

Thingkho *Le* Malecha

A Daily Newsletter by KSO Media & Documentation Cell



AWAITING JUSTICE



LETKHOHEN HAOKIP (35 YEARS)

S/O (L) SATLUN HAOKIP

ADDRESS: K SALBUNG, LAMKA

DATE OF INCIDENT: 20TH AUGUST, 2023

PLACE OF DEATH: MUOLNGAT, LAMKA

CAUSE OF DEATH: SHOT DEAD BY MEITEI MILITANTS



KUKI VICTIMS' UPDATE

As on 11.09.2024



199
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 INPI JIRIBAM & TAMENGLONG ADDRESS RUMORS REGARDING ABDUCTION INCIDENT

The Kuki Inpi Jiribam and Tamenglong have issued a formal statement to clarify the ongoing rumors surrounding the alleged abduction of Mr. Bishnu Barman, a Telecom department employee from West Bengal, who went missing in the Latingkhal area on October 5.

Local sources reported that some individuals in Jiribam have erroneously blamed the Kuki-Zo community for Mr. Barman's disappearance. In response, the organizations emphasized that these accusations are baseless and without any evidence.

"We want to make it clear that the Kuki-Zo community has no involvement in this case," the statement read. They condemned the unfounded allegations and urged the community and relevant authorities to conduct a thorough and impartial investigation to identify the actual perpetrators.



The Kuki Inpi Jiribam and Tamenglong strongly denounced what they termed as "unethical practices" and "goondaism," particularly in light of the ongoing ethnic tensions in Manipur. They also called for the safe return of Mr. Barman, highlighting the importance of solidarity and justice during these challenging times.

The organizations appeal to all individuals and groups to refrain from spreading misinformation that could further inflame tensions in the region.

FORMER CM OKRAM IBOBI SINGH CRITIQUES CENTRAL GOVERNMENT'S RESPONSE TO MANIPUR CRISIS

Former Chief Minister Okram Ibobi Singh has voiced strong criticism of the central government's handling of the ongoing crisis in Manipur. Speaking at a reception event for nine new leaders who joined the Indian National Congress (INC) at Congress Bhawan, Ibobi suggested that the government's inaction stems from either a lack of determination or a hidden agenda.

"The Manipur crisis is resolvable," Ibobi asserted, emphasizing the central government's pivotal role in facilitating peace. He urged that with genuine will and determination, the situation could be addressed



promptly. During a recent multi-party meeting, he proposed disarmament for both the Meitei and Kuki communities as a preliminary step,

Contd.

Contd.

followed by political dialogue. However, he expressed disappointment at the government's failure to implement any practical measures since that discussion.

"It is unfortunate that the Indian government, despite being one of the world's strongest militaries, cannot effectively address the conflict in Manipur," he stated. Ibobi also urged the government to reject any demands for separate administration from any community, highlighting the importance of maintaining Manipur's territorial integrity.

The event welcomed several notable figures into the INC, including former NPP candidates and local leaders from various constituencies. Ibobi expressed optimism that more leaders would join the party in the future, reinforcing the INC's commitment to resolving the ongoing crisis.

The reception was attended by various Congress leaders, MLAs, and executive members, marking a significant moment for the party amidst the ongoing challenges in the state.

MEITEI MILITANTS TARGET RESIDENCE OF NAGA OFFICER OVER MONETARY DEMANDS

The ongoing tensions in Manipur have escalated with a grenade attack on the residence of Chief Engineer Renmei Alenmei, a Naga officer, in the Lamphel police station area early this morning. Fortunately, the grenade failed to detonate, and the bomb disposal squad was dispatched to safely remove the device.

Local police suspect that the attack, which involved two individuals on motorcycles fleeing the scene, may be linked to extortion demands. A case has been registered at the Lamphel police station, but no group has claimed responsibility for the incident.

This attack is part of a troubling pattern of violence against the Naga community in the Imphal valley. Reports indicate that Naga tribals have been increasingly targeted by Meitei militants, who have been making monetary demands from Naga entrepreneurs and shopkeepers in the area. The Imphal Naga Business Association (INBA) has previously appealed for an end to these extortion tactics, emphasizing the support Naga businesses have provided during the ongoing crisis.

