

Thingkho *Le* Malcha

A Daily Newsletter by KSO Media & Documentation Cell



AWAITING JUSTICE



L. MANGKHANSIAM NGAIHTE (28 YEARS)

S/O NENGKHENTHANG

ADDRESS: LAMZANG, LAMKA

DATE OF DEATH: 20TH MAY, 2023

PLACE OF DEATH: LAMKA

CAUSE OF DEATH: SUCCUMBED TO HIS INJURY FROM 3 MAY 2023 INCIDENT



KUKI VICTIMS' UPDATE

As on 22.07.2024



191
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.

CoTU, KSO DEMAND IMMEDIATE RELEASE OF MANGMINLAL KIPGEN; QUESTIONS IRB AND VBIG'S ACTION

The Committee on Tribal Unity (CoTU) has issued a scathing statement criticizing the Central Government's peace initiatives in Manipur, stating that these efforts will remain futile unless Chief Minister N. Biren Singh curbs the violent actions of armed militias and radical Meitei mobs targeting minorities. The Committee emphasized the urgent need for the Chief Minister to address the ongoing atrocities and hate speech directed at the Kuki-Zo community.

The Committee's statement follows a disturbing incident on July 27th, when Mr. Mangminlal Kipgen, a person with a hearing disability and mental health issues, was abducted by a Meitei mob from a paddy field in Tuibong, Lamka (Churachandpur). He was subsequently handed over to the Indian Reserve Battalion (IRB) in Naranseina, who in turn transferred him to armed Meitei militants.

The Committee highlighted that the detention and mistreatment of vulnerable individuals, including women, children, and people with disabilities, are unacceptable and urged both communities to uphold civility and decency in their conduct.

In a strong appeal, the Committee on Tribal Unity called for the immediate and unconditional release of Mr. Mangminlal Kipgen from the custody of the armed Meitei militants. Additionally, they demanded punitive action against the IRB personnel involved in the deliberate handover of Mr. Kipgen, placing him in grave danger.

Meanwhile, the Kuki Students' Organisation (KSO) General Headquarters has raised serious concerns over the detention of Mr. Mangminlal Kipgen, a resident of Kipgen Veng, Tuibong, Churachandpur. Mr. Kipgen, who suffers from hearing impairment and mental unsoundness, accidentally crossed



the buffer-zone between Churachandpur and Bishnupur districts on the night of July 27, 2024.

The next morning, he was apprehended by a mob in a paddy field and subsequently handed over to the Indian Reserve Battalion (IRB) in Naranseina, Bishnupur District. The KSO has questioned the IRB's decision to transfer Mr. Kipgen to the VBIGs, despite his evident vulnerabilities.

Despite assurances from the Central Security Forces regarding Mr. Kipgen's release, 24 hours have passed without any action. The KSO is demanding answers for the delay in his rescue, especially given that the VBIGs have signed a Suspension of Operations (SoO) pact with the Government.

The KSO has highlighted a similar incident from the previous year, where two Meiteis who had crossed the buffer-zone were captured at Khausabung but were released in good faith by the Kuki Village Volunteers. The organisation is appealing to the Central Forces for the immediate and safe return of Mr. Mangminlal Kipgen, emphasizing his role as a Village Volunteer with no criminal background.

"We urge the Central Security Forces to act promptly and ensure the safe and sound release of Mr. Mangminlal Kipgen without further delay," stated the KSO General Headquarters.

UPF, KNO PLEDGE TO ERADICATE DRUG MENACE

In a significant move towards creating a healthier and more respectable environment, the United People's Front (UPF) and the Kuki National Organization (KNO) have jointly resolved to eradicate poppy cultivation, drug trafficking, and drug abuse from their lands. The two organizations have declared their united stand against these issues, describing the drug menace as a plague that must be completely eliminated.

In their communique, UPF and KNO have called for the cooperation of various community bodies, including Church organizations, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), Chief Associations, and the general public. They emphasized that the success of this noble endeavor relies heavily on collective efforts.



