

# Thingkho *Le* Malcha

A Daily Newsletter by KSO Media & Documentation Cell



## AWAITING JUSTICE



### NGAMMINLUN LHOUVUM (30 YEARS)

S/O SEINEH LHOUVUM

ADDRESS: KANGCHUP PONLEN, SADAR HILLS

DATE OF INCIDENT: 12<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2023

PLACE OF DEATH: KANGCHUP, SADAR HILLS

CAUSE OF DEATH: KILLED IN AMBUSH BY MEITEI MILITANTS



## KUKI VICTIMS' UPDATE

As on 21.10.2024



**203**  
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 ORGANISATION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS APPEALS FOR IMMEDIATE INTERVENTION OF PRIME MINISTER MODI IN MANIPUR CRISIS

In a pressing letter addressed to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Kuki Organisation for Human Rights has made a fervent appeal for immediate intervention in the ongoing crisis in Manipur. The organization, representing the Kuki-Zo tribal community, alleges that the state government, led by Chief Minister N. Biren Singh, is complicit in an ethnic cleansing campaign against the minority community.

The conflict began on May 3, 2023, when violent clashes erupted between the majority Meitei community and the Kuki-Zo tribal inhabitants. The organization claims that the violence has escalated to a state-sponsored pogrom, resulting in numerous deaths and extensive destruction of property, with allegations of armed Meitei militias receiving support from state forces.

In a letter addressed to the Prime Minister, the organization described the situation as a “pre-planned ethnic-cleansing pogrom,” with armed Meitei militias allegedly supported by state forces. Key points from the appeal highlight:

**Escalating Violence:** The conflict has resulted in over a hundred civilian deaths and ongoing attacks on Kuki-Zo villages. The organization accuses the state of misusing resources to facilitate these assaults.

**Land Rights Violations:** Systemic violations of the Manipur Land Revenue and Land Reform Act have reportedly occurred, allowing encroachment by non-tribal populations.

**Environmental and Historical Land Claims:** The letter also raises concerns about the illegal designation of tribal lands as Reserved Forests and historical sites without Kuki-Zo consent.



**Constitutional Protections Undermined:** The organization cites violations of Article 371C of the Indian Constitution, which guarantees self-governance for tribal areas, noting resistance from the Meitei-dominated state government.

**Ongoing Discrimination:** There are fears that the Meitei demand for Scheduled Tribe status will exacerbate existing inequalities and threaten the rights of the Kuki-Zo community.

The appeal highlighted the historical roots of the conflict, tracing back to colonial rule, which created lasting tensions between the Meitei and tribal communities. The Kuki Organisation warns that the current violence represents a continuation of systemic oppression, fueled by a narrative of “illegal immigration” that justifies aggression against minority tribes.

