

R-DAY
Special edition

Boycott of Republic Day: A Reflection of Meiteis' Anti-India stance amid their Secessionism

While the valley-based militant groups have called for a boycott of the Republic Day function and disparagingly dubbed the occasion "**Colonialist Replicate Day**" the hill dwellers, particularly the Kuki people, have united with the rest of India by unfurling the TRICOLOUR.

A Strategic Approach to Land
Grabbing and Tribal
Marginalization

Meitei Salami Slicing Policy

boycott



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KUKI VICTIMS' UPDATE



224
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 APEX BODY REJECTS COCOMI'S UNFOUNDED ALLEGATION

LAMKA, January 26: The Kuki Inpi has issued a strong condemnation of the Coordinating Committee on Manipur Integrity (COCOMI) for what it calls a “false and baseless” claim that the Kuki-Zo community instigated the ongoing conflict in Manipur. The Kuki Inpi, which represents the Kuki-Zo people, denounced the allegation as a deliberate attempt to distort history and mislead the public, claiming that the true perpetrators of the violence are being allowed to escape accountability.

In a statement issued on January 25, 2025, Janghaolun Haokip, Secretary for Information & Publicity of the Kuki Inpi, said that COCOMI’s accusations are part of a broader agenda to deflect responsibility from the radical Meitei leadership, who they accuse of inciting violence against the Kuki-Zo people. According to the Kuki Inpi, COCOMI is a key instrument in the Meitei leadership’s propaganda campaign, which began with a declaration of a so-called “Manipuri National War” against the Kuki-Zo people on June 7, 2023.

Since the onset of the conflict on May 3, 2023, the Kuki-Zo community has endured widespread violence, including killings, the destruction of villages, and the burning and looting of homes and properties. The Kuki Inpi pointed to the complicity of the state government under Chief Minister N. Biren Singh and its support for radical militias, which they say has enabled this wave of persecution.

The Kuki Inpi is calling for the immediate creation of a Union Territory for the Kuki-Zo people to ensure their protection, culture, and identity are safeguarded. They argue that this is the only viable solution to end the violence and provide justice for the community. The Kuki Inpi also demanded that the Meitei leadership cease their campaign of violence, propaganda, and obstruction of justice.

“This conflict is not just about territorial disputes; it is about the survival of our community. We demand the recognition of our rights and dignity. Any further



PRESS RELEASE
KIM Secretariat, the 25th January, 2025

04/KIM/PR/21-86: The Kuki Inpi vehemently rejects and condemns the outrageous and absurd claim made by the Coordinating Committee on Manipur Integrity (COCOMI), falsely accusing the Kuki-Zo people of instigating the ongoing Manipur conflict. This baseless allegation is not only a flagrant distortion of history but also a deliberate attempt to mislead the public and whitewash the heinous actions of the true perpetrators of violence in the region.

It is a damning indictment of the radical Meitei leadership’s malice and agenda that COCOMI, a key instrument of their propaganda machinery, publicly declared a so-called “Manipuri National War” against the Kuki-Zo people on June 7, 2023. The accusation that the Kuki-Zo community initiated the conflict, therefore, is a calculated attempt to rewrite history and obscure the truth. The radical Meitei leadership, spearheaded by Chief Minister N. Biren Singh and supported by his private militias, COCOMI and VBIGs, has consistently propagated falsehoods and incited violence against the Kuki-Zo people. Their collusion with the state apparatus has resulted in widespread atrocities, ethnic cleansing, and the destruction of our community.

Since May 3, 2023, the Kuki-Zo people have faced relentless persecution. Hundreds of innocent Kuki-Zo civilians have been brutally killed, and entire villages, homes, and properties have been systematically destroyed, burned, and looted. This campaign of terror is a testament to the radical Meitei leadership’s intent to annihilate our community and erase our existence from our ancestral lands while the Manipur state government, under the leadership of N. Biren Singh, is actively abetting this genocidal campaign.

In light of these sustained atrocities and the undeniable complicity of the state, the only viable solution to restore peace, justice, and dignity is the immediate creation of a Union Territory for the Kuki-Zo people to ensure the protection of our culture, land, and identity and to guarantee our rights as enshrined in the Constitution of India. The radical Meitei leadership, including the Chief Minister, his militias, and organisations like COCOMI, must immediately cease their campaign of violence, propaganda, obstruction of justice and denial of equality to the Kuki-Zo people. The Kuki-Zo demand nothing less than the full recognition of their rights and dignity, and any further attempts to suppress or marginalise our community will only deepen the crisis and escalate the injustice perpetrated by the current regime.

Janghaolun Haokip
(JANGHAOLUN HAOKIP)
Secretary, Information & Publicity
Kuki Inpi Manipur



attempts to suppress or marginalize us will only deepen the crisis,” the statement read.

The Kuki Inpi’s call for a Union Territory comes at a time when tensions in the region continue to escalate, with both sides accusing each other of provoking violence and inflaming the situation.

The statement concludes with a call for peace, justice, and recognition of the rights of the Kuki-Zo people, urging the government of India to take immediate action to protect the community from further harm.

KUKI-ZO COUNCIL MEETS MHA: CEASEFIRE AND DEMAND FOR SEPARATE ADMINISTRATION ON THE TABLE



New Delhi, January 23: New Delhi: For the first time since the outbreak of violence in Manipur, representatives of the Kuki-Zo Council met with senior home ministry officials in New Delhi on January 17. The meeting was facilitated by Northeast advisor A.K. Mishra and Intelligence Bureau joint director Rajesh Kamble.

The Kuki-Zo Council, which was formed in October last year in response to the prolonged violence, sent four representatives to the high-level talks.

During the discussions, the home ministry reportedly urged the Kuki-Zo community to agree to a ceasefire in the coming months as a preliminary step toward resolution.

Sources from Churachandpur district, one of the epicentres of the conflict, told The Wire that if the Kuki-Zo Council agrees to the ceasefire proposal, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) may offer concrete measures to address the community's long-standing demands and grievances.

Top Demands: Separate administration, improved medical facilities, and lasting peace

The violence in Manipur, which erupted on May 3, 2023, between the Kuki-Zo and Meitei communities, has deeply polarised the state. The Kuki-Zo community has since demanded a separate administration, alleging bias by chief minister Biren Singh, who belongs to the Meitei community.

