

# Thingkho *Le* Malcha

A Weekly Newsletter by KSO Media & Documentation Cell

## BLOOD ON THE HIGHWAY

AMIT SHAH'S INSENSITIVE REMARK CONTRADICTS  
CONSTITUTIONAL NORMS; SEPARATION ONLY  
SOLUTION



Scan to visit official website





## KUKI VICTIMS' UPDATE

As on 09. 03. 2025



**226**  
DEATHS

\* Lalgouthang Singsit



**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.



# BLOOD ON THE HIGHWAY: KUKI-ZO COMMUNITY MOURNS AS SECURITY FORCES OPEN FIRE AT KANGPOKPI

**Kangpokpi, March 08:** The air was thick with grief and fury as the Kuki-Zo community reeled from the bloodshed that erupted along National Highway 2, turning a peaceful demonstration into a battlefield. A young protestor, Lalgouthang Singsit, was gunned down in cold blood, his lifeless body a tragic symbol of escalating tensions in the state. The echo of gunfire still rings in the ears of those who stood their ground, their cries for justice drowned by the relentless crack of bullets and the suffocating haze of tear gas.

## MORNING OF RESISTANCE, NIGHT OF MOURNING

From the break of dawn, thousands of Kuki-Zo women, wrapped in the resilience of their forebears, gathered at Gamgiphai, standing firm against the FOCS Peace March, a movement seen as a provocation under the volatile circumstances. The Union Home Minister's directive for free movement from March 8 had ignited fears, and the community rose in defiance, their voices unified in resistance.

What began as peaceful dissent soon descended into chaos. The arrival of a Manipur State Transport (MST) bus under heavy security escort at 11:30 AM was the spark that set off an inferno. As Kuki-Zo women locked arms to halt its passage, security forces unleashed a brutal crackdown, firing tear gas, rubber bullets, pellets, and even live rounds into the crowd. More than 30 people fell, writhing in agony, their bodies bearing the wounds of a state that had turned its guns on its own people.

Yet, the MST bus, like an ironclad symbol of forceful imposition, was pushed through Gamgiphai, only to meet another storm of resistance at Keithelmanbi Military Colony. Here, thousands stood defiantly, blocking the road with stones and logs, their determination unshaken by the armed presence looming over them. The situation turned even more volatile when enraged



protestors set fire to a BSF-ferrying mini-winger, flames licking the sky as a desperate act of defiance.

## A RAIN OF BULLETS, A NIGHT OF WEEPING

The response was swift and merciless. Security forces retaliated with a storm of violence, raining smoke bombs, tear gas, pellets, and live bullets into the swelling crowd. More than 17 people collapsed under the brutal assault, their injuries gruesome—heads split open, eyes blinded by pellets, bodies riddled with wounds. Some were rushed to hospitals in Kangpokpi, while others, clinging to life, were hurried away to Guwahati and Senapati for urgent medical care.

And then, a bullet found its mark.

Amid the carnage, Lalgouthang Singsit fell—a young soul silenced by a shot that tore through his body, his name now etched in the growing list of the fallen. As his blood seeped into the dust of Keithelmanbi, the crowd erupted in horror. Wails of mourning mixed with cries of rage. The crackle of burning vehicles, the shouts of protestors, the relentless stomping of boots—it was a symphony of violence that reverberated across the hills.

**Contd.**

Contd.

Security forces, unrelenting, burned down several private two-wheelers, adding fuel to an already raging inferno of anguish and anger. Lathi charges cut through the crowd, sending bodies sprawling, even as the streets of Kangpokpi bore witness to yet another chapter of brutality.

### A COMMUNITY ON THE EDGE

Tonight, Kangpokpi mourns. The once-bustling roads now lie bloodstained, whispers of sorrow and fury filling the air. Families hold their injured close, fearing what the dawn may bring. The Kuki-

Zo people have been pushed to the edge—their voices unheard, their resistance met with bullets, their youth sacrificed on the altar of power.