The appeal aims to establish a healthy and sound society, ensuring a better today and a promising future for the coming generations. The UPF and KNO's commitment marks a pivotal step in the fight against drug-related issues in the region, and their call for community support highlights the importance of united action in achieving this goal.

MAHARASHTRA MAY FACE MANIPUR-LIKE SITUATION: SHARAD PAWAR

Nationalist Congress Party (SP) president Sharad Pawar expressed concern that Maharashtra could witness Manipur-like situation.

The statement of Pawar that Maharashtra could face Manipur-like disturbances - in the backdrop of the reservation row - snowballed into a political issue. The ruling BJP hit out at the veteran politician saying that people would give him an answer in the forthcoming Maharashtra Legislative Assembly polls.

“For our country to develop and strengthen its economy, social unity is essential. The current situation of tension and division is alarming. The growing discord in the country requires unity beyond caste, religion and language,” Pawar said addressing a Social Unity Conference on Sunday evening.

According to Pawar, it is the responsibility of the government to ensure that there is social unity. Pawar's statement assumes significance in Maharashtra in the wake of the demand for Maratha reservation under the Kunbi category and the resistance from OBC who feel that it would dilute their existing quota. The impact



of the reservation issue was felt in the Lok Sabha election and it is also set to dominate the Vidhan Sabha polls.

Reacting to Pawar's comments, state BJP president Chandrashekar Bawankule said: “Pawar said that there would be violence, communal riots in Maharashtra. I feel that a leader, who did politics for 40 years, should not defame the state. Devendra Fadnavis is capable of controlling any situation. Pawar is defaming the state for politics. I urge him to not stoop to this level. People will answer him in the upcoming elections.”

ANSAM CONDEMNS VIOLENT ATTACK ON NAGAS IN IMPHAL; NSCN-IM POINTS FINGER AT UNLF (P)

The All Naga Students Association Manipur (ANSAM) and the NSCN-IM today issued statements condemning the July 26 incident which occurred at Ocean Lounge, Khuman Lampak in Imphal at around 9 pm.

According to ANSAM, one student identified as Leishithem Mangkung of Loushing village was physically harassed by the armed gang with a gun at her work place, while six others were mercilessly attacked with a gun and beaten-up, one among the six severely injured, Sochihan Hungyo of Kashung Village, has been hospitalized due to critical bullet wound on his head.

While terming the incident as ‘barbaric act’ against the innocent Naga civilians, the apex Naga student body said “the continual ill-famed activities of the armed gangs who are lawlessly operating in the capital city of Manipur, repeatedly and will-fully perpetrated towards the peace loving Nagas in the state of Manipur without sparing women and innocent students is anti-thetical in today’s democratic society and highly condemnable by all concern Social Organizations.”

“Such uncivilized act of violence against women and the horrific attack on six other innocent students including one from Meitei community highlights the fact that women are not respected and innocent civilians are not safe in the state capital Imphal as the numbers of self style armed groups are unceasingly trying to take law into their hands. These anti-peace elements looming in the state must be checked and Government must take immediate steps to stop all these unlawful activities in the state.”

ANSAM also called upon the government to initiate prompt and impartial enquiry to the incident and deal stringently in accordance to the law of the land.

Meanwhile, the NSCN-IM has accused the UNLF (Pambei) group of attacking a young Naga woman



and six others on July 26 in Imphal. The NSCN-IM has asked the former to “keep a tight rein” on its cadres within the group if at all justice is to be done.

In a statement issued today, the NSCN-IM said, “It is very unfortunate and shocking to learn of the incident that took place on the night of July 26, 2024 at The Ocean Lounge, Khuman Lampak, Imphal, where a young Naga lady along with her six friends were physically assaulted with arms by some members belonging to UNLF(Pambei) group, Imphal valley based organization”.

The NSCN-IM also said the way the “unruly members” of UNLF (Pambei) attacked a young Naga lady who was verbally abused, mishandled and followed by physical molestation and even brandishing fire arms and beating up severely to the other six friends who came to rescue her is highly condemnable”.