It has been noted that since the inception of the violence Biren has not visited any of the hill districts, further fuelling resentment. Moreover, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has yet to visit the state, drawing criticism from the affected communities.

Days after the meeting, on January 22, it was reported that the Manipur chief of a key ally of the Bharatiya Janata Party – in power in both the Union government and Manipur – Janata Dal

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(United), sent a letter to the state's governor saying that the party had withdrawn its support to the state government. The JD(U) sacked Ksh Biren Singh,

In the meeting with MHA officials, the Kuki-Zo Council submitted a list of demands, highlighting key issues such as alleged budgetary discrimination by the Manipur government since 2017. The council claims that funds have been disproportionately allocated to benefit the Meitei-dominated regions at the expense of the hill districts.

Although the council had planned to hold a press briefing on January 18 to disclose their demands publicly, the event was unexpectedly cancelled. However, The Wire has accessed a copy of its submission to the MHA, which underscores the urgency of addressing these issues to bring stability to the region.

Medical facilities

The Kuki-Zo community has voiced grave concerns over the lack of medical facilities in the hill areas of Manipur in the note it submitted to the MHA:

“Basic medical facilities are also a cause for concern. For instance, there is only one hospital serving a population of 1,93,744 in Kangpokpi. Due to the rough terrain and prolonged violence, accessing treatment or education in the valley is not an option. Continued targeted violence against residents of these villages has brought education, medical treatment, and other basic services to a standstill. Traveling to neighboring states to access these services is also unfeasible, as doing so requires long journeys through a valley where the safety and security of hill residents are constantly under threat.”

This issue is not new in Manipur but has been exacerbated since the outbreak of violence on May 3, 2023. Healthcare services in the hill regions have nearly collapsed, leaving thousands of residents vulnerable. In June 2023, just a month after the violence began, Union home minister Amit Shah acknowledged the

dire situation and promised to deploy doctors from the Centre to the hill areas, as residents could no longer travel to the state capital due to safety concerns.

However, community leaders claim that this assurance has gone unfulfilled. No additional medical personnel have been sent, leading to a healthcare crisis. Locals report numerous deaths caused by the lack of medical care and timely treatment.

One recent incident illustrates the severity of the problem. A 45-year-old woman, Heshi Mate, lost her eye due to injuries sustained during conflict and 50 women were reported to have been injured.

Separate administration

In their letter, the Kuki-Zo Council highlighted the ongoing destruction of their homes and lives. They reported that nearly 7,000 homes have been demolished, over 220 Kuki-Zo lives have been lost, more than 360 places of worship have been destroyed, and approximately 40,000 people have been displaced.

The Kuki-Zo also raised concerns about the constant threats posed by militant groups such as Arambai Tenggol and Valley-Based Insurgent Groups (VBIG). They alleged that these groups, armed with weapons smuggled across borders or looted from state armouries, have openly declared their intent to kill or forcibly expel the Kuki-Zo people from their ancestral lands.

Highlighting the breakdown of trust and governance, the Kuki-Zo Council underscored the urgent need for a political solution. They

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stated that peaceful coexistence between the Meitei and Kuki-Zo communities is no longer viable, given the continued hostility, discrimination, and insecurity. :

“Even the cessation of violence does not inspire any sense of security or comfort for the Kuki-Zo people. Any arrangement with law and order under the control of the State of Manipur would not ensure the safety of the Kuki-Zo people.”

The council also highlighted the plight of displaced individuals, many of whom had been living in Imphal and other valley regions before being rendered homeless.

The letter detailed the administrative collapse in the five districts primarily inhabited by the Kuki-Zo community. Governance and essential services have come to a standstill, with experienced Kuki-Zo officers unable to work due to the lack of a functioning administrative framework. Meanwhile, critical supplies to these districts are being systematically blocked, further isolating the affected communities, it said.

Systematic undermining of autonomy

The Kuki-Zo Council also pointed out the systematic erosion of the protections guaranteed under Article 371C of the Indian constitution. This article, designed to safeguard the cultural and administrative autonomy

of hill areas, has been rendered ineffective over time. They outlined three key areas of concern:

Control of Finances: Despite Article 371C, financial resources and their allocation remain tightly controlled by the state government. This centralised control has left Autonomous District Councils (ADCs) powerless to address the developmental needs of the Kuki-Zo and other marginalised hill communities.

Delay in ADC Elections: The failure to conduct timely elections for the ADCs undermines the functioning of these councils, leaving hill communities voiceless and without representation.

Limited Powers of ADCs: Even where ADCs exist, their powers remain severely restricted. The councils lack the autonomy needed to govern effectively or drive local development.

Promises from the MHA

Following the discussions, the MHA reportedly assured the Kuki-Zo Council that tangible solutions would be explored after the community agrees to a ceasefire. The MHA also announced plans to hold a meeting with leaders from the Meitei community in the coming weeks as part of efforts to broker peace. (The Wire)



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

— *Kwame Nkrumah*

CoTU REBUKES MANIPUR CHIEF MINISTER'S DISTORTED NARRATIVES



In a fiery response to Chief Minister N. Biren Singh's recent media statements dismissing allegations of discrimination between Manipur's hills and valley, the Committee on Tribal Unity (CoTU) has denounced his remarks as baseless and misleading. The organization has accused the Chief Minister of presenting a distorted narrative that fails to reflect the grim realities faced by tribal communities.

The much-publicized "Go to Village" program, touted as a cornerstone of equitable development, has been criticized as a veiled attempt to impose expansionist policies in tribal regions. According to CoTU, the real markers of development—such as improved quality of life, access to quality education, healthcare, and sustainable livelihoods—are glaringly absent in the hills, exposing the program as little more than a political gimmick.

The committee further lambasted the state government for what they described as an abject failure to deliver on key governance fronts, including addressing unemployment, starvation, militarization, and the widening trust deficit between tribal and non-tribal communities. They pointed to the eruption of violence

on May 3, 2023, as a symptom of this systemic failure.

Additionally, CoTU condemned a recent wave of media reports from valley-based outlets alleging the recruitment of child militants in Ponlen village. These reports, the committee asserts, are "irresponsible, defamatory, and a blatant violation of journalistic ethics." Such narratives, they argued, are designed to vilify the Kuki-Zo community and escalate tensions.