The night is alive with the cries of the wounded, the streets soaked in blood, the air thick with the acrid stench of burning vehicles. Security forces, armed to the teeth, have pushed their way through Keithelmanbi, tearing down roadblocks, crushing resistance under the weight of brute force. But what lies ahead is a raging sea of defiance waiting at Kangpokpi District Headquarters.

## Obituary

**Lalgouthang Singsit (30 years)**  
**S/o Pu Sehkholen Singsit,**  
**KMC Ward No. 2, Sharon Veng, Sadar Hills**

#### Cause of Death:

Shot dead by Security Forces

- In continuity of the ethnic conflagration that gripped the state for 22 months, Mr. Sehkholen became yet another victim of the tyranny against the Kuki-Zos. He succumbed to death in the afternoon of 8th March, 2025.

- Driven by a burning impulse to resist the despotism thrust upon us by the Central government in the name of Free Movement, he was brutally shot dead by the combined State and Central Forces today.

- This act of resistance at the expense of taking a bullet, lathis, tear gas shells, testifies the mutual angst of the Kuki-Zos towards a peace forged upon a flagrant disregard of our demands, our segregation and silencing of voices.



- As seemed fitting only for a selfless martyr who stood in defence of our ancestral land and freedom, may his sacrifice be a clarion call to remind us of our aspiration for a geographical demarcation and why our existence hinges entirely upon our sovereignty.

May his soul rest in peace!

**KSO Media & Documentation Cell**



# KUKI-ZO COUNCIL CONDEMNS SECURITY FORCE BRUTALITY, IMPOSES SHUTDOWN ACROSS KUKI-ZO AREAS

**Lamka, March 09:** The Kuki-Zo Council has issued a strong condemnation of recent actions by the state government, accusing it of escalating tensions by sending Meitei people into Kuki-Zo areas despite multiple warnings. The government's decision to allow "free movement" of Meitei individuals has led to violent confrontations, particularly between security forces and protesters who opposed the move. The situation has resulted in significant loss and injury, including the death of Mr. Lalgun Singsit from Keithelmanbi and the critical wounding of several women.

At least one individual has been reported dead from gunfire at the hands of security forces, and two others remain in critical condition after being hospitalized. More than 50 women have sustained serious injuries due to the heavy-handed tactics employed by security personnel during protests. The use of force, according to the Kuki-Zo Council, has only intensified the resolve of the demonstrators, further complicating the situation.

The Kuki-Zo Council has criticized the government for pushing forward with the "free movement" initiative, arguing that it was a reckless decision made with full knowledge of the potential for violence. The council emphasized that the protestors, particularly women, have demonstrated the serious concerns of the Kuki-Zo community, which is already grappling with heightened emotions due to the ongoing conflict.

While the Kuki-Zo Council acknowledged that peace is desired by all, it emphasized that peace cannot be achieved through the imposition of force upon one community. The council stated that genuine peace can



only be achieved through mutual respect, dialogue, and a comprehensive understanding of the needs and aspirations of all affected communities.

In response to the government's actions, the Kuki-Zo Council declared an indefinite shutdown across all Kuki-Zo areas, effective from midnight on March 8, 2025. The shutdown is aimed at protesting the government's "free movement" initiative, which the council vowed to oppose until a political solution is reached to address the concerns of the Kuki-Zo community.

The Kuki-Zo Council also warned that it could not guarantee the safe passage of Meitei individuals across buffer zones and would not take responsibility for any incidents that might arise from the government's policies. The council called on the central government to reconsider its approach in order to prevent further violence and to pave the way for lasting peace in the region.

# INDEFINITE SHUTDOWN IMPOSED ACROSS KUKI-ZO AREAS IN PROTEST AGAINST SECURITY FORCES' BRUTALITY



**Lamka, Mar 09:** In response to the brutal actions of security forces in Kangpokpi District, the Kuki-Zo Council (KZC) has declared an indefinite shutdown across all Kuki-Zo areas, effective from midnight on March 8, 2025. The decision follows the violent clash between protesters and security forces that resulted in one death and several injuries, which the KZC has strongly condemned.

