

Thingkho *Le* Malcha

A Daily Newsletter by KSO Media & Documentation Cell





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.

KUKI-ZO WOMEN BODIES CONDEMN PROPOSED TRANSFER OF ASSAM RIFLES; MASSIVE PROTEST ERUPTS IN LAMKA

In a strong display of dissent, womenfolk from Churachandpur district held a candlelight vigil this evening to protest against the central government's proposed move to transfer the 9 Assam Rifles Battalion from the periphery of the district. The protest, which took place at Pholjang and Kangvai villages near the border with Bishnupur district, saw hundreds of women gathering to voice their disapproval of what they consider an arbitrary and unjust decision.

The demonstrators carried placards with messages such as "Replacing AR Isn't a Solution," "The Meitei Militants are the Problem; Not the Indian Armies," and "Remove Arambai Tenggol/Meitei Leepun, not Security Forces." Their protest reflects widespread concern over the potential replacement of the seasoned 9 Assam Rifles Battalion with the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF).

The protest was organized by the Gothol Area Defence Committee.

A joint press statement issued by women's organizations such as the Kuki Women Union, Hmar Women Association, Zomi Mothers' Association, and Mizo People Convention Women Wing, strongly opposed the government's decision. The statement emphasized the pivotal role that the Assam Rifles has played in maintaining peace and neutrality in the conflict-ridden region, particularly between the two warring communities in Churachandpur.

The organizations criticized the proposed replacement of the Assam Rifles with the CRPF, citing the latter's lack of local knowledge and experience in handling the delicate socio-political dynamics of the region. They expressed particular concern over the appointment of Deputy Inspector General (Operations) Premjit



Huidrom, a Meitei, to lead the CRPF in the area, questioning whether the force under his leadership can be impartial and trusted to ensure the safety of all communities.

The women's groups warned that removing the Assam Rifles could destabilize the fragile peace in Churachandpur and lead to a deterioration of the security situation. They urged the government to reconsider its decision, stressing that the continued presence of the Assam Rifles is essential for maintaining stability and preventing further bloodshed.

"If the government persists in this ill-considered decision, we will not remain silent observers," the statement read. "We are prepared to mobilize and undertake all necessary measures to ensure that our voices are heard and that justice prevails."

The protesters called on the government to work towards a solution that ensures lasting peace and security for all communities in Manipur, regardless of caste, creed, or community.

The protest was attended by various CSOs including the Kuki Students' Organization Churachandpur.

KSO-GHQ URGES CENTRAL GOVERNMENT TO RECONSIDER REPLACEMENT OF ASSAM RIFLES WITH CRPF

The Kuki Students' Organization (KSO-GHQ) has strongly criticized the Central Government's recent decision to replace Assam Rifles units with the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) in the hill areas, calling it a potentially costly and misguided move.

According to the KSO-GHQ, the Assam Rifles have built a strong rapport with the local hill communities over years of dedicated service, fostering mutual respect and peaceful coexistence. This positive relationship has reportedly contributed to a period of calm, with no reported clashes in nearly ten months.

The decision to replace the Assam Rifles with the CRPF is viewed by the KSO-GHQ as a misstep that disregards the wishes of the local population. The organization argues that the move could undermine the hard-earned trust between the Assam Rifles and the hill communities and calls on the Central Government to reassess the decision.

The KSO-GHQ also highlights the disparity in influence between valley-based civil society groups, which hold



significant political and administrative power, and the less vocal hill communities, whose concerns are often overshadowed. They urge the government to consider the perspectives of these marginalized groups before finalizing the replacement.

In light of these concerns, the KSO-GHQ has appealed to the Central Government to reverse the decision in the interest of maintaining stability and respecting the will of the local people.