CoTU called on both local and national media to exercise restraint and prioritize balanced, factual reporting. They emphasized the role of the media in fostering trust and understanding between communities rather than inflaming the volatile situation.

"Constructive dialogue and fair information are essential to rebuilding mutual coexistence," the committee stated. They urged all stakeholders to focus on bridging divides and creating an environment conducive to peace and sustainable development.

BORDER VILLAGES IN CHANDEL DISTRICT PROTEST AGAINST GOVERNMENT'S MOVE TO CONSTRUCT BORDER FENCING



Chandel, January 26: A large group of people from the border villages of India on January 25 staged a massive protest against the government's proposal to construct border fencing. The rally, which began in Molcham village—located just a stone's throw from Myanmar—traveled a long distance to culminate near the 17th Assam Rifle camp in Molcham.

The protest was organized by several local groups, including the Kuki Chief Association (KCA) Chandel, the Committee on Indo-Myanmar Border Fencing, KSO Chandel, and the Kuki Inpi Chandel.

The rally commenced at the village cemetery, with the official launch led by KCA President Thangzamang. Protesters carried placards bearing slogans such as “We Oppose the Proposed Construction of Border Fencing,” “Border Fencing Isolates Our Families and Communities,” and “Stop Implementation of Border Fencing Projects.” The crowd also chanted “We Oppose Border Fencing Construction” and “Stop Border Fencing Construction,” while a large banner read “Protest Against Construction of Indo-Myanmar Border Fencing.”

A memorandum was also submitted to Union Home Minister Amit Shah, outlining the protesters' objections to the border fencing plan. Thangzamang expressed frustration at the government's stance, stating that

despite multiple appeals, the central government is pressing ahead with the project. He emphasized that the community would not accept the construction of the border fencing in the area.

Thangzamang further explained that while discussions had taken place with district officials and other authorities, the survey for land compensation had been carried out without proper consultation with local landowners or village chiefs. He criticized the government for discreetly transferring compensation funds to the Deputy Commissioner's account, which the local people strongly oppose.

“The government is determined to construct the border fencing at any cost,” Thangzamang said. “However, we will fight this decision with all our might.” He also voiced concerns about the cultural and social impact of the fencing, stating that the people of the area have lived borderless for generations. The construction of the fencing would, in his view, sever their ties with their ethnic relatives across the border, complicating social interactions and potentially damaging longstanding relationships with communities in Myanmar.

CONGRESS ACCUSES PM MODI OF 'OUTSOURCING' MANIPUR TO HOME MINISTER AMIT SHAH

New Delhi, January 21: The Opposition Congress on Tuesday accused Prime Minister Narendra Modi of abdicating his responsibilities by "outsourcing" Manipur to Union Home Minister Amit Shah amid the ethnic violence in the state.

Party leader Jairam Ramesh also reiterated the Congress' demand that the prime minister visit the state in light of the violence. "This is the very least he can do to show his concern if he has any," Ramesh said in a social media post.

The Rajya Sabha MP's statement came after the prime minister, earlier in the day, greeted the residents of Manipur on their Statehood Day.

Manipur attained statehood on January 21, 1972, under the North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) Act.

"We are incredibly proud of the role played by the people of Manipur towards India's development," the prime minister said. "My best wishes for the progress of Manipur."

Responding to this, Ramesh claimed that Modi had "stubbornly refused to visit Manipur even briefly" since the ethnic clashes broke out between the Meiteis and Kuki-Zo-Hmars communities in May 2023.

At least 258 persons have been killed and more than 59,000 persons displaced in the clashes. There was an uptick in violence in the state in November.

Ramesh said that the prime minister had travelled all over the world but "not found the time nor the inclination to reach out to the people of the state in Imphal and other places". Modi had "stubbornly refused"



Jairam Ramesh
@Jairam_Ramesh



The formerly non-biological - and now suddenly human - Prime Minister has just sent greetings to the people of Manipur on their Statehood Day through social media.

Yet, he has stubbornly refused to visit Manipur even briefly ever since its agony began on May 3, 2023. He has gone all over the world but has not found the time nor the inclination to reach out to the people of the state in Imphal and other places.

Mr. Modi has stubbornly refused to meet MLAs of his own party in the state. He has not had a one-on-one meeting with the CM, nor has he met with MPs, political leaders, and civil society organisations of the state.

His Statehood Day greetings are hollow and reflect his hypocrisy - which knows no limits.

[@INCIndia](#) demands that he visit Manipur immediately. This is the very least he can do to show his concern if he has any. Outsourcing Manipur to the Union Home Minister is an abdication of Prime Ministerial responsibility and has proved disastrous.

9:46 AM · Jan 21, 2025 · 21.6K Views

to meet MLAs of his own Bharatiya Janata Party in the state, he added.

"He has not had a one-on-one meeting with the CM [Chief Minister N Biren Singh], nor has he met with MPs, political leaders, and civil society organisations of the state," the Rajya Sabha MP claimed. "His Statehood Day greetings are hollow and reflect his hypocrisy - which knows no limits."

The Congress has repeatedly questioned why Modi has not visited the state since the violence began in 2023. The party has also asked why he has been silent on the matter. (Scroll.in)

DELHI HC STEPS IN OVER SSC EXAMINATION IN CHURACHANDPUR FOLLOWING KUKI STUDENTS' ORGANIZATION WRIT PETITION



New Delhi, January 22: The High Court of Delhi has directed Staff Selection Commission (SSC) to consider holding all competitive and recruitment related examinations in the Hill districts of Manipur including Churachandpur district.

It also directed SSC to consider the affidavit filed by Kuki civil bodies as well as the assessment report that is stated to have been furnished to SSC and take an informed decision regarding holding of the examination in the district in question.

In a writ petition filed by the Kuki Students' Organisation (KSO) regarding Examination Centres in hill districts, the Court directed that if the SSC is of the view that the examinations cannot be held in the given centre, it would ensure that an alternative arrangement is made and information regarding the same is disseminated well in time.

The bench of Acting Chief Justice, Vibhu Bakhru and Justice Tushar Rao Gadela took up the matter and passed an order on January 15, 2025.