The shutdown, announced as a form of protest against the highhanded tactics employed by security forces, has been widely supported by various organizations within the Kuki-Zo community. In Lamka, protesters began blocking the Tiddim Road from the early morning hours, placing boulders on the road to prevent traffic movement. Volunteers also gathered at key points such as the Sielmat Bridge, Tuibong Bazar, and other locations to enforce the shutdown. The shutdown call was endorsed by student bodies like the KSO Churachandpur, HAS Jt. HQ Tuithaphai, and the ZSP-GHQ.

Although there was a minor scuffle with central security forces, no major incidents have been reported as of the

filing of this report. Later in the day, women took over the responsibility of manning the Tiddim Road to continue enforcing the shutdown.

In Moreh, the Hill Tribal Council, Moreh Youth Club, and KSO Moreh were instrumental in enforcing the shutdown. The shutdown was also observed along the Imphal-Moreh road at Tengnoupal District Headquarters and Sita Village. Additionally, the Kuki Students' Organisation from Tamenglong and Jiribam districts imposed a total shutdown along National Highway 37 in solidarity with the victims of the previous day's violence and in protest against the actions of the central security forces.

The indefinite shutdown serves as a powerful statement from the Kuki-Zo community, rejecting the use of force by security forces against its people, especially women. The Kuki-Zo Council and allied organizations have vowed to continue their protests until justice is served and the government addresses their grievances.



# KZC'S INDEFINITE SHUTDOWN PARALYZES KANGPOKPI, KUKI-ZO COMMUNITY DEMANDS REMOVAL OF SP AS DEAD BODY REMAINS UNCLAIMED



**Kangpokpi, Mar 09:** The Kuki-Zo community in Sadar Hills Kangpokpi District has enforced an indefinite shutdown called by the Kuki-Zo Council (KZC) following the tragic killing of a young protestor, Lalgouthang Singsit, allegedly by security forces at Keithelmanbi Military Colony on March 8.

The shutdown, which began at midnight on March 8, has completely paralyzed life in Kuki-Zo-dominated areas. In Kangpokpi, hundreds of Kuki-Zo women took to the streets, ensuring strict compliance. All shops, businesses, private institutions, and educational centers remained closed, while women volunteers monitored vehicular movement, allowing only emergency services to pass.

A crucial meeting was convened at Keithelmanbi Military Colony, attended by key civil society organizations, including CoTU, Kuki Inpi, and KSO, to discuss the fate of Lalgouthang Singsit's unclaimed body. While the organizations refrained from disclosing their resolutions, they confirmed that the deceased's body would not be claimed.

Meanwhile, Kuki-Zo womenfolk gathered at District Hospital Kangpokpi, mourning the loss of Singsit, whose

body remains in the hospital morgue.

At the hospital, Ng. Lun Kipgen, spokesperson of CoTU, issued a strong condemnation of the alleged brutality of SP Kangpokpi, accusing him of not only being responsible for Singsit's death but also damaging homes, an ambulance, and private vehicles in Keithelmanbi Military Colony.

Denouncing what he called the "high-handedness and brutality" of SP Kangpokpi, Kipgen made a direct appeal to the Governor, demanding the officer's immediate transfer "if peace is to be restored."

CoTU has fully endorsed the KZC-led indefinite shutdown, declaring that all businesses, institutions, and vehicular movement will remain suspended and various forms of democratic protests will continue across the district.

As tensions rise, the Kuki-Zo community remains resolute in its demand for justice and accountability, signaling that the crisis in Kangpokpi is far from over.