2nd PHASE
**JANGNA
DOPNA**
HOPDOHNA KINGON
KUKI WOMEN ORGANISATION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS (KWOHR)

2ND AUGUST 2024
at 11:00AM
WALL OF REMEMBRANCE
TUIBONG

"IN DEFENSE OF OUR ANCESTRAL
LAND & FREEDOM"

MEITEI LEEPUN CALLS FOR BOYCOTT OF OUTER MANIPUR MP ALFRED K ARTHUR OVER CRITICISM OF CM N BIREN SINGH IN LOK SABHA

Meitei Leepun has announced a social boycott of Alfred Kan-Ngam Arthur, the Outer Member of Parliament (MP) from Manipur, effective from July 31, 2024. The boycott comes in response to statements made by Arthur during his maiden speech in Parliament, with the claim that Alfred Arthur advocates the interest of the Kukis.

While everyone appreciated the first-time MP for speaking out the truth on Manipur violence and for exposing and highlighting the misgovernance of Meitei CM N Biren Singh and his role in the violence, it is not surprising that Meitei Leepun objected to the statement made by Alfred Arthur in the parliament. It is a well-known fact that the Meitei radical groups including Arambai Tenggol and Meitei Leepun have been closely associated with Meitei politicians such as CM Nongthombam Biren Singh, Rajya Sabha MP Leishemba Sanajaoba, Minister L. Sushindro and Keirao MLA Lourembam Rameshwor Meetei, etc.

“One of the two communities in Manipur accuses chief minister N. Biren Singh of having engineered the conflict. The chief minister does always speak of the need for harsh, punitive actions — “maarne ka, peetne ka baat karte hain” — but he is just one of the 50 Meitei MLAs in the Assembly. For the sake of peace, why cannot he be replaced with any of the 49 others?” the Outer Manipur MP said in an emotionally charged speech in the Lok Sabha on July 30.

Congress party’s Outer Manipur MP Alfred Arthur also urged Prime Minister Narendra Modi to visit the violence-hit state.

“Can you not hear the cries of the women and children who cannot return to their homes?” he asked during a debate in the Lower House on the Budget 2024.



Arthur asked why Union ministers had not visited Manipur since May 3, 2023, when they used to visit the northeastern state almost every week before that. He also asked the PM why Chief Minister N Biren Singh has not been replaced yet. He added that the prime minister and Home Minister Amit Shah should correct the course and visit Manipur.

The MP also recalled that his own grand-uncle, Major Khaithing, had been instrumental in securing Tawang in Arunachal Pradesh for India. “We are Indian citizens; we are not betrayers...we have helped build this nation and it is our right to have your attention...,” he said.

He also highlighted the fact that Manipur is going through a crisis. “It has today the lowest per capita income and the highest inflation. This year, we have had the worst floods in 35 years. Yet there is nothing in the Union budget for Manipur. I have heard madam finance minister present the anti-people budget...she grins and smiles...I think she does not understand what we are going through in Manipur,” said Arthur.

Contd.

Contd.

These are the facts he presented in the house of the parliament. And there is no mention of 'Kuki Homeland' or 'Kuki Agenda' as alleged by the Meitei Leepun, who have been infamously known for threatening the non-locals and minority communities of the state.

Most importantly, the allegations on the Outer Manipur MP do not hold ground but it is merely an expose of the organization's closed association with the infamous Chief Minister of Manipur, N. Biren Singh. The

announcement of social boycott on Alfred Arthur comes only because of the MP's scathing attack on the Meitei Chief Minister and his proposal of removing Nongthombam Biren Singh from the post of Chief Minister to initiate peace process in the strife-torn state. If the CM is removed from his position, it poses a threat to their existence as organizations. Their relevance depends on the tenure of the CM holding the office of Chief Minister of Manipur.

KUKI STUDENTS EXTEND SOLIDARITY TO LANDSLIDE VICTIMS IN WAYANAD, KERALA

In response to the devastating landslides in Wayanad, Kerala, the Kuki Students' Organization, Kannur University (KSO) and KSO Delhi & NCR has extended solidarity to the landslide victims of Wayanad in Kerala.

The KSO Kannur University has initiated relief effort for the affected victims including their readiness to participate in a blood donation campaign to assist by donating blood if and when required. Kimshi Singson, Education Secretary of KSO Kerala, is coordinating the effort to ensure that students are ready to mobilize in response to any urgent needs for blood.