The NSCN-IM then questioned, “Is it not a crime to assault, molest and outrage the modesty of a woman?” The NSCN-IM then said this act of violence committed against the innocent civilians is “not acceptable in our society”.

ASSAM, MEGHALAYA, MANIPUR AND SIKKIM IN NORTHEAST GET NEW GOVERNORS

Former Lok Sabha MP from Assam, Ramen Deka has been appointed as Governor of Chhattisgarh while former Deputy CM of Tripura Jishnu Dev Varma has been appointed Governor of Telangana.

70-year-old Deka served as Lok Sabha MP for two consecutive terms from 2009 to 2014 and from 2014 to 2019. In the 2019 Lok Sabha Election, he was denied a party ticket by the BJP.

Sikkim Governor Lakshman Prasad Acharya has been appointed Governor of Assam and has also been given an additional charge of the Governor of Manipur.

Assam Governor Gulab Chand Kataria has been appointed as Governor of Punjab and also Administrator of the Union Territory of Chandigarh.

Senior BJP leader from Rajasthan and former Rajya Sabha MP O P Mathur has been appointed Governor of Sikkim. Former Lok Sabha MP from Karnataka C H Vijayshankar has been appointed Governor of Meghalaya.

President Draupadi Murmu on Saturday night appointed Governors to nine states, stating that the dates of appointment would be effective from the date they take charge.



Veteran BJP leader Santosh Gangwar has been appointed Governor of Jharkhand.

Former Maharashtra Assembly Speaker and BJP leader Haribhau Kisanrao Bagde has been appointed Governor of Rajasthan.

Retired IAS officer K Kailashnathan has been appointed Lt Governor of Puducherry.

C P Radhakrishnan, Governor of Jharkhand with an additional charge of Telangana, will now be Governor of Maharashtra. (NE Now News)



**We prefer self-government with
danger to servitude in tranquility.**

- Kwame Nkrumah

NAGAS CONTINUE TO BEAR THE BRUNT OF MEITEI ATROCITIES IN IMPHAL VALLEY

The Nagas, who are maintaining a neutral stance in this ongoing conflict, have continued to bear the brunt of Meitei atrocities ever since violence broke out in the state of Manipur, and has been often at the receiving end of Meitei radical group and militant's violent action. There have been countless crimes committed against the Naga innocent civilians – killing, kidnapping, extortion and forced renaming of their shops in Meitei Mayek.

In a shocking and brazen attack on the Nagas, UNLF Pambei faction unleashed terror at The Ocean Lounge, a popular venue in Khumanlampak opposite ISBT Imphal on the night of July 26th. The incident, which left eight people injured, including one critically hospitalized with a gunshot wound, has sent shockwaves through the Naga community, raising urgent concerns about public safety and law enforcement in the area.

Around 9 PM, the attack unfolded as described by Eli Leishithem Mangkung of Loushing village, a young employee at The Ocean Lounge. Leishithem, a diligent college student supporting her younger siblings, recounted her harrowing experience that evening. According to her, six men entered the lounge and began harassing her while she attended to customers. The men pressured her with inappropriate questions and unsolicited offers of food, escalating to physical intimidation when she attempted to disengage.

Leishithem's ordeal intensified when she sought help from the lounge manager, who advised her to leave as her shift was getting over for her safety. Upon calling a friend to pick her up, the situation took a violent turn. As her friend arrived, two of the assailants confronted him without provocation, brandished a firearm, fired a warning shot, and began assaulting him. The ensuing chaos drew the attention of nearby residents, many of whom belonged to the Tangkhul community. However, the armed group, displaying a shocking disregard for human life, fired additional shots to intimidate the crowd.

Witnesses and reliable sources suggest that the attackers are members of a faction known as the Valley



SoO group, notorious for their violent behavior and frequent intimidation of local residents, particularly at night. The assailants' actions have left the community in fear, highlighting the ongoing issues of illegal firearms and militant activities in the region.

