

# Thingkho *Le* Malcha

A Daily Newsletter by KSO Media & Documentation Cell



# AWAITING JUSTICE



## JANGMINLUN HAOKIP (23 YEARS)

S/O TONGLAM HAOKIP

ADDRESS: ANKHOMBUNG, SAIKUL, SADAR HILLS

DATE OF INCIDENT: 19<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2023

PLACE OF DEATH: SAIKUL, SADAR HILLS

CAUSE OF DEATH: DIED IN THE LINE OF DUTY (HEART ATTACK)



## 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.

# MEITEI ARMED RADICAL GROUP 'ARAMBAI TENGGOL' ESTABLISHED NEW UNITS IN DELHI; SPARKS ALARMING CONCERNS

The notorious Meitei radical group, Arambai Tenggol, has officially expanded its operations with the launch of a new unit in Delhi today. This group, known for its violent campaign against the minority Kuki community in Manipur, now boasts over 50 units nationwide and claims a membership exceeding 60,000.

The establishment of the Delhi unit is alarming for many, particularly among the Kuki population residing in the capital. Observers' fear this move may exacerbate tensions and threaten the safety of northeastern communities, particularly as the group has been linked to numerous war crimes against Kuki civilians in Manipur.

Arambai Tenggol, named after the historical cavalry of the Kangleipak kingdom, has recently drawn attention for its aggressive tactics, including large-scale recruitment drives, militant training sessions, and provocative public rallies. Reports indicate that the group has received support from key political figures, including Manipur's Chief Minister N. Biren Singh and the state's titular king, Leishemba Sanajaoba, both affiliated with the ruling BJP Party. Critics accuse these leaders of fostering an environment of radicalization and hate, particularly against the Kuki-Zo community,



which is often portrayed as a threat to Meitei identity.

Eyewitness accounts from recent violent outbreaks suggest that Arambai Tenggol played a pivotal role in the brutal assaults against Kuki-Zos, mobilizing quickly and effectively to instigate violence. Videos from the region show the group's members, clad in distinctive black attire emblazoned with the Kangleipak emblem, participating in coordinated attacks with little fear of legal repercussions. The establishment of the Delhi unit has heightened fears that the cycle of violence seen in Manipur could spill over into the capital, leading to further unrest and insecurity for northeastern communities.

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## MEITEI SECESSIONIST KILLED IN MYANMAR BURIED AT IMPHAL

A violent clash between Myanmar insurgent and Manipur rebels along Indo-Burma border on October 23 mornings resulted in the deaths of three leaders from two outlawed insurgent groups of the violence hit Northeastern state.

Among the casualties were Oinam Gulu, alias Babu, the leader of the People's Liberation Army (PLA), the armed wing of the Revolutionary People's Front



(RPF); Wahengbam Saratkumar alias Sopaiba, a self-styled captain with PREPAK-PRO; and Nongmaithem Bonisana alias Nongdol, a self-

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styled Lance Corporal from the same group.

Local reports indicate that the gunfight between the Meitei insurgent groups and the Kuki National Army-Burma (KNA-B) and People's Defence Force (PDF) took place in the early hours of Wednesday near the Ukhrul district of Manipur.

The exact number of casualties remains unclear, though local media sources have suggested at least

six fatalities.

Myanmar has been the hideout for Meitei secessionist group who demand secession from the Union of India. They have been waging war against the Union of India, attacking the security establishment of India on several occasions. The anti-national activities against Indian Union are carried out from Burma across the porous border.

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## MANIPUR SPEAKER'S TRIBUNAL HEARS DISQUALIFICATION CASES AGAINST 5 JD-U MLAS

Speaker's Tribunal continues hearing of disqualification cases against 5 JD-U MLAs who joined BJP. The next hearing is in three weeks.

The Speaker's Tribunal heard disqualification cases which were filed against 5 MLAs who defected from JD(U) to BJP in Manipur. The five MLAs are MLAs Khumukcham Joykisan Singh, Ngursanglur Sanate, Md Achab Uddin, Thangjam Arunkumar and LM Khaute.

The Counsel N. Bupenda Meitei, Advocate for petitioner, Hareshwar Goshwami, in Disqualification Case No. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 of 2024, submitted for urgent hearing and speedy disposal as all the pending disqualification petitions is to be decided within three months of the filing of the petitions in the Speaker's Tribunal as per the Supreme Court verdict.