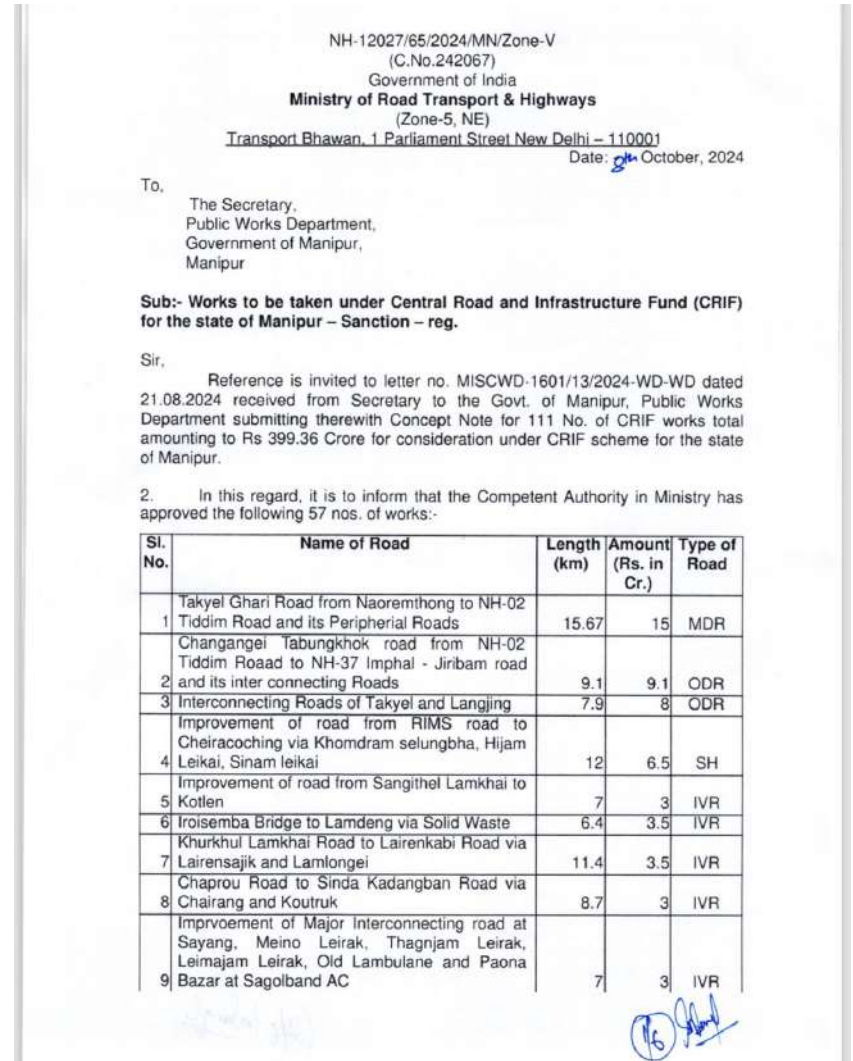
A detailed timeline outlines a series of escalating events leading up to the May 3 violence, including previous attacks on Kuki memorials, biased government campaigns, eviction orders, and suppression of peaceful rallies. The organization calls for immediate action to halt the violence and protect the rights of the Kuki-Zo community, emphasizing the need for urgent global attention to counter these oppressive tactics.

# CENTRE APPROVES 57 ROAD PROJECTS IN MANIPUR, SPARKING CONCERNS OVER NEGLECT OF HILL AREAS

The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has green-lit the construction of 57 new roads in Manipur, all of which will be concentrated in the valley region. Notably, no projects have been approved for the hill areas, raising concerns among local leaders about equitable development. The total length of the proposed roads spans 317.49 kilometers, with a financial allocation of ₹217.50 crores under the Central Roads and Infrastructure Fund.

Manipur Chief Minister N. Biren Singh attended a review meeting in New Delhi alongside key figures, including Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari, to discuss the ongoing National Highway projects in the Northeast. Gadkari highlighted the progress of 38 ongoing projects, covering 808 kilometers in Manipur, and stressed the importance of these infrastructure developments for enhancing connectivity and driving economic growth in the region.

Biren Singh, currently on a visit to Delhi, has also engaged in discussions about other significant projects, including plans for a “world-class football stadium” in Manipur. He expressed optimism about the ongoing infrastructure enhancements, stating on social media, “Under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, we are witnessing an enhancement of Manipur’s highways that promises to unlock unprecedented growth and connectivity for our people.”



Despite these developments, the absence of road projects in the hill districts has led to disappointment and calls for greater attention to the needs of these communities. Tribal leaders are urging the government to ensure that development efforts are inclusive and address the unique challenges faced by residents in the hills.

**“ We are at war, and in time of war there is only one rule. Form your battalion and fight. ”**

— *-Kermit Roosevelt*

## SURVEY TEAM MOBILIZES FOR FENCING PROJECT ALONG INDO-MYANMAR BORDER IN KAMJONG, UKHRUL MANIPUR

The Assam Rifles have announced plans to conduct a ground survey for a crucial fencing project along the Indo-Myanmar border in Kamjong and Ukhrul district of Manipur. In a formal communication addressed to local authorities, the unit has outlined its responsibility for preparing the Detailed Project Report (DPR) for the fencing.

Key details of the project include:

**Survey Schedule:** The ground survey and data collection team is set to commence its work on October 18, 2024, focusing on stretches from Old BP 6 to BP No 110.

**Districts Involved:** The project will cover several segments in the Kamjong and Ukhrul districts, with

various border points (BPs) identified for fencing.

The Assam Rifles have requested the assistance and security of local law enforcement to ensure the survey team can carry out its work without interruptions from villagers or local residents. The communication emphasizes the urgency of the project, reflecting the strategic importance of securing the border area.