# KUKI WOMEN ORGANISATION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS CONDEMNS BRUTAL KILLING, OPPOSES “FREE MOVEMENT” INITIATIVE

**Lamka, March 09:** The Kuki Women Organisation for Human Rights (KWOHR) has expressed deep sorrow over the tragic death of Mr. Lalgouthang Singsit, who was killed by central paramilitary forces today at Keithelmanbi Military Colony (KMC), Kangpokpi District. The organization condemned the lack of empathy from the government, arguing that the loss of Mr. Singsit could have been prevented if the authorities had understood the plight of the Kuki community. KWOHR extended condolences to the grieving family and offered solidarity, calling for strength and resilience in this difficult time.

In addition to the tragic death, KWOHR has voiced strong opposition to the “Free Movement” programme that the state government has imposed. The group believes that the programme reflects the government’s indifference towards the struggles of the Kuki people, who have been enduring hardships for nearly two years. KWOHR criticized the move as a populist measure that attempts to restore normalcy without addressing the underlying issues, and which, they argue, sacrifices the well-being of the Kuki community.

The organization also highlighted the failure of the authorities to address the deteriorating law-and-order situation in the valley districts of Manipur, noting that weapons looted from the state’s armory have been used in attacks on Kuki villagers. KWOHR condemned the government’s claims that the situation had been resolved, pointing out that the surrender of a few assault rifles does nothing to address the ongoing lawlessness, violence, and the ongoing threat to the Kuki community’s safety.

Furthermore, KWOHR strongly criticized the imposition of President’s rule in Manipur, describing it as a public relations tactic designed to obscure the injustices faced by the Kuki people. The group accused the



government of erasing the Kuki community’s suffering from the historical narrative of both Manipur and India. Despite this, KWOHR vowed that the Kuki people would continue to stand as a living testament to the failure of both the Modi and Biren governments.

The organization also condemned the violent actions of central military forces against peaceful women protesters. KWOHR reminded that, although the Kuki community may be small, they possess the unity and strength to resist oppression, as they demonstrated during the struggle against British colonial rule.

In closing, KWOHR reiterated its stance that a political solution must precede peace in the region. The group emphasized that they will not accept anything less than the fulfillment of the Kuki people’s political demands, including the establishment of a Union Territory with a Legislative Assembly. The KWOHR continues to call for justice, peace, and recognition of the Kuki community’s rights.



# WITH TEARS AND CANDLELIGHT, KUKI-ZO WOMEN MOURN THEIR DEAD



**New Delhi, March 08:** Hundreds of members of the Kuki-Zo Women's Forum gathered at India Gate in Delhi to mourn thirty-year-old Lalgouthang Singsit, who was shot dead during violence that erupted when protestors attempted to block the Imphal-Dimapur highway on Saturday,

Teary-eyed but defiant, the women raised slogans against injustice, demanding accountability for the violence perpetrated against their people in Manipur.

"In his memory, we stand united. We grieve, we remember. When justice is denied on earth, we make an APPEAL TO HEAVEN," the Kuki-Zo Women's Forum declared in a post on X.

In a press release, the KZWF unequivocally condemned the brutal and inhumane assault on Kuki-Zo women and peaceful protestors by the Indian Armed Forces on International Women's Day, 8th March 2025. On a day meant to honor the resilience and achievements of women, the Government of India instead disgraced itself before the world by unleashing unprovoked

violence upon innocent tribal women and unarmed demonstrators.

The Kuki-Zo Women's Forum (KZWF) asserts that the Indian Army, acting as the blunt instrument of a government that has lost all moral authority, mercilessly lathi-charged Kuki-Zo women who were protesting for their fundamental rights. These women—unarmed and standing in peaceful defiance—were met not with justice, but with barbarity. As if this brutality was not enough, live bullets were fired upon the demonstrators, killing Lalgun Singsit of Ward No. 2, Keithelmanbi, and critically injuring sixteen others. These are not the actions of a democracy—these are the acts of a repressive regime desperate to silence the truth.