Last month, INBA President Annish Khamrang condemned the threats made against Naga residents, asserting that such actions aim to drive the Naga



community out of Imphal. He revealed that some Naga entrepreneurs were recently coerced into a meeting where they were demanded to pay Rs 20,000 each, a demand that was refused despite appeals for leniency.

Local women's organizations have also condemned the grenade attack, labeling it a cowardly act and urging militants to avoid targeting crowded areas in the future.

The government has not reinstated the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act (AFSPA) in the Imphal valley, despite the resurgence of violence attributed to Meitei militants, raising concerns over public safety and the need for immediate intervention to restore peace.

MANIPUR NPP FACES INTERNAL STRIFE AS KEY MEMBERS DEFECT TO CONGRESS

Speculation has intensified over the past few days regarding a possible rift within the Manipur Unit of the National People's Party (NPP), as some members have reportedly left the party.

The suspicion of disunity was further fueled when all seven legislators from the Manipur Unit stayed away from the party's State executive meeting held recently.

This speculation gained traction with the recent joining of former NPP leaders, Langpoklakpam Jayantakumar Singh and O Romen Singh, to the Indian National Congress.

Langpoklakpam Jayantakumar Singh is a former NPP MLA, while O Romen Singh was a former NPP candidate. Their switch to a new party suggests underlying issues within the NPP Manipur Unit.

Earlier, on September 27, the NPP State executive committee conducted a meeting at Hotel Radisson Blu in Guwahati, chaired by its national president, Conrad K Sangma, who is also the Chief Minister of Meghalaya.

The meeting aimed to deliberate on whether the NPP should continue supporting the BJP-led Manipur government. Although most NPP MLAs from Manipur participated, the meeting could not reach a concrete decision due to sharp differences of opinion among the members.

Conrad Sangma concluded the meeting by announcing a National executive committee meeting in Delhi on



October 5 to resolve the matter. However, this proposed meeting was later postponed indefinitely.

In response to this postponement, the Manipur Unit of the NPP convened a meeting on October 9 at its office in Naoremthong, Imphal West district.

The primary agenda of the recent meeting was to address issues arising from the indefinite postponement of the national executive meeting initially scheduled for October 5 in New Delhi by the national president, Conrad K Sangma.

Notably, all seven sitting MLAs of the National People's Party in Manipur did not attend the meeting.

Nevertheless, the party's national vice president and former state deputy chief minister Y Joykumar, along with former ministers Y Irabot and N Mangi, former MLA S Sobhachandra, and other senior state executive members, participated in the discussions.



To be prepared for war is one of the most effective means of preserving peace.

— George Washington

CONGRESS LEADER CRITICISES PM MODI'S LAOS VISIT, QUESTIONS ABSENCE FROM CONFLICT-TORN MANIPUR

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's arrival in Laos for the ASEAN-India and East Asia summits has drawn sharp criticism from opposition leaders, particularly regarding his continued absence from the conflict-torn state of Manipur.

Congress leader Jairam Ramesh took to social media platform X to voice his concerns. "The self-anointed non-biological PM is off to Laos," Ramesh wrote, referencing Modi's upcoming participation in the 21st ASEAN-India and 19th East Asia Summit.

Ramesh pointedly questioned Modi's priorities, asking, "Why is Mr Narendra Modi steadfastly refusing to visit the troubled state of Manipur that has been torn apart so tragically since May 2023? His refusal to do so is simply beyond any understanding."

The Congress leader emphasised the importance of India's northeastern states in the country's foreign policy, stating, "India's gateway to ASEAN is our northeast."

He argued that the people of Manipur "who have seen so much agony and suffering, surely deserve such a visit" from their Prime Minister.

While in Vientiane, Modi engaged in various cultural activities, including interactions with the Indian diaspora, Buddhist monks, and viewing performances of Lao Ramayana. These events highlighted the shared cultural heritage between India and Laos.

The visit marks a decade of India's Act East Policy, which aims to strengthen economic and strategic ties with Southeast Asian nations. However, Ramesh challenged the government's narrative, tweeting, "He will, of course, talk much of India's Act East policy that supposedly began in 2014 - no matter that India's Look East Policy was in existence for almost two decades prior to that."