In addition, the Kuki Students' Organisation (KSO) Delhi & NCR has expressed deep sorrow over the devastating floods currently affecting Wayanad district in Kerala. Acknowledging the significant aid and support provided by the people and government of Kerala to the Kuki community amidst ongoing turmoil in Manipur, the KSO extends its heartfelt gratitude and solidarity.

The organization reflects on the unpredictable nature of such calamities and the constraints faced by the Kuki people due to limited resources during this



crisis. Despite being geographically separated by mountains and oceans, the KSO emphasizes that distance is no barrier to their compassion and support.

The KSO reaffirms its commitment to standing with Kerala in these trying times, reiterating its gratitude to the State Government of Kerala and its people for their benevolent actions and contributions, which continue to inspire and strengthen ties between the communities.

The KSO emphasizes the shared bond of humanity that unites them with the people of Kerala, extending heartfelt thanks and ongoing prayers for their well-being and recovery.

POUMAI NAGA UNION DECLARES NON-COOPERATION WITH NSCN/GPRN

In a significant move, the Poumai Naga Union (PNU) has declared non-cooperation with the National Socialist Council of Nagaland (NSCN) and its Government of the People's Republic of Nagalim (GPRN) faction. The decision, effective immediately, was announced in an official statement released by the PNU on Wednesday.

The Union's decision follows a resolution adopted during its 3rd General Assembly held on May 31, 2024. The PNU emphasized that the Poumai Naga community has always demonstrated unwavering commitment to the Naga National Interest. However, recent actions by the NSCN/GPRN have not only undermined the contributions of the Poumai Nagas but also infringed upon the community's interests.

"Despite our patient efforts to resolve the issue amicably, there has been no satisfactory response from the concerned parties," stated the PNU in their release. "Therefore, in accordance with the resolution adopted on May 31, 2024, we are compelled to take this step to protect the interests of the Poumai Naga community and uphold our collective dignity."

The Poumai Naga Union has called on the Naga public to understand and support their decision, which they believe is made in the best interest of both the Poumai community and the larger Naga National Interest. The


JOINT DECLARATION Senapati, 31st July 2024

As per the resolution adopted during the 3rd General Assembly of the Poumai Naga Union (PNU) on 31st May 2024, the Poumai Naga Union declares Non-cooperation with the NSCN/GPRN with immediate effect.


The Poumai Naga community has consistently demonstrated unwavering commitment to the Naga National Interest in letter and in Spirit. However, the recent actions by the NSCN/GPRN have not only undermined our contributions and commitment but also infringed upon our community's Interest. Despite our patient efforts to resolve the issue amicably, there have been no satisfactory response from the concerned.

Therefore apropos to the resolution adopted on 31st May 2024, we are compelled to take this step to protect the interests of the Poumai Naga Community and uphold our collective dignity.

We urge the Naga public to understand and support this decision made in the best interest of our community's existence and the larger Naga National Interest. That said, it should be noted that our dedication to the cause remains steadfast and unwavering.


(RB PANI)
President,
Poumai Naga Union
(PNU)


(ASAHRII CLEMENT K)
President,
Poumai Naga Tsiidoumai Me
(PNTM)


(P DELILAH PAO)
President,
Poumai Naotumai Me
(PNM)

Union reiterated that their dedication to the Naga cause remains steadfast and unwavering, despite their current stance of non-cooperation with the NSCN/GPRN.

“ Normal life cannot sustain revolutionary attitudes for long.

- Milovan Djilas

SIXTH SESSION MANIPUR LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY BEGINS SANS KUKI MLAS

The sixth session of the 12th Manipur Legislative Assembly commenced on Wednesday (July 31) sans Kuki MLAs for the third time since violence erupts in the state of Manipur on 3rd May 2023.

Moreover, the ten Kuki MLAs have previously boycotted sessions, demanding a separate administration or Union Territory for Kukis in Manipur.