He also pleaded for making the copies of orders of daily proceedings or hearing of the Speaker's Tribunal be made available. He submitted for a change of year from 2024 to 2022, as his client filed the five disqualification petitions against the defected 5 JD(U) MLAs in 2022 and not in 2024, and sought for a separate reasoned order on the change of the year from 2022 to 2024.



Ajoy Pebam, Advocate, appeared for petitioners in Disqualification Case No. 6 and 7 of 2024 for M. Dorendro Singh and M. Surjit Singh. Senior Advocate L. Anand Singh, junior associates of Senior Advocate R.S. Reisang and other learned counsels appeared for respondents in disqualification cases in today's proceedings at the Speaker's Tribunal.

The respondents' counsels pressed for 3 to 4 weeks' time while the petitioners' counsels argued for speedy disposal of the pending disqualification matters. After hearing both the parties through their counsels, the Speaker's Tribunal gave three weeks' time to the respondents for their replies and to hold the next proceedings after three weeks' time. (Economic Times)



NEWS ANALYSIS

## HAC Resolution Violates 'One Man, One Vote' Principle in Democracy

The recent HAC resolution is outright undemocratic, unconstitutional and anti-tribal. It paved the way for interference by the Executive in the Legislative sphere of the state tribal local self governance. Most importantly, it violates the ideals and the principles upon which The Manipur (Hill Areas) District Council Act 1971 was implemented and article 371C was incorporated in the constitution in the first place.

The HAC had unanimously passed a resolution to set up a committee consisting of 20 members to temporarily run the administration of the ADCs, which, among other things, states that members shall be selected and not elected from amongst the former ADC members/experts in local self governance, eminent persons/intellectuals and 2 government nominees. What compels the HAC to pass this unconstitutional and undemocratic resolution? ADC in Manipur is known more for its "NON FUNCTIONAL" purposes it served practicality due to the government's lack of intention and resistance from sections in the valley to empower it and make it truly functional. Should not their priority be passing a resolution that empowers and safeguards the tribals' right to self governance? The resolution is eroding Manipur tribals' democratic right to self determination. HAC rather empower themselves as the caretaker of people's right to elect their own representative by stripping them of that right and

adopting a decision for selection based committee . The temporary existence of the committee does not justify their decision. Can the government of India be left in the hands of a Committee if due to certain circumstances, national election can't be conducted? A selected committee can never be an alternative for an elected one if we go by the the basic principles and ideals of a democracy.

The Manipur (Hill Areas) District Council Act of 1971 was implemented with the aim of "granting the hill people a chance at self-governance, protecting their identity and culture, and giving them rights over the management of resources." Thus, I would like to raise the question to the HAC: do they believe that tribals are incapable of self-governance without the assistance of the government and experts in protecting their own resources? Do they think that tribals in Manipur lack the wisdom and intelligence of their counterparts in other communities?

Selection-based ADCs are unjustifiable in themselves, but the inclusion of government-nominated members is an act of lunacy. With this inclusion, there will no longer be a separation of powers between the executive branch of the

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state government and the legislature of the local government. This undermines the basic structure of any federal system, which is meant to ensure that there is no tyranny of one over the other and to uphold the very idea of devolving power to local governments.

The provision of the Act clearly outlines that the Autonomous District Councils are to have not more than 18 members and these members should be elected members. Thus the question remains, will any democratic constitution empower any organisation or body to appoint lawmakers for the people based on their whims and fancies by undermining the powers of the ordinary people's right to elect their own representatives, that too at a local self governance level? No. So, who basically empowered them to form a committee that not only has more than the permitted composition but also to change the criteria to become its member? They have basically taken away the people's right for self determination and voting powers which is the very soul of any democracy and which makes the government a democratic one. How can they empower a committee which will perform the same role and authority of a local level self governance without the people's consent upon whom they will legislate and rule? Temporary existence is not an excuse, democracy is not a joke which you can replace temporarily based on your wisdom with dictatorship or any other form of government. Or is this how much the tribal self governance institution the ADC worth in your eyes?

HAC must have drawn their inspiration from the

recent appointment of interim government and prime minister in Bangladesh. They seem to forget that it was necessary there as a country needs a federal government to function, but a country can still function without the existence of local level government. It is rather implemented to recognise people's right to self-governance and to ensure that democracy reaches at everyone's doorstep. Local self governance like the ADC is an extra role, namely protection and safeguarding of tribal rights.