(India Today NE)



CONTACT

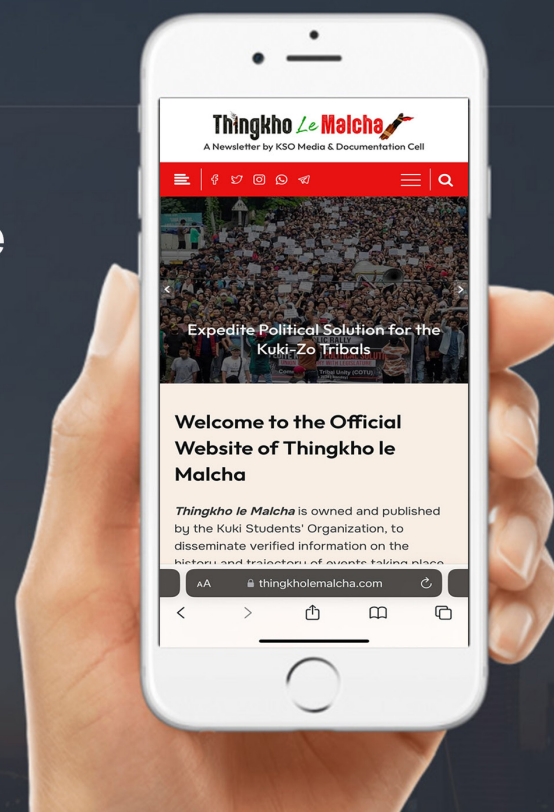


HOME ABOUT US KSO BULLETIN ARTICLES POETRY DOCUMENTATION EVENTS TIMELINE GALLERY



Welcome to the Official Website of Thingkho le Malcha

Thingkho le Malcha is owned and published by the Kuki Students' Organization, to disseminate verified information on the history and trajectory of events taking place in the deeply divided state of Manipur. It is an indispensable locus for truth and sanctum of resistance towards the antithesis of justice and peace... [Read More](#)



Click to Follow





FEATURED ARTICLE

Manipur: Weaponised Society, Fake Videos Worsen N-E Crisis

Pradeep C. Nair

Manipur has been in the news and the national consciousness now for over 17 months. The Manipur high court order of March 27, 2023 was only the trigger behind decades of mistrust. The demand for an inner line permit system that began in Manipur over two decades ago, can in some way be termed as the beginning of the current crisis. It culminated in passing of the three controversial bills in the Manipur Assembly in August 2015, which had eventually led to violent protests in Churach-andpur, which resulted in the loss of nine lives in police firing. The bodies of those killed were buried after 632 days after many rounds of negotiations between the government and multiple stakeholders.

Peace had thereafter returned to Manipur. The overall strides in development that took place in Manipur for about a decade since 2015 further reinforced the belief that Manipur was now on its path to greater glory.

All that changed on May 3, 2023, when violence broke out between the Meiteis and Kukis of the state; a situation that continues with sporadic spikes in violence and intermittent calm. It is a small state with a population of just 0.1 per cent and 0.15 per cent of the current estimated populations of Delhi and Mumbai respectively, but deserves greater understanding considering its geo-strategic and geo-economic

importance, as also for the sake of the people of the state who are under extreme stress and duress.

The biggest challenge faced is disinformation in the form of false videos, doctored videos and videos that depict only a part of a given incident. The Anglo-Kuki War Memorial being set afire, the discovery of the decapitated body of a woman found in a suitcase, the security forces shielding one particular community are some factors, to name a few. There have also been some truthful videos like the two helpless women being paraded on the streets or for that matter ghastly videos of shootings at point-blank range and of decapitating innocents. All these and word of mouth stories (which are often untrue) have fuelled anger across both the communities. Every false video or narrative results in cycles of violence that leaves the security forces at their wit's end. It is a situation no security force in the country has ever faced before.

At no other place since the independence of our nation have we witnessed such mass weaponisation of society at large. It is not just the weapons and ammunition that have been looted from police armouries that is disconcerting. It is also the

Contd.

Contd.

weapons that the Arambai Tengol, UNLF(P), all the other valley-based insurgent groups and the Kuki militants openly flaunt and move around with impunity. The easy availability of weapons and ammunition in Myanmar makes the situation even more grim. A recent video of a gun similar to an artillery gun being towed and then fired, as also inputs of many other new improvised mortars, rockets and the locally made “pumpis”, makes the future look daunting for not just the security forces, but also ordinary citizens. The immense hardships that the common man is already facing with all these weaponised people indulging in extortion and kidnappings is extremely worrisome.