The victims of the attack, who suffered various injuries, include Chanhor Hungyo of Irong, Somaya Shimpui of Ringpam, Chingyaso Valui of Teinem, Dinos Rajkumar of Chingmeiring, Lanchemba Abonmei of Mapao Thangkai, and D. Pousui of Phaibung village. Sochihan Hungyo of Kashung was the most severely injured, hospitalized with a critical gunshot wound to the head.

Eli Leishithem, the young woman who was harassed, has been particularly affected by the incident. A hard-working student from Loushing village, She juggles her studies and evening work to support her younger siblings after the loss of their parents. This traumatic experience has not only shattered her sense of security but also disrupted her earnest efforts to provide for her family.

The incident has sparked outrage and demands for justice within the Naga community. An FIR has been lodged at the Lamphel Police Station, citing multiple sections of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, and the Arms Act of 1959. These charges include offenses related to assault, unlawful assembly, and the illegal possession and use of firearms.

**NEWS ANALYSIS**

Dubious Reports of N. Biren Singh Meeting With PM Modi: Another Ploy of Saving His Face?

Without displaying photographic evidence of the Meiteis' Chief Minister N. Biren Singh's one-on-one meeting with the Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi, on July 28, there have been serious doubts that the meeting actually took place in New Delhi.

The reports of their meeting have raised more serious questions than answers as details of the meeting remain murky. Is it another drama created by the narcissistic Chief Minister N. Biren Singh just to save his image from the Meitei populace?

Before heading to the National capital to attend NITI Aayog Governing Council's Meeting and BJP-ruled States' CM Conclave, the Meiteis' CM Biren had stressed the urgency of meeting the Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, in New Delhi.

The National media houses have reported that CM Biren had a closed-door session with Prime Minister Modi. It was also mentioned that Home Minister Amit Shah and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh were present.

Sources indicated that Prime Minister Modi did not attend the second day of the Chief Ministers' meeting but was present on the first day, where critical development issues were reportedly discussed. As per reports, the short closed door session held in its sideline

was specially scheduled to discuss the Centre and state's plans and roadmap for a possible solution to the ongoing crisis.

However, the lack of official statements or even a photograph from the CM or the PMO on social media has left the public in the dark about the specifics of those purported crucial interactions. The fact is that there is no confirmation of a separate, one-on-one meeting between the two leaders.

As N. Biren Singh, the Chief Minister of Kangleipak, is a pathological liar who often creates false propaganda in pursuit of his power struggle among the insane Meitei populace, no one takes his words seriously anymore. His purported meeting with the Prime Minister after 15 months of the state-sponsored ethnic pogrom against the minority Kukis is also believed to be a hoax.

Interestingly, Senior Congress leader Jairam Ramesh has also raised concerns about whether Manipur Chief Minister N Biren Singh had a private discussion with Prime Minister Narendra Modi regarding the ongoing crisis in Manipur.

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Jairam Ramesh specifically asked whether Chief Minister Biren Singh discussed the critical situation in Manipur with Prime Minister Modi. Ramesh's inquiries aimed to clarify whether the Prime Minister has been directly involved in addressing the crisis.

Additionally, Ramesh questioned if Chief Minister Biren Singh had invited Prime Minister Modi to visit Manipur, either before or after his recent trip to Ukraine. The Congress leader's questions underscored concerns about the central government's engagement with the issues facing Manipur.

While the secrecy surrounding the meeting between CM Biren and PM Modi is doing the rounds in social media platforms and political circles, there is a lack of transparency to address the civil war situation in Manipur. It is time for the Prime Minister's Office

(PMO) and the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), Government of India, to act with transparency, urgency, and solve the legitimate political demand of the Kukis for Union Territory with Legislature under the ambit of the Constitution.