The decision for inclusion of former elected members does not represent the people's voice either. Else why do we have regular MLA and MP elections? Just because they were elected by the people once or continue to be elected members, it doesn't come with life long guarantee that they will have the legitimacy to represent the people anytime they are asked to. It does not function that way in a democracy. The inclusion of experts does not give them the legitimacy either. If expertise in the field is the criteria for a people's representative, majority of the HAC members won't have the eligibility to pass the resolution in itself. It is the people's voice and people's consent that legitimise the democracy and its form of government.

The HAC Resolution thus justifies the reason why they are unfit for the job. They should not only resign but nullify or withdraw the resolution they submitted to the government for the interest of the tribals in the state.



**Know thy self, know thy enemy. A thousand battles, a thousand victories.**

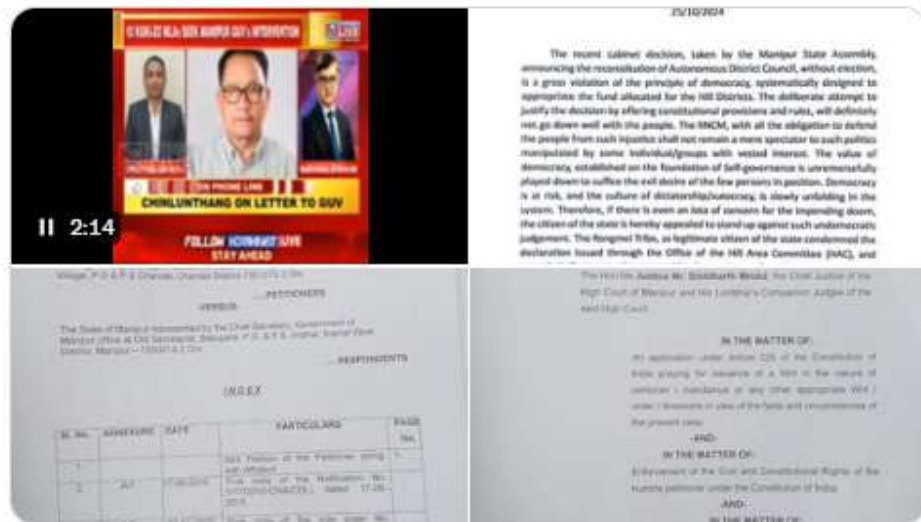
— Sun Tzu

THE SOCIAL MEDIA BUZZ

The Proud Indian  
@DynastyDoungel

Autonomous District Council without election and HAC Meeting without concern Minister? This can happen only in MP under @NBirenSingh. For how long you'll suck up entire Autonomous District Council fund as if this is your father properties.

@PMOIndia @HMOIndia @TribalAffairsIn



10:36 PM · Oct 25, 2024 · 87 Views

Ravinder Kapur.  
@RavinderKapur2

How is it possible that Arambai Tenggol, the main instigator of ethnic violence against the minority Kuki in Manipur last year, has opened a branch in New Delhi?

The Delhi Police and NIA must act swiftly to investigate and arrest all those involved.