The petitioner (KSO) has filed the present petition, inter alia, praying that directions be issued to the Staff Selection Commission (SSC) to reinstate Churachandpur, Manipur as an examination venue for recruitment

examinations conducted by the Commission as scheduled in the present academic year and for the upcoming examinations in the forthcoming academic year(s).

Staff Selection Commission (SSC) had suspended holding examination in Churachandpur, Manipur on account of security concerns. The question essentially relates to whether the security concerns have been fully addressed to hold examinations in the said location. SSC also submitted to the Court that it was keen to hold the examinations at the said centre but had refrained from doing so on account of security concerns.

The Court had noted the aforesaid contentions and had directed SSC to carry out an updated assessment and file a fresh status report. In this case, the counsel for the petitioner and the State of Manipur have assured and undertaken to the Court that all cooperation should be extended to the SSC team in holding examinations at Churachandpur. The statements made by counsel for the petitioner and the State of Manipur were taken on record.

In view of the above, the Court has closed the petition and pending application has also been disposed off.



NEWS ANALYSIS

Boycott of Republic Day: A Reflection of Meiteis' Anti-India Stance Amid Their Secessionism

As the people of India celebrate the 76th Republic Day with enthusiasm, secessionist groups of Meiteis in the north-eastern corners of the country have, time and again, boycotted the grand celebration, raising serious questions about their genuine loyalty to India's sovereignty and integrity.

The anti-India stance of the Meiteis in their ancestral valley of Imphal is starkly and consistently reflected in their calls for boycotts of every important national event, which is celebrated across the country each year. Once again, they have demonstrated their disloyalty to India by boycotting Republic Day on January 26, 2025, and announcing a total shutdown for 18 hours on the day.

Ahead of the 76th Republic Day, the proscribed Meitei terrorist organizations in Manipur—SOREPA (Socialist Revolutionary Party Kangleipak) and CorCOM (Coordination Committee)—had called for a boycott and shutdown of the occasion.

The Coordination Committee (CorCom), a conglomerate of Meitei extremist groups boycotting Republic Day, consists of several proscribed outfits, including the Kangleipak Communist Party (KCP), the Revolutionary People's Front/People's Liberation Army (RPF/PLA), the People's Revolutionary Party of Kangleipak (PREPAK),

PREPAK-Pro, the Kanglei Yawol Kanna Lup (KYKL), and the United National Liberation Front (UNLF). These groups have long been advocating for the establishment of the erstwhile Meitei Kingdom.

Meiteis' Ethnocentric Nationalism:

It is clear that the Meiteis' ethnocentric nationalism is based on their anti-India sentiments. This can be substantiated by observing their self-proclaimed Independence Day, which falls on August 14, and their consistent boycott of India's Independence Day, Republic Day, and other national events. Though they overtly claim to be Indian nationalists, they have no sense of attachment to India's fraternity. They are truly secessionists, and the idea of India's sovereignty and integrity is repugnant to them.

Their separatist agenda is clearly evident in their pursuit of undermining India's sovereign republic. They have a history of attacking and killing Indian security forces/Indian Army personnel, burning the national flag, banning the national anthem, killing

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mainland Indians in the Imphal valley, and restricting/banning Hindi films. While posing as nationalists online, they push a separatist agenda. They are hypocrites!

Moreover, in recent years, the Meiteis have based their nationalism on ethno-religious rhetoric. Once followers of Hinduism, they have now rejected it and opted for Sanamahism. Under the pretext of preserving or saving “Manipuri/Meitei Culture,” radical Meitei leaders formed the Arambai Tenggol (meaning “dart-wielding cavalry” in Meitei), a private militia group, under the patronage of narcissistic political leaders like N. Biren Singh, the Chief Minister, and their titular king, Leishemba Sanajaoba, the lone Rajya Sabha MP from Manipur. They called for the revival of their Sanamahi religion and forced their people to obey their dictates.

Along with the militias, the Meitei terrorist groups and their supporters have openly challenged the unity and integrity of India, focusing primarily on preserving their Meitei indigenous culture, religion, tradition, and identity, as well as restoring the “glorious past of Kangleipak” [the old name of the Meitei kingdom before King Pamheiba/Gharib Niwas changed its name to Manipur in 1724].

Contrasting Views of Meiteis and Kuki-Zos in Manipur:

While the Meiteis are highly resistant to the idea of being Indian, the Kuki-Zo ethnic groups in Manipur and elsewhere across the country are fully embracing India with pride, celebrating its values and democratic fabric. This stark contrast reveals the differing attitudes towards national identity and unity in the region.

There has been a deep divide among the people of Manipur in the wake of the state-sponsored ethnic cleansing pogrom. The divide between the hills and the valley, which has been engulfed in violent unrest for the past 20 months, has resurfaced amid Republic Day celebrations.

While the valley-based militant groups have called for a boycott of the Republic Day function and disparagingly dubbed the occasion “Colonialist Replicate Day” by enforcing a statewide shutdown, the hill dwellers, particularly the Kuki people, have united with the rest of India by unfurling the tricolour.

Contrary to the Meitei secessionist agenda, Kuki groups have been demanding their legitimate rights under the constitutional framework of free India.

It is worth mentioning that even though the proscribed Meitei terrorists are still banning Bollywood films in Manipur, the Kuki people, in defiance of the Meiteis, began screening Hindi films like *Uri* and *Kuch Kuch Hota Hai* after 23 years, during the Independence Day celebrations of 2023. They are building cultural bridges, celebrating Indian identity, and standing firmly with the nation.

Despite being fully aware of the Meitei terrorist groups’ anti-India attitude by boycotting Independence Day and Republic Day for decades, media outlets like Arnab Goswami’s Republic TV and his cohorts, along with some pliable mainland journalists, have been trying to portray the Kuki-Zo community as anti-India. This is pathetic and shameful.

Kuki Community’s Role in the Freedom Struggle:

History testifies that the Kuki people fully participated in India’s freedom struggle. In defence of their land and freedom, the Kuki-Zo groups bravely fought British colonialism for three years from 1917 to 1919, commonly known as the Kuki Rebellion.

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It is vital to recognize the remarkable contributions of the Kuki community to India's freedom movement. Known for their martial traditions and resistance to British rule, the Kukis played a crucial role in the Indian National Army (INA) during World War II.