The KZWF declares that this cowardly crackdown is not an isolated incident but part of a long, orchestrated campaign of murder, rape, forced

**Contd.**

**Contd.**

displacement, and destruction against the Kuki-Zo people. For nearly a year, under the very institutions sworn to protect them, Kuki-Zo women have been paraded naked and gang-raped, their villages burned, their men beheaded, their voices drowned by state-sponsored propaganda. And today, as our women stood in rightful struggle, they were met not with justice, but with batons and bullets.

The KZWF asserts that today's violence is not merely an attack on the Kuki-Zo people but an indictment of India's collapsing democracy. The world must see this for what it truly is: a systematic ethnic purge masquerading as governance. A state that rewards rapists and murderers while criminalizing its victims

cannot call itself just. The so-called guardians of law and order in Manipur have once again proven themselves to be enforcers of an apartheid system that treats Kuki-Zo lives as expendable.

The KZWF declares with unwavering resolve: We will not forget. We will not forgive. No force—no government, no army, no act of state terror—can erase the truth or break the will of a people who refuse to be trampled under the boots of fascism.

The KZWF holds the perpetrators accountable. The blood of our people is on your hands. History will remember your crimes.  
(Power Corridors)

---

## VILLAGE VOLUNTEERS EASTERN ZONE OPPOSE INDO-MYANMAR BORDER FENCING WITHOUT POLITICAL SOLUTION FOR KUKI-ZO PEOPLE

In a resolute declaration, the Village Volunteers – Eastern Zone have categorically opposed any border fencing along the Indo-Myanmar frontier unless a political solution for the Kuki-Zo people is secured. The group asserts that no such project will be permitted until their demand for a Separate Administration or Union Territory with Legislature is fulfilled.

Condemning the ongoing push for border fencing without addressing their long-standing political aspirations, the Village Volunteers warn that any unilateral action will be viewed as an attempt to undermine their territorial rights and existence.

“We are not against development or national security measures,” the statement clarified. “However, the government must first recognize and address our

legitimate political aspirations. If our demand for a Separate Administration is met, we are more than willing to cooperate in securing the border. Until then, any forced implementation of this project will be met with strong opposition.”

The group urged the authorities to engage in meaningful dialogue and take concrete steps to resolve the Kuki-Zo people's aspirations before proceeding with the fencing project.

This bold stance sets the stage for heightened tensions over the region's political future, putting pressure on the government to engage in negotiations rather than unilateral actions.



# KOHUR THANKS UN RIGHTS PANEL, CALLS FOR URGENT ACTION AGAINST KUKI-ZO PERSECUTION

**New Delhi, March 08:** The Kuki Organisation for Human Rights Trust (KOHUR) has extended its deep gratitude to Volker Türk, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) Chief, for highlighting the severe human rights violations and ethnic violence against the Kuki-Zo community in Manipur.



In a strongly worded statement, KOHUR commended OHCHR for calling out the “grave and systematic persecution” of the Kuki-Zo people by the Meitei community and the N. Biren Singh-led Manipur government. The organization also welcomed OHCHR’s demand for the Indian government to “take robust and timely action to investigate acts of violence and hold the perpetrators accountable, including those in positions of power who have aided and abetted the ongoing hate campaign.”

## Condemnation of Security Forces’ Actions on Women’s Day

On a day meant to celebrate and honor women worldwide, KOHUR condemned what it described as “the brutal and inhumane assault on Kuki-Zo women” by central security forces in Kangpokpi district. The organization accused security personnel, who were supposed to safeguard buffer zones, of instead launching violent attacks on “unarmed mothers and daughters who were merely protecting their ancestral lands from forced intrusion.”

During the violence, Lalgouthang Singsit, son of Sehkholen Singsit, was reportedly shot dead by the forces.

“India has once again gained the shameful distinction of shooting its own women on International Women’s

Day,” the statement read. “Instead of protecting its citizens, the government has unleashed its armed forces on defenseless civilians who were simply standing guard over their homes.”

KOHUR emphasized that the protesters, primarily women, were not inciting violence but were peacefully resisting the encroachment of Kuki-Zo lands by Meitei groups. “What crime did these women commit, except to defend the dignity of their people?” the statement questioned.