However, Paolienlal Haokip, a BJP MLA from the Saikot assembly constituency in Churachandpur district, confirmed their boycott.

“When my people can’t set foot in Imphal, how can I attend an Assembly held in the state capital,” Haokip stated.

Speaking to NLive, the BJP MLA said the only solution to peace is to divide Manipur into three Union Territories,



one each for the Kukis, Nagas and the Meiteis.

Responding to the personal invitation made by the Chief Minister to the 10 Kuki MLAs, Haokip said that Chief Minister N Biren Singh cannot invite MLAs to the Assembly and only the Governor has the right to summon the MLAs. The Manipur assembly session is scheduled to run until August 12.

LAKSHMAN PRASAD ACHARYA SWORN IN AS GOVERNOR OF MANIPUR

Lakshman Prasad Acharya, who took charge as the governor of Assam on Tuesday, was on Wednesday sworn in as the 19th governor of Manipur, replacing Anusuiya Uikey.

Acharya, who was earlier the governor of Sikkim, was administered the oath of office and secrecy by Chief Justice Siddharth Mridul of the Manipur high court at the Darbar hall of Raj Bhavan in Imphal at 9.30am.

Acharya has also been given the additional role of governor of Assam. Known for his contributions to



education and the public, Acharya was born on October 3, 1954, in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh.

THE SOCIAL MEDIA BUZZ



Atul Khatri
@one_by_two

Follow

Modiji gets trolled by the opposition for 2 main things

1. Not visiting Manipur
2. Not having a press conference

Why doesn't he do it and shut up his critics forever??
I'm sure he can wing it. He is such a seasoned politician. Cannot understand 🤔🤔

21:52 · 31 Jul 24 · 4,351 Views



P. Chidambaram
@PChidambaram_IN

I urge people to listen to or read the speech of the elected MP from Manipur, Mr Alfred Arthur

His scathing indictment of the central government, especially the PM, HM and FM, is a cry from the hearts of thousands of citizens of Manipur

If the central government continues to pretend that the conflict in Manipur "does not exist", it is a grave dereliction of its duty under Article 355 of the Constitution and a cruel blow to federalism

Not only Manipur, the entire North East will punish the BJP-led government

Obviously, there are no wise counsellors in the government to advise the top leadership to change course

6:55 · 31 Jul 24 · 60.3K Views

TODAY IN HISTORY/EVENTS RECALLED: JULY 31, 2023

A RECAP OF THE HORRIFIC INCIDENTS ON JULY 31, 2023 AS A RESULT OF PRE-PLANNED STATE-SPONSORED ETHNIC CLEANSING POGROM AGAINST KUKI-ZO

A troubling incident has unfolded in the Gothol area of Kangvai, Lamka district, characterized by unprovoked firing. Meitei snipers reportedly aimed at Kuki-Zo villagers who had ventured outside their homes. Such targeted sniper fire aimed at Kuki-Zo villagers adds a layer of difficulty and fear for those residing on the periphery.

As of the latest report, there have been no casualties reported.

Kuki-Zo community homes in Canaan Veng, Imphal, were set ablaze around midnight. This tragic incident unfolded against a backdrop of immense upheaval, as residents of this locality vacated their homes and

properties on May 4, 2023. At that time, the presence of Arambai Tenggol and Meitei Leepun had cast a dark shadow, prompting the Kuki-Zo people to seek refuge in nearby military camps, leaving behind their cherished homes and possessions. The hope had been to return when circumstances returned to normal. However, the situation took a turn for the worse, forcing them to flee Imphal altogether. In the intervening two months, their homes were prey to looting by Meiteis, culminating in the devastating act of arson that razed them to the ground.

From 3rd May to 31st July, 120 Kuki-Zo deaths have been recorded.



**NEWS ANALYSIS****Relocation of Assam Rifles: Is the Ministry of Home Affairs Succumbed to the Sinister Design of majority Meiteis?**

With the latest development of replacing the most neutral central security Force - Assam Rifles - from the Buffer Zones of the Meitei-Kuki civil war with the CRPF, the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, seemed to have succumbed to the sinister design of the communal Meiteis under the narcissistic leadership of N. Biren Singh.