The recent events in the neighbourhood, both in Myanmar and Bangladesh, are disturbing. The Myanmar Army today has only one military post opposite Manipur under its control, and none opposite Mizoram, as a consequence of the fighting there. It has resulted in a huge refugee influx, largely in Mizoram and to a lesser extent in Manipur. The influence of radicals currently in Bangladesh also poses a threat insofar as reactivation of camps of the Northeast-based insurgent groups is concerned.

The Central security forces, largely the Indian Army, the Assam Rifles and the paramilitary forces like the CRPF, have been at the forefront in preventing violence, moving people to safety, providing relief, including the establishment of relief camps, recovering weapons, arresting militants and troublemakers, destroying bunkers; all of which under conditions that were largely hostile and at times under great provocation. After some initial hiccups, the state police has also been instrumental in operating in total sync with the Central security forces. The criticism against the Assam Rifles has been unwarranted. The unbiased and selfless task that the officers and soldiers have undertaken has helped to keep the situation under control. Calls for removal of all Central forces as a panacea for restoring normalcy, made by some, is impractical. In a state where people are polarised to the extent that they are, expecting the state police to handle the situation

on their own is a tough ask. This is not to cast aspersions on the state police or undermine its role, but to highlight the local pressures that they are forced to operate under.

The present situation was a fallout of the demand for Scheduled Tribe status for the Meiteis, and against that is the Kuki demand for a separate administration; now seeking the status of a Union territory. It will be impractical for the Centre to give in to either, since one will inflame passions even in the Naga regions leading to even more violence, while the latter would lead to many more such fissiparous demands across the Northeast: the ENPO demands in Nagaland, the Dima Hasao & Cachar regional demands in Assam or the demands of South Arunachal Pradesh people for a separate administration, etc. It is therefore necessary for both the communities to see reason in stopping the ongoing violence, to be realistic in their demands and come to the negotiating table. There are many steps that need to be taken to restore normal life. But the beginning for that has to be by the people of Manipur. The civil society organisations, the women’s organisations, the village elders, the youth, the armed cadres and all others, cutting across affiliations, have to just take a look at pre-May 3, 2023 when Manipur was on a glorious path of socio-economic development. Manipur shall remain the linchpin for our “Act East” policy and the land bridge to our outreach to Asean and Quad and the countries of Southeast and East Asia.

Manipur, which got its name during the reign of King Garib Nawaz, 400 years ago in 1724, is and shall remain a precious jewel of our country that should be in the mind space and prayers of all citizens of our country.

Published by [Asian Age](#)

THE BUZZ SOCIAL MEDIA



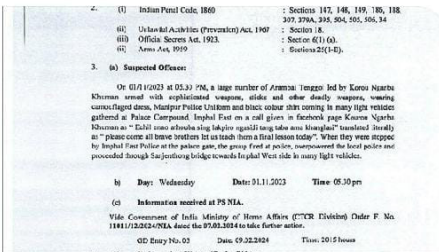
Ravinder Kapur.
@RavinderKapur2

#Manipur

When you're flanked by a terrorist group whose leader is booked under UAPA & you support them by gifting them high tech drones most likely capable of carrying payloads you are not just a common person.

@LicypriyaK is a fake climate activist.

Investigate her @NIA_India.



11:57 · 10 Oct 24 · 1,228 Views



Adv. Siam Phaipi
@SiamPhaipi

The valley of death #Manipur

If this had happened in the hills, the whole media would go crazy and report it as 'suspected' KUKI MILITANTS had done it.

Let #AFSPA be removed from the Valley forever and let these continue. These are not the problems of the Hill Tribals anymore.