Mentioned may be made that immediately after Lok Sabha elections results, HM Amit Shah had held a high-level security review of the state in June, attended by Union Home Secretary Ajay Bhalla, Intelligence Bureau Chief Tapan Deka, Army Chief General Manoj Pande, Army Chief (Designate) Lt General Upendra Dwivedi, GoC 3 Corps H S Sahi, Security Adviser to Manipur Kuldeep Singh, Manipur Chief Secretary Vineet Joshi, Manipur DGP Rajiv Singh and Assam Rifles DG Pradeep Chandran Nair. However, the Meitei CM N. Biren Singh was not invited to attend that meeting.

TODAY IN HISTORY/EVENTS RECALLED: JULY 28 & 29, 2023

A RECAP OF THE HORRIFIC INCIDENTS ON JULY 28 & 29, 2023 AS A RESULT OF PRE-PLANNED STATE-SPONSORED ETHNIC CLEANSING POGROM AGAINST KUKI-ZO

28TH JULY, 2023

Meiteis armed groups launched an attack on Laika village in the Kangvai area of Lamka district at approximately 6:00 PM. Multiple rounds of bullets were fired from the Meiteis' side. However, their assault was met with staunch resistance from the village volunteers, prompting the attackers to retreat.

There have been no reported casualties in this incident.

In a tense and alarming development, a convoy of 11 Bullet Proof vehicles, suspected to be carrying Arambai Tenggol cadres and Manipur Commandos, attempted to forcefully enter Moreh. This provocative move was met with resolute opposition at Tengnoupal by Kuki-Zo women who stood their ground.

These women demonstrated their unwavering resolve by protesting throughout the night, even taking their meals and resting on the road. Their unified demand is clear: the withdrawal of state forces from Kuki-Zo Hills. The presence of these forces in Moreh has already disrupted the peace, and the decision to deploy additional personnel raises concerns.

29TH JULY, 2023

Women folks of Tengnoupal stood their ground demanding the withdrawal of Manipur police commandos sent as reinforcement to Moreh. Their presence in the border town disturbs the peace, only giving fear to the residents of the town.



**FEATURED ARTICLE**

The Issue of Greater Nagaland and Greater Mizoram

The Indelible Trauma

Manipur shares border with Nagaland to the North, Mizoram in the South, Assam in the West and also shares an international border with Myanmar in the East. There are significant Naga populations in Manipur inhabiting in the districts of Ukhrul, Tamenglong, Senapati, Chandel, Kamjong and Noney whereas the former three is contiguous with Nagaland. The Kuki-Zo districts of Churachandpur and Pherzawl shares border with Mizoram state towards the South. The affinity that existed between the people living in Manipur and those of the neighboring states has greatly impacted Manipur's relationship with its neighboring states.

When NNC was formed many Naga youths from Manipur joined the arm-struggle. Their demand for a sovereign Nagaland was to be done at the expense of Manipur, Assam and Arunachal Pradesh. Manipur had to face the maximum brunt owing the presence of significant number of cadres from the state and the huge chunk of territory it will lose.

Toward the south many of the Kuki-Zo group from Manipur had joined Mizos struggle for independence which also included the integration of Kuki-Zo

inhabited areas to the scheme of greater Mizoram. Both the armed-struggle in its two neighboring states found reverberations in Manipur as both the demand had to be fulfilled by dismembering Manipur. With the signing of the historic Mizo Accord in the year 1985 all was quite in the southern border and the demand for 'Greater Mizoram, wilted away.

While it's southern border had experience peace and tranquility but all was not well in its northern border of Nagaland which was rocking with the roll of gunfire and fusillades of bombs. The historic Shillong Accord that was signed on 11th, November, 1975 between the government of India and the Naga rebels could not bring a lasting solution to the armed-struggle rather dissident groups within the rebels came up who were deadly opposed to the accord. A breakaway faction of the NNC was formed under the leadership of Isaak Shwu, SS Khaplang and Th Muivah called the NSCN. Later major disagreement cropped up between the leadership and the NSCN split into two with SS Khaplang forming the NSCN-K

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and the combination of Isaak Shwu and Th. Muivah forming the NSCN-IM on 30th April, 1988.