Local authorities are urged to cooperate fully to facilitate the successful completion of this significant undertaking.

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## INDIAN YOUTH CONGRESS LAUNCHES MEMBERSHIP DRIVE IN KANGPOKPI TO ENGAGE LOCAL YOUTH

The Indian Youth Congress (IYC) continued its ambitious membership drive today in Sadar Hills, Kangpokpi district, building on the momentum from its inaugural event at the Manipur Pradesh Congress Committee (MPCC) Office in Imphal on October 21. The launch, held at the LNC Hotel, attracted a significant turnout of local youth and prominent political figures.

Key attendees included Sarifa Rahman, General Secretary and Manipur In-charge of the IYC; Dr. Lamtinthang Haokip, PCC Member and Vice President of the MPCC; along with Simanchal Khandani and Prakash Kumar from the Z.R.O IYC. Local leaders such as T. Samuel Haokip, Jangminthang Kipgen, and Neinu Kipgen, District Mahila Congress President, also graced the occasion. The event received support from various Block Congress office bearers across three Assembly constituencies in Sadar Hills.

The primary goal of this membership drive is to actively engage youth from Kangpokpi in grassroots politics, encouraging them to join the IYC and contribute to societal development. Dr. Lamtinthang Haokip took

a moment to congratulate the newly appointed IYC President, Uday Bhanu Chib, while expressing appreciation for the outgoing President, Srinivas Ji, also known as the "Oxygen Man," for his invaluable service to the party. He urged local youth to participate fully in IYC initiatives, which aim to foster positive societal changes.

Highlighting the importance of inclusivity, Sarifa Rahman outlined the enrollment process and urged attendees to become part of the IYC. She emphasized the organization's alignment with Rahul Gandhi's vision of an "Inclusive India," where all voices are respected and represented.

Elections for youth leadership positions at the Assembly, District, and State levels will soon be conducted in Manipur. Interested candidates can reach out to the election team for guidance. Orientation and training sessions are planned to equip potential candidates with the knowledge necessary to navigate the election process and emerge as leaders in their communities.

**NEWS ANALYSIS**

## Meira Paibis- Devils in Human Garbs

The women vigilantes otherwise known as Meira Paibis were once held in high esteem for their immense contribution in fighting the menace of drugs and alcoholism, removal of AFSPA from Manipur, human rights violation by the security forces, keeping peace and tranquility in the localities. For all their yeoman services they were accorded a hallowed character.

But the violence from May 3 and the active involvement of the once iconic, Meira Paibis in some of the most gruesome and repugnant act of violence particularly against their women counterparts unraveled their true nature who are in the actual sense of the term “devils in human garbs”.

There are umpteen cases where Meira Paibis were involved in the killing and murder of their women counterparts and inciting their male folks to rape and murder the Zo-Kuki women. They were responsible for the burning to death of an injured child, his mother and aunt inside an ambulance at Iroishenba, Imphal. They were the lynchpin in the looting of arms and ammunitions from the state security forces. The Indian army even accused them of interfering in their operations. They were responsible for the release of four UNLF militants and 12 KYKL militants of whom one was

said to be the mastermind of the Paraolon ambush of 2015 where 18 soldiers of Dogra regiments were killed. They blockaded the highway and checked every vehicle passing by so as to ensure that no essential commodities or medicines reach Zo-Kuki areas. Their open involvement in exacerbating the violence and attack and burning of Zo-Kuki villages is amply clear.

These witches in human garb were seen escorting Meitei militants who were on their way to attack and burned down Zo-Kuki villages. Many times they have congregated in the borders of Kangpokpi and Churachandpur district with the intention of violence. Wherever, the Meira Paibis appeared in thousands they are invariably accompanied by Meitei militant and militias armed with sophisticated weapons.

The top officials of the security forces deployed there have expressed serious concern over the actions of Meira Paibis who are obstructing the movement of the central para-military forces and clashing with them to prevent the arrest of those involved in the violence.

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They have no qualms in killing women and children. This is corroborated by the survivors who had escaped from the tribulations of these devils in human garbs. As narrated by a victim, her mother and elder brother were murdered by the mobs in front of her eyes. Her sister-in-law was brutally assaulted by the Meitei mobs that she was kept in ICU for many days. While all these unsavory incidents were going on the Meira Paibis continuously hit the infant baby with the intention of killing it. Her aunt had to use her body as a shield to protect the child. She was not spared either.