Manipur: Militants target Manipur official's house with grenade attack

09:39 PM Oct 10, 2024 IST | NE NOW NEWS

UpdateAt: 09:39 PM Oct 10, 2024 IST

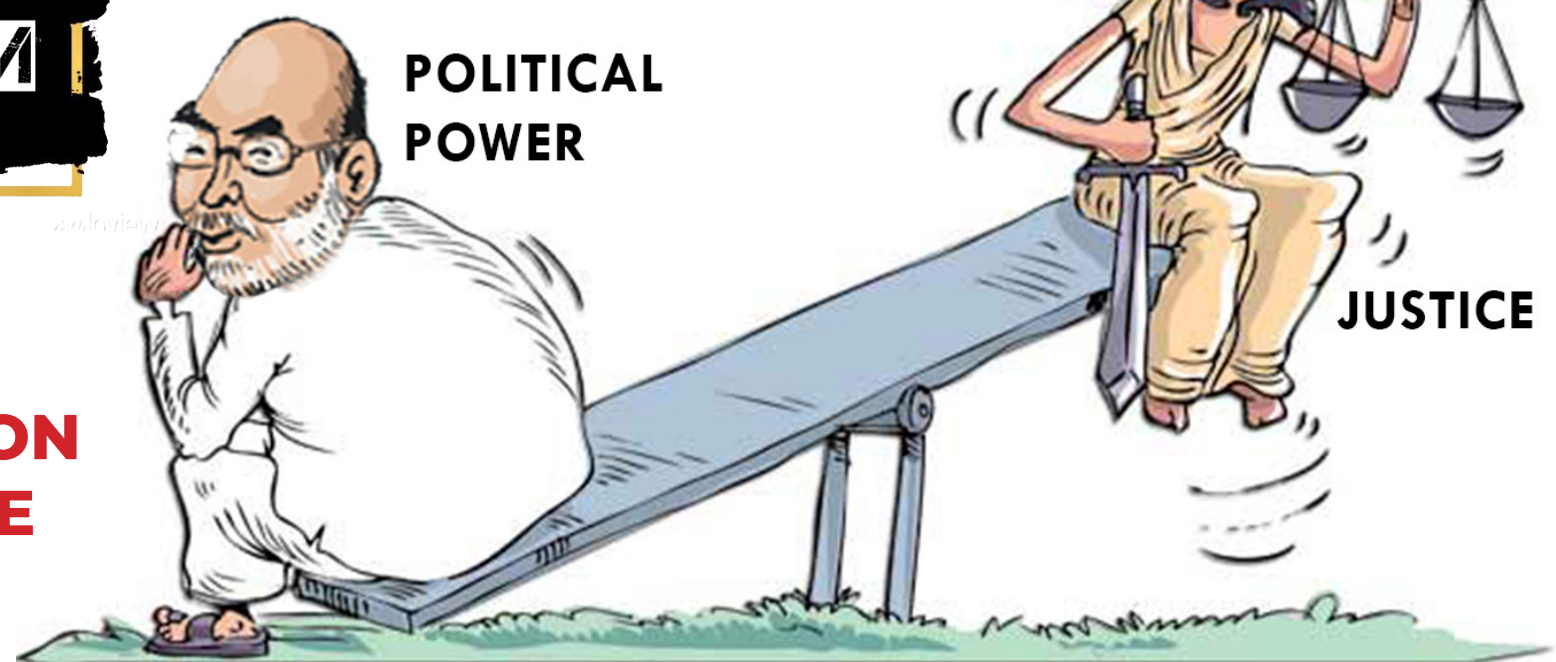


A powerful grenade was lobbed into the home of Chief Engineer Renmei Alenmei.

22:38 · 10 Oct 24 · 44 Views

Post MORTEM

THE SUPPRESSION OF JUSTICE





KWOHR

KUKI WOMEN ORGANISATION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

3RD PHASE

**JANGNA
DOPNA
HOPDOHNA KINGON**

**ON SATURDAY
OCTOBER**

19TH 2024

**AT THOMAS GROUND
KANGPOKPI DISTRICT**





ON THE HILLS

~ Akui Mangkhohao Kipgen

On the hills, Kuki people reside,
where nature's beauty becomes their pride.
They find joy in the mountains so high,
living freely beneath the open sky.

Their hearts, filled with compassion and grace,
Embrace equality and justice for every race,
But when faced with injustice's might,
the Kuki people stand up to fight.

In the olden days, a century past,
Kuki Warriors fought, their courage unwavering.
Against British Tyranny, they dared to rise,
their spirit unyielding, beneath distant skies.

In Kuki's land, freedom speaks out loud,
Injustice and tyranny, they never allow.
With courage and might, they make their stand,
Protecting their values, their ancestral land.

In the fight, they shout out loud,
"Tahchapa!" standing strong and proud.
With brave hearts and spirits bold,
They face the battle, never to fold.

Kuki hold dear to peace and justice grace,
Yet oppression they refuse to embrace.
With valor, they confront the unjust plight,
For peace they will persist,
against oppression's might.