After years of blood-splattering struggle for supremacy between the two factions NSCN-IM wrested control of most of Nagaland and Manipur state by pushing its arch-rival to Mon District and few pockets of Nagaland. The preponderance of Manipur-based NSCN-IM in both Manipur Hills and Nagaland state became a perennial source of law & order problems and thus giving migraines to the government of Manipur.

The NSCN-K was amenable with Meitei-based insurgents groups of Manipur especially with UNLF, PREPAK, PLA and KCP thus leading to the formation of Indo-Burma Revolutionary Front (IBRF), which also included United liberation Front of Assam (ULFA), in 1990. It aims to build a united struggle for the independence of Manipur, Assam and Nagaland including parts of Myanmar.

With NSCN-IM having attained ascendancy in the Naga armed-movement in space and muscles the agenda of 'Greater Nagaland' which included the Naga inhabited areas of Manipur became strident day by day. The signing of the historic ceasefire in August 1997 with the government of India and the existence of a parallel government run by NSCN –IM in the state of Nagaland only adds to the misery of Manipur government. The amenable and seasoned politician of Nagaland, SC Jamir, a staunch critic of NSCN-IM and who was said to be close to SS Khaplang was deposed in favor of Naga people's Front's, led by Neiphiu Rio in the year 2003. It is an open secret that NPF was bolstered by NSCN-IM.

On June 14, 2001 the government of India declared that its three-year old ceasefire with NSCN-IM would

no longer be confine to Nagaland alone and to be extended to all Naga-inhabited areas of North-East India including Manipur. The Meitei community of Manipur fulminated against the decision and opposed it violently. On June 18, an estimated 1,00,000 protestors came out on the streets and mayhem was witnessed. Thirteen protestors were shot dead by the shot dead by the security forces and which in turn triggered massive unrest in Imphal valley. However, Nagas took the Meitei community stance as an infringement of its sovereign rights and denounced the violence towards the Naga people in Imphal valley. Thus, Manipur-Nagaland relationship hit the rock bottom.

The National Highway-2, a 203 stretch km distance which runs from Imphal, the capital city of Manipur till Dimapur, the commercial hub of Nagaland pass through around 150km of Naga inhabited areas. This highway, the lifeline of Manipur is rife with bandh and. It was seen that many of the economic blockades launched by UNC, ANSAM found active support from Naga Students' Federation (NSF), the apex students' body of the Nagas with its head office located at Kohima.

The issue of greater Nagaland and greater Mizoram is very much alive and kicking. Therefore it is incumbent of both the community to harmonize their political demand if at all they are to secede from the grip of the devious Meiteis.

(Excerpts from **The indelible Trauma**)



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@Hekikon17245

THE BUZZ SOCIAL MEDIA

All Manipur Students Union (AMSU) General Secretary [#BrucePebam](#) showcasing his Assault Rifles to the world. My question to Manipur CM [@NBirenSingh](#), [@MaharajaManipur](#) and [@manipur_police](#) is "will you still declared them as Cultural Organization" just like you did to AT? [@HMOIndia](#)



18:00 · 28 Jul 24 · 744 Views



Tribal Army
@TribalArmy

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Discover the forgotten Anglo-Kuki War (1917-1919), one of India's early uprisings against British rule. The Kukis fought fiercely for their land, culture, and independence. Learn more about this significant yet overlooked conflict: [Scroll Article]