In 1944, as the INA entered Manipur from Burma, the Kukis extended unwavering support by providing food, shelter, and intelligence. Hundreds of Kuki youth joined the INA, fighting bravely in battles like the Burma Campaign. Kuki women also played a significant role in underground operations, gathering intelligence and aiding the INA's efforts.

Netaji's visit to Churachandpur in 1944 was met with enthusiasm by the Kukis, who saw his vision of a free

and united India as their own. Despite hardships and sacrifices, the Kuki community's commitment to the cause of independence remained steadfast.

Their contributions reflect their deep patriotism and deserve greater recognition in the annals of Indian history. The Kuki story stands as a reminder of the collective sacrifices that led to India's independence.

It is high time that the Government of India and right-thinking citizens of the country recognize the Kuki-Zo community as the last frontier tribes guarding the nation in the borderlands.



Arijit Nobody
@kalkibegins

Being Majority in Manipur, Meitei organisation like CoRCOM can even boycott republic day celebration. U really feel this nation is under control of @narendramodi or @AmitShah ? If yes then they r terrorists

Imphal: The Coordination Committee (CoRCOM), an apex body of six banned outlawed groups in Manipur, on Tuesday, called an 18-hour total shutdown on January 26, from 12:00 AM to 6:00 PM boycotting the Republic Day celebrations 2025.

The CoRCOM, in a statement, urged the public to refrain from participating in the celebrations, stay indoors, and avoid activities that could support the day's observance.

The CoRCOM comprised of proscribed Kangleipak Communist Party (KCP), Kanglei Yawol Kanna Lup (KYKL), People's Revolutionary Party of Kangleipak (PREPAK), its Progressive faction (PREPAK-Pro), Revolutionary People's Front (RPF, the political wing of the People's Liberation Army- PLA), and United National Liberation Front (UNLF), have been demanding Manipur a sovereign nation.

On Monday, the outlawed Socialist Revolutionary Party (SOREPA), Kangleipak, has also declared a boycott of R Day 2025 in Manipur.

Manipur: CorCom Calls for Republic Day Shutdown

3:42 PM · Jan 22, 2025

11:54 AM · Jan 23, 2025 · 844 Views

Ravinder Kapur.
@RavinderKapur2

x1 ...

The Manipur Hills and Valley are clearly divided over the upcoming #RepublicDay2025.

The Meitei militant group, CoRCOM, has issued an 18-hour shutdown to assert their stance, while the Kuki community in the hills defiantly embraces the Republic Day celebrations.

**Republic Day Celebration 2025
in Manipur**

**BOYCOTT
in Meitei-Dominated
Valley Districts**

**WELCOME
in Kuki-Dominated
Hills Districts**

12:31 PM · Jan 25, 2025 · 1,051 Views



OPINION

Meitei Salami Slicing Policy: A Strategic Approach to Land Grabbing and Tribal Marginalization

Seilalmuon Haokip

The salami slicing policy refers to achieving a larger goal through incremental, almost imperceptible steps, making it difficult for others to notice. In geopolitics, an example of this is China's actions in the South China Sea and along the Indo-China border. Similarly, this strategy appears to be employed by the Meitei-led government in Manipur, as evidenced by their seemingly biased actions, which have been widely criticized on social media and reflected in government-issued orders. Unfortunately, the Manipur government has come to be seen as synonymous with the Meitei government—a fact that should no longer remain an open secret. For too long, we have failed to recognize their broader plan to encroach upon our lands. It seems, however, that on May 3, 2023, their hidden agenda was exposed, perhaps as a consequence of divine justice. India is a federal democracy with a unitary bias, and our constitution embraces asymmetrical federalism. This ensures that some states or regions have greater autonomy than others, which highlights the beauty of our constitutional framework. During the colonial period, the British attempted to extend their control over tribal areas by introducing land revenue settlements, forest policies, and encouraging the entry of outsiders. However, these policies were met with fierce resistance, leading to tribal rebellions. Following these uprisings, the British Crown chose to minimize interference in tribal regions.

The Government of India Act of 1870 led to the creation

of Special Areas, and the Scheduled District Act of 1874 established the Scheduled Areas. The Government of India Act of 1919 empowered the Governor-General to declare territories as backward tracts, introducing the concept of excluded and partially excluded areas. Later, the Government of India Act of 1935 formalized these categories, paving the way for the Fifth and Sixth Schedules in our constitution. Excluded areas primarily covered hilly regions in Northeast India under the Governor's authority, while partially excluded areas aimed to protect tribal populations in states like Bihar, Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, and Maharashtra. When the Indian constitution came into force in 1950, these protections for tribal communities were incorporated. The Fifth Schedule safeguards tribal populations across most states, while the Sixth Schedule offers enhanced protections for northeast tribal communities—except those in Manipur and Arunachal Pradesh. For these exceptions, the constitution provides Special Provisions under Article 371C (introduced via the 27th Constitutional Amendment Act of 1971) for Manipur and Article 371H for Arunachal Pradesh.

Interestingly, some northeastern states enjoy dual protection under special provisions and either the

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Fifth or Sixth Schedule. While the Indian government has granted special provisions to Manipur's tribal communities to facilitate smooth state administration, it has repeatedly declined their demand for Sixth Schedule protections. This reluctance likely stems from the state's proximity to Myanmar and concerns about the rise of regional political power. Ironically, this refusal has only intensified regional politics, as evident in the Manipur government's persistent neglect of tribal groups, including the Nagas and Kukis. The Manipur (Hill Areas) District Council Act of 1971, enacted when Manipur was a Union Territory, sought to grant some degree of autonomy to tribal communities. This autonomy functioned between 1973 and 1988, but the state government suspended it until resuming the six Autonomous District Councils between 2010 and 2020. Yet, as highlighted earlier, the Meitei-led government has systematically employed the salami slicing policy to erode even the minimal autonomy safeguarded by the constitution. Moreover, the Manipur Legislative Assembly's Hill Areas Committee (HAC) order of 1972 remains largely ineffective—its provisions seem robust on paper but lack meaningful implementation in practice.