Shocking reports of sexual violence against women have further intensified concerns about the ongoing violence, with added alarm about Meira Paibis supporting the attackers. In addition, there have been reports of Meira Paibis responsible for the abduction and gang rape of a young woman. Most disturbingly they seen were egging on their men folks to rape and murder the Zo-Kuki women.

On the 4th July Meira Paibis stormed the camp of 3rd IRB at Wangbal, with the aim of looting fire arms. A clash ensued with the security forces using tear gas and rubber bullets to control the violent women.

On July 9, the Meira Paibis looted a truck carrying rations meant for the Assam Rifles on the contention that it was meant for the Kukis. On August 21 they seized mobile phones, vegetables, packed fish and seeds for sowing at Phougakchao bazaar that were meant to be transported to Churachandpur.

Security personnel says that the Meira Paibis used their status as woman as a shield, knowing that it is deterrent against use of force.

The Quint on July 19 writes- What's so shocking about the current violence in Manipur is the testimonials shared by the Zo-Kuki women survivors of the active role played by the Meira paibis in instigating the Meitei mobs.

Around the first week of the violence, a video surfaced that showed two Zo-Kuki ladies surrounded by a mob of Meiteis men and women. The video showed the women shouting at the two victims and telling their men to rape them. Both of them were residents of Khopibung village in kangpokpi district, located only 2 kms from Porompat, Imphal. They were raped and murdered on the evening of May 5.

With the protraction of the conflict, survivors who escaped Imphal and were interviewed by various media agencies have narrated how Meira Paibis had blocked the path of tribal families running for safety to the nearby army camps while the marauding mobs caught up to them.

However, when the violence first broke out, several claims of Meitei women rape by tribal mobs in the hill districts was spread like wildfire. All these news have now been debunked.

The claim that a Meitei nurse working in Churachandpur was raped by tribal mobs on May 5 was debunked when her father clarified on Impact TV, a valley based news channel, that no such things happened and that she was fine and well.

The claim that post-mortem results showed the rape of 37 Meitei women early into the conflict. This was debunked when Shija Hospital came out and announced that the hospital did not conduct any such examinations.

Pictures of a Meitei women supposedly raped in the hill districts went viral and were even used by the Meitei protestors in Delhi. It was later found that the woman shown in the posters were actually taken from an old face book post of the domestic abuse of an Arunachal woman.

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The shocking revelation of the involvement of Meira paibis in not only encouraging their men to rape tribal women but also in physically beating and torturing them has shattered their role as 'guardians of civil society'.

On June 20, the Meira Paibis blocked an army convoy carrying four arrested UNLF cadres after they were caught with 51 mm mortars. On June 24, a similar incident took place in Itham, Imphal East when 1500 Meira Paibis blocked an army convoy carrying 12 KYKL terrorists, on the suspected instigation of the local MLA. In both incidents, the army was forced to let go of the arrested outfit cadres by the women's mob.

On May 4, when the Assam Rifles were escorting the Meiteis stranded at Churachandpur, the zo-kuki women folks formed a human chain in order to protect them against the advances of the ragtag mobs.

**THE DECCAN HERALD ON AUGUST 18 WROTE: MEIRA PAIBIS MAY BE PART OF THE PROBLEM NOT THE SOLUTION:**

The Meitei women of Manipur once celebrated for their activism as human rights defenders or Meira paibis (women torch bearers) have lost their iconic status in the ongoing violence in the state.

During the present ethnic clashes in Manipur, the women groups have essentially fashioned into the frontline shield of Meitei chauvinists, arsonists, and rioters. They take advantage of the reluctance of the security forces to use extreme force against civilian citizens especially women. Anyone who has witnessed them blocking army and paramilitary forces trucks will know that they are not open to any reasonable argument. They have actively facilitated cutting of Kuki areas from the valley by blockading transport of food grains, medicines and other essential commodities.

They have been blocking the operation of the security forces, checking ID-cards of AR personnel, helping dig up roads to prevent movement of security personnel, traveling with armed Meitei militants to sites of violence, and are known to have incited young Meitei men to rape Kuki women. The central security forces deployed in Manipur have reportedly sent videos to the centre, of Meira Paibis indulging in stone throwing and clashing with them to cross over the 'buffer zone' created between the areas inhabited by the two communities to attack the Kuki villages.