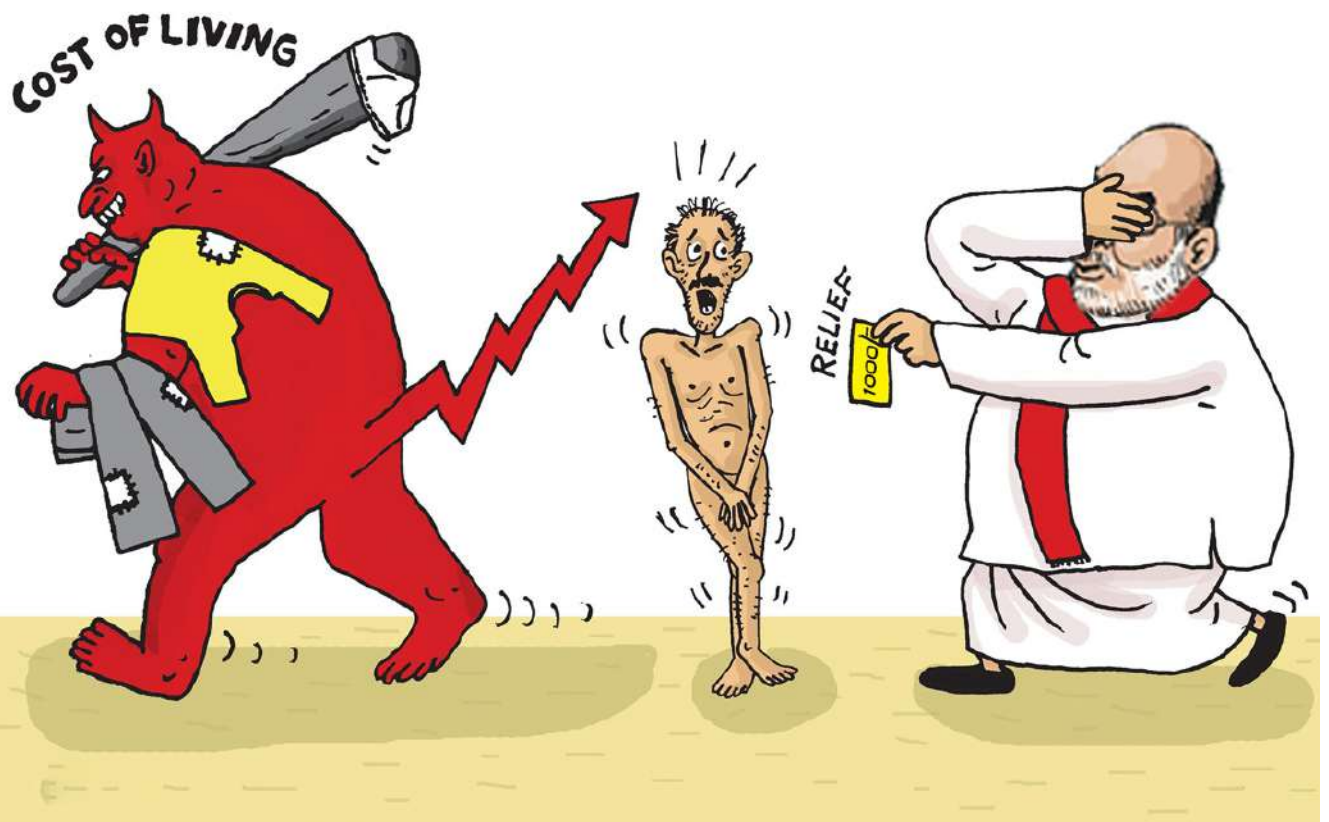


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A 'war of independence' that India forgot: Kukis rose up against the British in 1917

16:26 · 29 Jul 24 · 1,162 Views



COST OF LIVING & RELIEF FUND MASQUERADE





JUSTICE

Moses H khongsai

Justice, a treasure beyond measure,
For the weak, a beacon to treasure.
A concept exploited by the strong,
A currency wielded all day long.

To the powerful, a tool to maintain,
Their grip on the world, their reign.
A means to silence, to oppress,
To keep the marginalized in distress.

But to mediators, a hollow sound,
A mere word, devoid of meaning found.
A phrase to placate, to calm the air,
As they broker deals, without a care.

Yet still we seek it, this elusive dream,
This fair and equal theme.
For in its pursuit, we find our strength,
Our voices raised, our hearts at length.

So let us hold on to this noble quest,
This vision of justice, and do our best.
For in its light, we'll find our way,
And a brighter tomorrow, come what may