THE MEITEI GOVERNMENT'S LAND GRABBING STRATEGY

Had their secret agenda not been exposed on May 3, 2023, we might have found ourselves landless within the next decade, swallowed by their insidious plans. Among the tribals, the Kukis in Manipur have been the most naïve. Have we ever witnessed thousands of Meiteis settling in Kacha Naga areas? Certainly not. Yet, they have settled in Kuki territories in large numbers, amassing wealth and influence far beyond ours. If the Meitei leaders hadn't ignited the conflict, we might never have realized that we were on track to becoming subservient to their interests in the coming years. Ironically, this ongoing conflict has turned into a blessing in disguise for us. However, if we cling to the ways of the past, we risk perishing sooner than we can imagine. My dear brethren, unless we recognize the bigger picture, we will remain stagnant, trapped

in a state of underdevelopment with no hope for improvement. The conflict in Manipur is often attributed to narco-terrorism, poppy cultivation, and Meitei demands for Scheduled Tribe status. Yet, these narratives are mere propaganda crafted by Meitei intellectuals to rationalize their actions. Thankfully, social media has debunked much of their deceit. The true driving force behind their ethnic cleansing of the Kukis lies in a deeper issue: food security and their desperation to claim tribal lands, particularly those inhabited by the Kukis. There is a deliberate strategy in targeting the Kukis while sparing the Kacha Nagas—a hidden agenda that we will uncover in this discussion.

LEGAL MANEUVERS AND MANIPULATION OF TRIBAL LANDS

Not only this, there is another act that tries to capture tribal land by the Meitei government, which is the introduction of the Manipur Land Revenue and Land Reforms (MLR&LR) Act, 1960, modeled on the pattern of the Tripura Land Revenue and Land Reforms Act, 1960. The MLR&LR Act was introduced to protect tribal land. For example, Section 158 prohibits the transfer of tribal land to a non-tribal without the permission of the Deputy Commissioner and the prior consent of the District Council. However, the Meitei government made several attempts to remove the restrictions on transfers to non-ST members by inserting a provision into Clause (b) of the section through the (Miscellaneous Amendment) Ordinance, 1976.

The next attempt to remove this restriction on transfers was the MLR and LR, 6th Amendment Bill, 1989, which proposed inserting new sections—158-A, 158-B, 158-C, and 158-D—after Section 158 of the principal Act, namely: Section 158-A: Restriction on Land Transfer Agricultural land can only be transferred to a person for personal cultivation. However, the

Deputy Commissioner (DC) may, following prescribed rules, allow a non-tiller to purchase the land if no willing tiller is available to buy it.

Section 158-B: Restriction on Land Transfer to Non-Residents Land cannot be transferred to anyone who is not an ordinary resident of the state. However, the Deputy Commissioner may permit the transfer to a person who has lived in the state for at least 30 years, even if they are not an ordinary resident.

Section 158-C: Restriction on New Settlements No new settlements or marketplaces (machets) can be established in hill areas without state government approval. Such approval will only be granted if the new settlement or marketplace consists of 50-75 families. This provision conflicts with the District Council Act and Village Authority Act.

The proposed amendment removes the requirement for prior consent for land transfers within Manipur, including for individuals with a 30-year residence certificate from the Deputy Commissioner. It also seeks to repeal the Manipur Hill Area (House Tax) Act, 1966 by introducing an annual tax under Section 16-A of the MLR and LR Act. Additionally, it aims to regulate jhum (shifting) or migratory cultivation through rules designed to protect the environment, catchment areas, infrastructure projects, and prevent landslides near highways and major roads. Another amendment bill, called The Seventh Amendment Bill of 1992, published in the Gazette, proposed changes to remove restrictions on land transfers from tribals to non-tribals, regulate jhum cultivation in hill areas, and establish the Revenue Tribunal as the highest court for resolving disputes under the MLR and LR Act, 1960. These changes apply retrospectively from the 1975 amendment, and no further appeals on revenue matters can be made to the High Court or Supreme Court. That's how the Meitei people have played the tribal people since the inception of Manipur as a Union Territory. They have stronger representation politically and economically than the tribals, and they

have a larger population than all the Manipur Nagas and Kukis combined. The tribals in Manipur have been marginalized and subjugated by the majoritarian Meitei community. They want to eat every piece without leftovers. Even if there is a little leftover, they try to eat it, and if they can't, they try to ruin it. That is why there have been tensions between the tribals and non-tribals. They knew they couldn't fight both the Kacha Nagas and the Kukis, so they selected the Kuki people as they are more vulnerable than the Manipur Nagas. Therefore, the incumbent Crime Minister Biren Singh initiated the GO TO HILLS campaign to build better connections with the Kacha Nagas and sideline the Kukis. This GO TO HILLS campaign resulted in another narrative, which is that the Meitei and Kacha Nagas are "brothers." This narrative allowed the communal government to start destroying Kuki villages, claiming that the villages were inside reserve forests or had fewer than 70 houses, as stipulated by Section 158-C of the MLR & LR Act. This contradicts the Village Authority Act, as mentioned earlier.

KUKI PEOPLE'S FIGHT FOR UNION TERRITORY AND SELF-GOVERNANCE

The Kuki people are ruled by Kuki Chiefs, who hold final authority in the village. The chief sets up and owns everything, while the villagers act as tenants. When the chief's younger brother marries, he gives him a piece of land to establish another small village. This tradition has continued to this day, leading to the continuous growth of villages in Kuki areas. In contrast, the Nagas are governed by a Chairmanship, which is more democratic than the Kuki chieftaincy. The Kacha Nagas have community land, lineage or clan land, and individual land. However, in Kuki traditions, the land solely belongs to the chief, reflecting an anachronistic feudal legacy. If we compare