**Justifying rape and murder of women-**

In an interview with the German-owned global news broadcaster Deutsche Welle (DW news), Konsam Monica, a Meira paibi leader told the reporter Adil Bhat that while she felt 'sympathy' for the tribal victims of sexual assault, such incidents of rape should be tolerated as it is done in the midst of war. So far there have been 11 (eleven) incidents of sexual assault on the zo-kuki women by the Meitei men, which has been taken note by the Chief Justice of India while hearing the Manipur case. There are none from the Meitei community, and in fact Meitei women casualties are nil.

On August 1, the officer-in-charge of Nongpok Sekmai was suspended for his involvement in the reprehensible act of the parading of two women naked and later raped by the Meitei mobs. It was only after worldwide condemnation that N Biren Singh chose to act. The OC was suspended and few culprits arrested.

However, the Meitei mobs led by Meira Paibis stormed the police station and demanded for the cancellation of the suspension order. This clearly demonstrated that the Meitei women folks does not have any iota of remorse or regret for the shameful act but rather supporting the culprits who were involved.



THE SOCIAL MEDIA BUZZ

Ravinder Kapur. @RavinderKapur2

#Manipur

**ANNIHILATE ALL THE KUKIS.**

This is the slogan of the Meiteis - Arambai Tenggol, Meira Paibis & even the kids.

Question is, can Meiteis & Kuki-Zo ever live together again now that majority of the Meiteis are already radicalised?

#ManipurTapes  
#ManipurViolence  
@SamKhongsai\_  
@haokipkim128  
@Bec\_Eimi



5:50 PM · Oct 21, 2024 · 3,331 Views

Sushma Sharma @SushmaSh22

BREAKING NEWS #MeiteiMilitants

Chemical Warfare Against Kuki\_Zos!

An alarming video has been leaked in which Pinki Kumam, a meitei medical researcher at the @TaipeiMedicalU, says

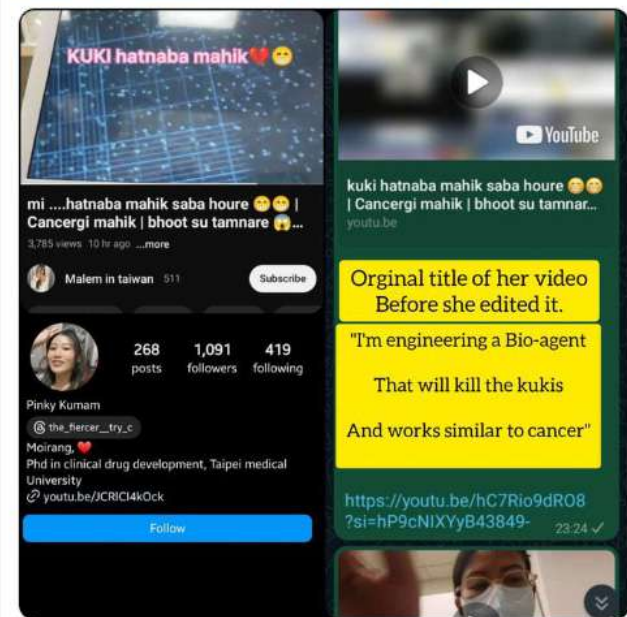
"I am engineering BioChemical that will kill #Kukis"

Her medical research/practice is unethical&must be investigated .

She should be sacked from her medical research till an impartial probe is conducted .