The constant vilification campaign against the neutrality of the Assam Rifles, in the wake of the state-sponsored ethnic cleansing pogrom against the minority Kukis, is nothing but evil agenda-driven narratives being created by the radicalised Meitei populace in complicit with the secessionist valley-based insurgent groups (VBIGs) who wage war against the Union of India.

In fact, the Assam Rifles have a long and distinguished history of maintaining peace and neutrality in conflict zones. Since the beginning of the violence, the Assam Rifles security personnel have been tirelessly working to ensure stability and harmony between the two warring communities.

As “Friends of the Hill People”, their deep understanding of the local dynamics, cultural sensitivities, and the complex socio-political fabric of the region has been instrumental in preventing further escalation of violence and fostering an environment conducive to normalcy

in the conflict zones.

Earlier, the Director General of Assam Rifles, Lieutenant General PC Nail has also said that the oldest military force has been maintaining a neutral stance since ethnic violence began in Manipur in May 2023, and termed their biased allegation reports as “stupid reports, falsehood and preposterous.” He had said that calling the Assam Rifles (AR) biased towards a particular community was “nothing but rumours” spread by the Meitei people with a hidden agenda.

It should be noted here that the insane Meitei populace and their civil bodies like the so-called Coordinating Committee on Manipur Integrity (COCOMI) along with the proscribed Meitei militants have been making unfounded allegations against the Assam Rifles as they could not bear the diligent duties being carried out by the security forces without fear or favour. Their hidden agenda is to replace the Assam Rifles with other lesser-experienced security forces so that they could carry out their anti-national activities as per their whims and fancies.

It is irresponsible, absurd and lamentable, on the

Contd.

Contd.

other hand, that the concerned central authorities act according to the Meiteis' crave and desire without considering the wishes of the hill people.

Replacing the seasoned and neutral AR with the CRPF - which does not possess the same level of local knowledge and expertise - is not only a strategic misstep but also a grave injustice to the Hill people. The CRPF, despite its commendable service across the nation, lacks the specific experience and nuanced understanding required to effectively manage the delicate situation in the state.

The move is also particularly alarming as the Deputy Inspector General (Operations) of CRPF is none other than a communal Meitei called Premjit Huidrom. There had been serious allegations of the Meitei DIG, under whose watch several Kuki houses have been torched, properties destroyed and Kuki volunteers arrested or killed. The hill people, particularly the Kukis, have a legitimate question as to whether the leadership of

Premjit Meitei, DIG, CRPF, could bring impartiality among the two warring communities. The Kukis do not have any trust under him and doubt that he will ensure the safety and security of all communities in the State.

It is crucial to emphasize that the Assam Rifles have earned the trust and respect of the local people through their unbiased efforts in fostering harmony and peace. Their removal from the Buffer Zones would destabilize the fragile peace equation in the region and jeopardize the safety of the people, particularly the minority Kukis.

To replace some Assam Rifle units in the hill area with the CRPF could be a wasted and costly decision taken by the concerned department. The Government needs to rethink its decision discreetly and take the opinion of the respective hill people and their civil society bodies.



THE SCAPEGOAT OF MISGOVERNANCE



THE TAPESTRY

- • • Where the mind is free like the wind,
- • • Where truth is spoken without fear,
- • • Where justice and equity is wreathed,
Where courage is cherished and cheered.

Where harmonious chords synergise folklore,
Where songs of victory are sung with pride,
Where the valiants heroism throngs the slowcore,
Where the anthem invoke emotional fervor like a high tide.

Where cultural relativism ensues tolerance,
Where grind and toil gets rewarded in fairness,
Where grit and excellence finds its provenance,
Where society ethos in prosperity ethics and evenhandedness.

Where nature abounds in its pristine beaut and splendor,
Where vegetation flourishes in its seasonal cater,
Where flowers blossom in its might and ardor,
Where creation affirms the marvelous design of the creator.

-S Thangminlen Haokip