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the two tribal lifestyles, it seems more challenging to settle in Kuki areas than in Kacha Naga areas. However, in reality, you will find Meiteis settled only in Kuki areas, with no presence in Kacha Naga-dominated regions. This highlights that Kuki and Meitei people had a better connection and friendly relations in the past compared to the Manipur Nagas. But what has led to the current conflict against the Kukis is both disturbing and quite interesting. I leave it to you to explore this question further instead of discussing it here. In addition to this, the Manipur (Village Authority in Hill Areas) Act, 1956 weakened the Kuki chieftaincy. In 1892, Maxwell, the then political agent of Manipur, introduced a house tax of Rs. 2 per homestead in the valley and Rs. 3 per house per annum in the hill areas. This was followed by another significant development: Col. J. Shakespeare, the political agent of Manipur from 1905 to 1908, demarcated the Kuki tribal chiefs' lands and issued pattas to all village chiefs, thereby strengthening and legalizing the chiefs' rights over the land. However, when the MLR & LR Act was introduced, if Kuki chiefs failed to pay house taxes and land revenue, they became landless, even though they had lived on that land for generations. At present, there are no proper tribal land records in Manipur, and the MLR & LR Act is implemented in some parts of tribal areas, particularly in Kuki-dominated regions. The Meitei government has also extended its influence into Kuki ancestral land by building their king's statue in Moreh and another in Singat, similar to how the Vedic people extended their dominance by building stupas and making sacrifices. However, just as the Dasyus opposed the Vedic sacrifices, the Kuki people opposed the Meitei building their king's statue in Kuki areas. Yet, they succeeded, thanks to Meitei puppets and traitors among the Kukis who valued the enemy over their own. I hope that when these people reflect on their actions, they will realize their mistakes in helping the Meitei government.

The Meitei claim for Scheduled Tribe status is quite hilarious. They hate the tribals so much and yet they are claiming to be tribals. Of course, all of Homo

sapiens were once upon a time nomadic and tribal when we spread from Africa, but all of us can't become tribals today because there is a yardstick in modern-day society. Even if the Meitei are eligible for Scheduled Tribe status, the decision by the Manipur High Court declaring them as STs is totally wrong and misleading. There was already a judgment in the year 2000 in the case of Milind vs. State of Maharashtra where the judges concluded that the state government or High Court has no power to declare that a certain community should be classified as STs. The power lies with the President. This is also one of the Meitei's salami slicing policies. The Meitei people have dominance over the tribal people, especially in their exertion of power over the Kuki people. This indicates that the majority of the Kuki people are still in the stage of hunter-gatherers and living a pastoral life. They can be manipulated as most of them are illiterate, though a few are educated but still unaware of the Meitei's salami slicing policy. Looking at history, when the rise of metal (the Copper Age) and the Bronze Age occurred, war was seldom. But with the advent of the Iron Age, warfare became frequent across the world. For instance, the Indian subcontinent was frequently attacked by Indo-Greeks, Sakas, Parthians, Kushanas, and so on. My point is that when there is an increase in technology, human greed becomes insurmountable, and people want more land for food security. The Russia-Ukraine war may have different reasons, but one of those reasons is Russia's food security. Most of Russia's land is infertile, while the majority of Ukraine's land is fertile. When Russia launched a full-scale war, they immediately occupied eastern Ukraine and took tonnes of wheat from the region. Similarly, the Meitei government's population is increasing, which is why they need more land for people to settle in and for food security for future generations. They have come up with

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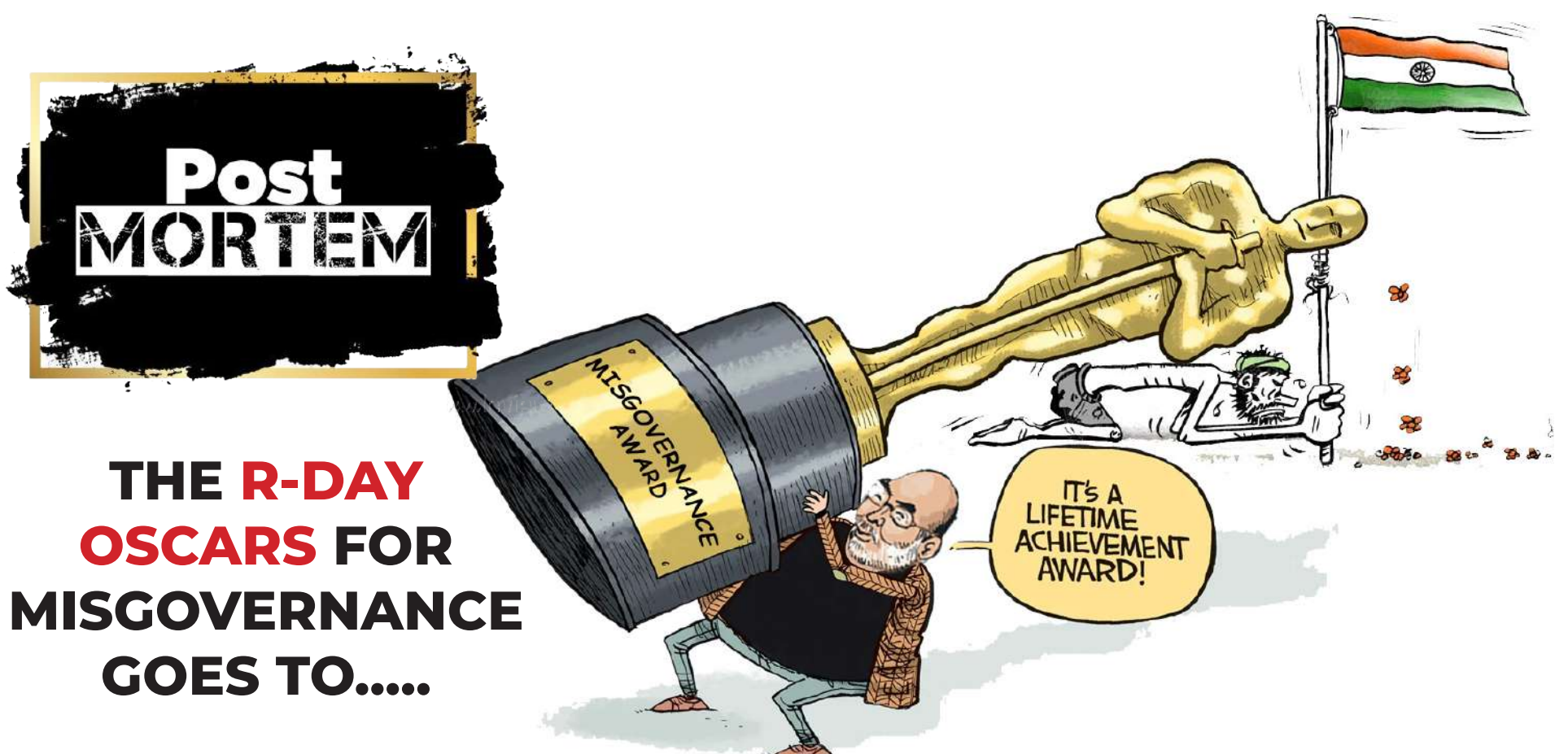
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different ingenious ways to circumvent the laws in the Constitution to take away our land. This is the reason they started a war against the Kukis and formed an alliance with the Kacha Nagas.