@RavinderKapur2

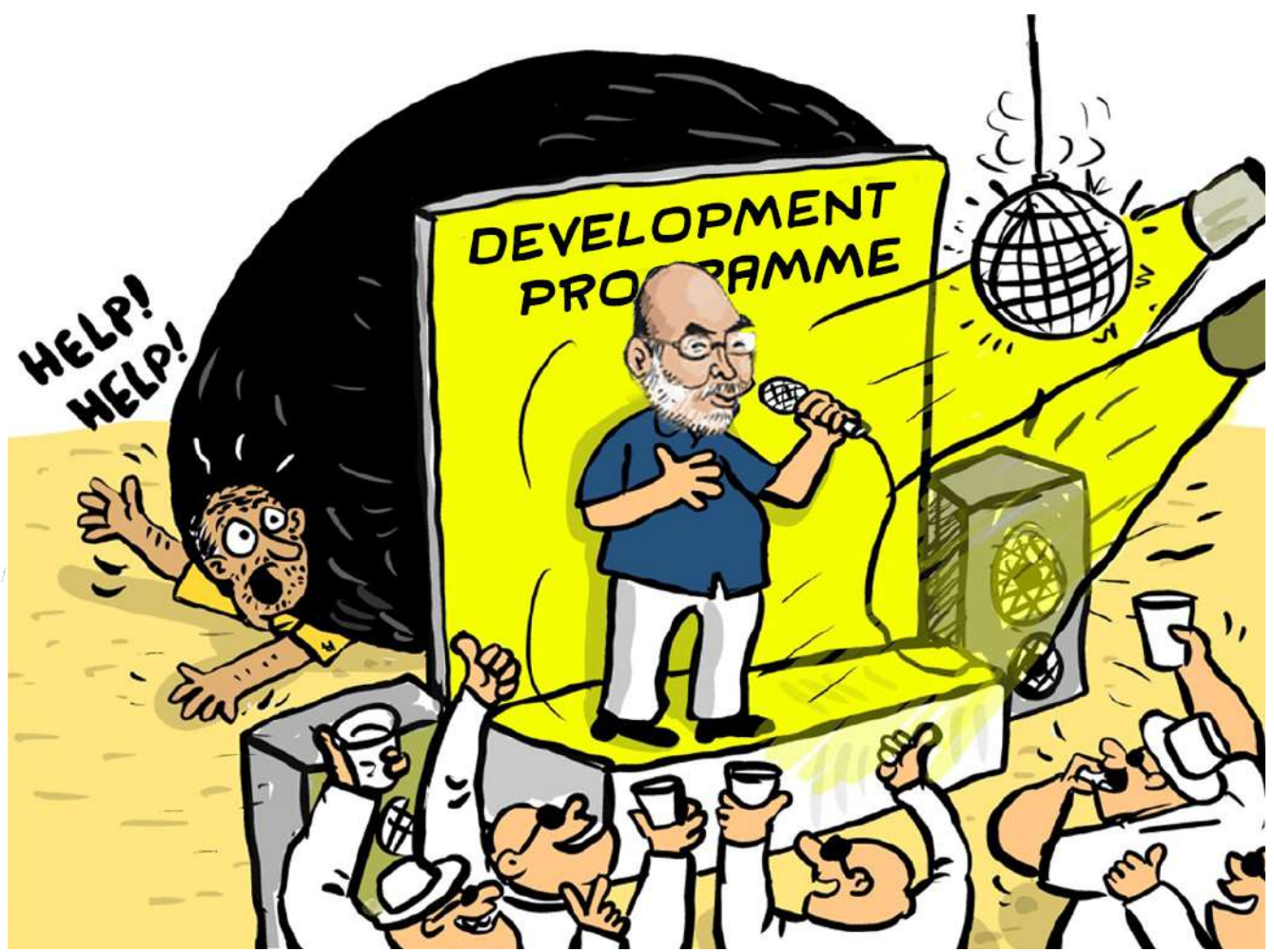
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[www.thingholemalcha.com](http://www.thingholemalcha.com)



# GUARDIANS OF THE KUKI HILLS

From erstwhile Manipur's hills to every foothill areas,  
Kuki village volunteers stand arrayed.  
Their watchful eyes scan each unfolding hour,  
Protecting every inch of their sacred soil.

They stand resolute as a sentinels of their ancestral land,  
With courage forged in fire and blood,  
They face each dawn with their unshaken spirits.

Tintong's spirit, Chengjapao's might,  
Their ranks are inspire like a shining beacons.  
Through ethnic strife and turmoil's raging sea,  
They stand firm in hounours of unwavering Kuki's spree.

With hearts of gold they safeguard traditions,  
Their resilience echoes as an unyielding fate.  
Brothers, fathers, sons stand as an unbroken light,  
This is a testament of Kuki courage anew.

Oh, Kuki village volunteers, noble and bold,  
Your resilience shines like stars in our ancestral land,  
May your unwavering hearts forever stay,  
In guarding our ancestral the hills,  
Come what may.

~ S. Albert Vaiphei