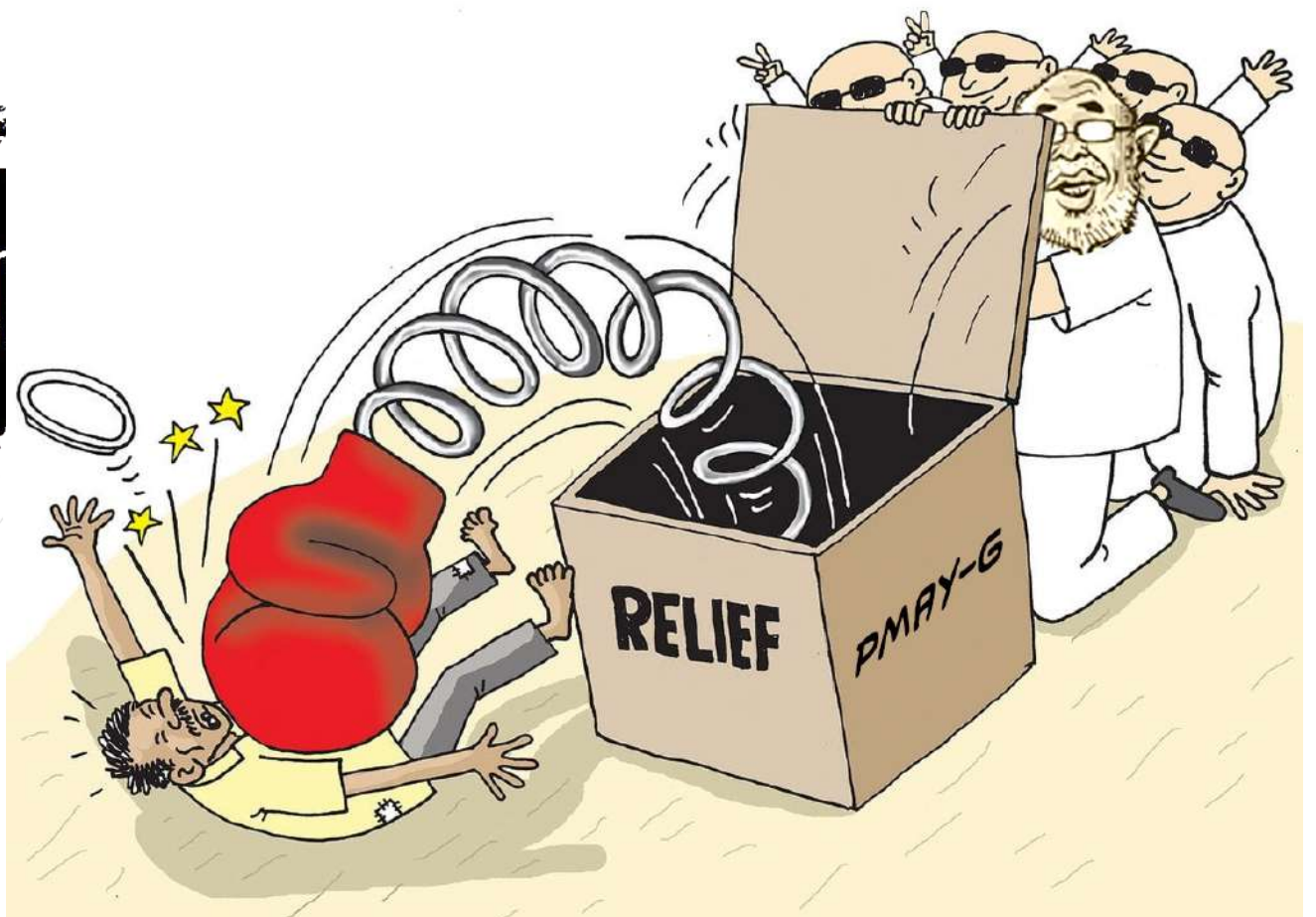
@DelhiPolice @NIA\_India



5:03 PM · Oct 25, 2024 · 1,588 Views

Post MORTEM

THE REALITY OF 'RELIEF PACKAGE'



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# UPRISING OF THE HILLS: THE ANGLO-KUKI WAR 1917-1919

Upon the hills of mist and green,  
Where valleys cradle ancient dreams;  
A people rose, proud and bold,  
Their hearts of fire, their spirit untold.  
The Kuki tribes, fierce and free,  
In Manipur, they stood in unity;  
Against the British, far and wide,  
They chose their land, their honor, their pride.

The drums of war began to sound,  
As foreign boots trod sacred ground;  
From village homes to mountain peak,  
The Kuki cry, defiant and bleak.  
With spears and guns in hand they fought,  
A battle that history forgot;  
The jungle thick, their ally true,  
The earth they loved, the skies they knew.

Through storm and fire, loss and pain,  
They fought for freedom, not for gain;  
Though outnumbered, they did not yield,  
Their souls became the battlefield.  
The war it raged for years untold,  
Stories of courage, fierce and bold;  
And though they fell, they stood as one,  
Their legacy, forever sung.

The Anglo-Kuki War, in blood and stone,  
A tale of warriors, lives overthrown;  
But in the winds, their whispers soar—  
A people's dream to be no more.  
The hills remember, the land still weeps,  
For those who fought, for what they keep;  
And in the silence, one can hear,  
The echo of the Kuki spear

~ S. Sonminthang Mate

