another assault by the Meitei militants, an attack was carried out on the CRPF personnel posted in the 2nd IRBn at Naranseina at around 12:30 am. From the geographical point of view, Naranseina is a Meitei dominated locality, and for the alleged armed Kukis to carry out such a deadly attack, they must first pass through a few Meitei localities who are expected to be on high alert. Moreover, there are enough Central Forces including the Sikh Regiment nearby. So, it is simply illogical to assume that the "Kuki militants" would have carried out such an assault on the Central Forces whom they begged to continue guarding the buffer zones earlier in the day.

Moreover, these CRPF personnel are stationed alongside the IRB personnel who are presumed to be mostly from the Meitei community. Therefore,

Kuki militants attacking the Central Forces and leaving the state forces untouched is simply absurd.

Notably, this IRB post has been under attack by armed Meitei militias along with unruly mobs on several occasions in the past. And this is why the Central Forces were stationed there to keep an eye on the movement of not only Meitei militants but also the violent mobs who may have made an attempt to loot the arms and ammunition anytime.

Mentioned may be made that, in one such attempt in August 2023, nearly 300 arms and thousands of ammunition were looted from the 2nd IRBn at Naranseina. In January this year, another attempt was made which resulted in a heavy exchange of fire between the Central Forces and Meitei Militants. In the said incident, a Meitei youth named Pebam Sanatoba was reportedly injured, who later succumbed to his injury on 20 January.

However, in total disregard of media ethics and ignoring the series of incidents that unfolded in the IRBn at Naranseina and elsewhere, the Meitei media starting from Imphal Free Press (IFP) directly pointed fingers on their favourite villain "Kuki militants" for carrying out the midnight assault on the CRPF. The dissemination of this particular fabricated news was done in a wellplanned manner that even before the Kuki CSOs could react to this dastardly act, it reached many of the national media. Even the Manipur Police filed an FIR against unspecified "Kuki militants".

However, after having learnt the real motive behind the dissemination of the said news, a few national media have edited their news item later, replacing the Meiteis' favourite words "Kuki militants" to some other appropriate terms. For months, the national media have been thought to be aware of the unethical reporting often made by Meitei journalists, Manipur Police, and Imphal based Meitei media outlets. But this time, it was executed in such a well-orchestrated manner that many of the national media once again succumbed to the

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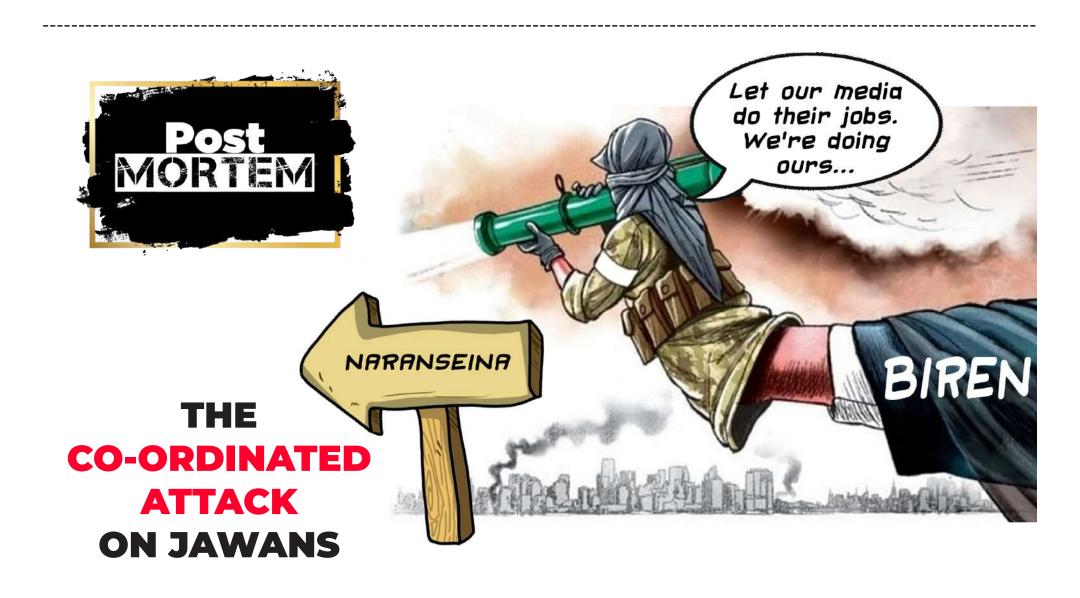
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evil design of the Meiteis while wanting to sensationalise the unfortunate incident involving the loss of at least two Jawans with three others seriously injured.

Even while this piece is being written for publication, a large number of armed Meitei militants are reportedly moving towards the Kuki villages in Leimakhong, Kangchup and Thingsat areas with an aim to carry out a series of attacks. And, let me remind you all, the Meitei media, including social media handles, will always blame the "Kuki militants" for any firing incident that occurs in the border areas between the Kuki and the Meitei dominated areas.

While it is not unexpected that the Meiteis always put the blame on the Kukis for all the firing incidents in the buffer zones, it is slightly too far to believe that an incident that happened well within their territory was also blamed on the "Kuki militants." In this regard, the national media houses are advised to crosscheck their reports before believing in any input made by the Meiteis—be it the Manipur Police, DIPR, Imphal based Meitei medias, and Meitei journalists.

To sum up, the series of incidents that unfolded in the last two weeks or so, including the midnight assault on the CRPF personnel at Naranseina, is nothing but an attempt to divert the attention of the Meitei populace and the nation. In other words, all these attempts are not just to annihilate the minority Kuki tribals, but also to cover-up the crime against humanity they have committed all throughout during the last 12 months as the first anniversary, which falls on May 3, is approaching.







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The Brave Ones

St Kuki

Thingkho Le Malcha

"In the hills and valleys of our land, Where freedom's cry echoes through the sand, Our Kuki brothers stood brave and true, Fighting for our future, fighting for you.

With every step, with every breath, They faced the enemy, they faced death, But their hearts were strong, their spirits bold, For they knew what they fought for, they knew what they held.

Tahchapa, our brave brothers, led the way, With courage in their hearts, they charged into the fray, Their weapons were their courage and might, Their armor was their conviction and right.

But most of all, they put their trust in God above, Their faith was their shield, their hope was their love, They knew that He was with them, through every fight, And that gave them strength, to keep on fighting for what's right.

Their sacrifice will never be in vain, For they gave their lives to keep us safe from pain, Their memory will live on, their legacy too, For they are the heroes, who fought for me and you.

We honor their courage, we honor their name, We remember their sacrifice, we remember their flame, May their souls rest in peace, may their hearts be free, For they are the brave ones, who fought for our liberty."