Looking at the origins of the Manipur violence from May 3, 2023, to the present, the Kacha Nagas and the Meitei community appear to have formed an alliance to further subjugate the Kuki community. It is noteworthy that the Meitei can now settle in Kacha Naga areas, knowing they cannot return to Kuki-dominated regions—areas once protected by their long-time allies, who even safeguarded their king from enemies. This leniency toward the Kacha Nagas suggests that the Meitei may be attempting to influence them, much like their past interactions with the Kukis. If the Kacha Nagas align with the Meitei, it could indicate that they have abandoned hope for achieving Greater Nagalim and now view coexistence with the Meitei as a preferable option, despite the Meitei historically being obstacles

to their aspirations. Given the ongoing violence, the Kacha Nagas should ideally support the Kuki community, which advocates for the rights of not only Manipur's tribes but tribal communities across the country. However, the dynamics seem to have shifted. In this context, the Kuki demand for a Union Territory with its own legislature appears both constitutional and valid. The decision now lies with the central government. One potential solution could involve merging the Meitei and Manipur Naga regions into a single state, given their stronger alliance, while granting the Kukis a Union Territory with legislative powers. Such a step could address the long-standing oppression of the Kukis and pave the way for lasting peace in Manipur.

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HARASSMENT AND KILLING

OF NON LOCALS IN MANIPUR BY MEITEI MILITANTS SINCE

2001

FREQUENT KILLING, ATTACK AND HARASSMENT OF MIGRANT WORKERS OR PEOPLE ENGAGED IN BLUE-COLLAR JOBS OR PROFESSIONS FROM MAINLAND INDIA IS BEING CARRIED OUT BY MEITEI TERRORISTS AS WELL AS THE PUBLIC.

THEY ARE COLLECTIVELY BRANDED AS

“**Mayang**” BY THE MEITEIS.

2001

JUN 7: Thoubal District - 4 Killed
 JUN 14: Imphal East - 3 Killed
TOTAL - 7 Killed

2004

NOV 10: Imphal East - 3 Killed
 2005
 MAY 31: Imphal East - 2 Killed

2007

MAR 8: Bishnupur District - 5 Killed
 OCT 22: Bishnupur District - 1 Killed
 OCT 23: Thoubal District - 1 Killed
TOTAL - 7 Killed

2008

MAR 17: Imphal West - 7 Killed
 MAR 18: Imphal East - 5 Killed
 MAR 18: Thoubal Dist. - 2 Killed
 MAR 18: Bishnupur Dist. - 2 Injured
 MAR 19: Bishnupur Dst. - 1 Killed
 JUL 15: Imphal West - 1 Killed
 JUL 19: Imphal East - 1 Injured
 JUL 29: Imphal East - 1 Injured

2008

SEP 06: Imphal West - 1 Injured
 SEP 15: Bishnupur Dst. - 1 Killed
 DEC 14: Imphal West - 1 Killed
**TOTAL - 18 Killed
 - 5 Injured**

2009

FEB 28: Imphal West - 1 Killed
 MAR 01: Imphal West - 2 Killed
 MAR 21: Imphal West - 1 Killed
 MAR 23: Imphal West - 1 Killed

2009

MAY 11: Bishnupur Dst. - 9 Killed
 MAY 14: Imphal West - 1 Killed
 MAY 19: Imphal West - 1 Injured
 JUN 3: Imphal East - 1 Killed
 JUN 04: Bishnupur Dst. - 2 Killed
 JUN 5: Thoubal Dst. - 1 Killed
 JUN 11: Imphal West - 4 Killed
 JUN 11: Imphal West - 1 Injured
 JUN 15: Imphal West - 1 Injured
 JUL 11: Imphal West - 1 Injured
 JUL 27: Imphal East - 1 Injured
 JUL 28: Imphal West - 1 Killed
 JUL 28: Imphal West - 1 Injured
 AUG 9: Imphal East - 1 Injured
 OCT 31: Thoubal Dst. - 1 Killed
 NOV 2: Imphal West - 1 Killed
 NOV 8: Imphal East - 1 Injured
 NOV 9: Imphal - 1 Killed
 DEC 15: Imphal East - 1 Killed
 DEC 16: Imphal East - 2 Killed
**TOTAL - 30 Killed
 - 8 Injured**

JAN 6: Imphal East - 1 Killed
 MAR 29: Chandel Dst. - 1 Killed
 APR 2: Tamenglong - 1 Killed
 JUL 29: Ukhrul Dst. - 2 Killed
 AUG 2: Imphal East - 1 Killed
 AUG 24: Imphal West - 1 Killed
 SEP 16: Imphal West - 1 Injured
 OCT 29: Imphal West - 1 Killed
 NOV 5: Imphal West - 1 Injured
 NOV 6: Imphal West - 1 Injured
 DEC 7: Imphal West - 1 Killed
 DEC 7: Imphal West - 1 Injured
**TOTAL - 9 Killed
 - 4 Injured**

2010

2011	Nos. of non-locals killed	: 3	2015	Nos. of non-locals killed	: 0
	Nos. of non-locals Injured	: 9		Nos. of non-locals Injured	: 1
2013	Nos. of non-locals killed	: 12	2017	Number of non-locals killed	: 4
	Nos. of non-locals Injured	: 39		Number of non-locals Injured	: 1
2014	Nos. of non-locals killed	: 9	2018	Number of non-locals killed	: 0
	Nos. of non-locals Injured	: 47		Number of non-locals Injured	: 4



FOR WE WILL NEED

Melt the plates on batteries,
Pound each grain of saltpeter,
For we will need the lead,
And we will need the powder.

Stock the yam, and mark the ground,
Where sweet potatoes are found,
For we will need the root,
And we will need the strength.

Melt the quibbles that divide,
Pound the walls that fence our pride,
For we will need the unity,
And we will need the will to stride.

~ Seikang Haokip