## Meitei Encroachment and Government Bias

KOHUR further accused Meitei civil society organizations, including FOCS (Federation of Civil Society Organizations), of attempting to encroach upon Kuki-Zo territories. The group claimed that such actions were “not only an attack on Kuki-Zo sovereignty but a continuation of the land-grabbing policies that sparked the current ethnic violence in Manipur.”

The statement also condemned the Indian government’s alleged bias, accusing security forces of “shielding and escorting Meitei groups through Kuki areas while abandoning Kuki civilians to fend for themselves.”

**Contd.**

Contd.

“The partisan stance of the central government has never been clearer. They have refused to provide medical escorts to injured Kukis but have gone out of their way to ensure safe passage for Meitei groups,” KOHUR stated. “This is not just discrimination; it is a deliberate attempt to erase the Kuki-Zo people from their own homeland.”

### **Demand for International Intervention and Justice**

KOHUR expressed disappointment at the “deliberate delays” in justice, particularly with the Supreme Court-monitored fact-finding team and the Justice Lamba Commission. The organization urged OHCHR to dispatch a fact-finding mission to Manipur “to bear witness to the suffering of the Kuki-Zo people and to expose the Indian government’s failure to act.”

“We invite Volker Türk and the OHCHR team to come to Manipur and see for themselves the bloodstains on our land, the smoldering remains of our churches, and the unmarked graves of our loved ones,” KOHUR’s statement read. “Let the world know that justice delayed is justice denied.”

The organization also called for a stronger response from the international community, urging global

leaders and human rights organizations to “break their silence and hold India accountable for its complicity in ethnic cleansing.”

### **A Call to Action: The Fight for Justice Continues**

KOHUR reaffirmed its unwavering commitment to justice, invoking the historic resistance of the Kuki-Zo people, who fought alongside Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose’s Indian National Army (INA) against British rule.

“Our forefathers fought against imperialist oppression then, and we will fight against tyranny now,” the statement declared. “We will not kneel before those who seek to annihilate us. We will not rest until justice is served, and we will not stop marching until our voices are heard.”

The statement concluded with a powerful call for accountability, urging the Indian government to “prioritize justice and a lasting political solution over its national and international image.”

“

**Leadership is an action,  
not a position.**

— Donald McGannon





**ANALYSIS**

## Amit Shah's Insensitive Remark Contradicts Constitutional Norms; Separation Only Solution

Home Minister Amit Shah's insensitive remark on the Kuki-Zos' political demand truly contradicts the constitutional norms of democratic India. The purported statement, if true, is a serious disregard of the legitimate rights enshrined in the Constitution and a grave injustice being unleashed to the Kuki-Zo community.

On March 8, The Tribune has published an article wherein it reported that Amit Shah has vehemently opposed the key demand of Kuki-Zo community for Union Territory status under Article 239A of Indian Constitution based on Article 3, stating that it is "completely non-negotiable". This was reportedly conveyed to Manipur Governor Ajay Kumar Bhalla and other key officials of the strife-torn Manipur during a recent security review meeting presided over by Amit Shah.

Quoting high placed sources, The Tribune has reported that during the meeting on Manipur held by Shah on March 1, he was learnt to have clearly conveyed to Governor Bhalla and other top Home Ministry officials that the main demand of the Kuki-Zo community, seeking union territory status with separate administration in the districts of Manipur having majority tribal population is a "non-negotiable issue" and it needs to be rebuffed.

His statement clearly demonstrated that Amit Shah is deliberately denying the legitimate rights of the Kuki-Zo tribals, be it fundamental or democratic rights, in their own ancestral land in the hill areas of Manipur. The "non-negotiable" remark of Amit Shah is highly condemnable, and a reflection of his sheer ignorance towards constitutional legitimacy.

His insensitive action manifests that the Home Minister is covertly or visibly in complicit with majority Meitei community during the ongoing ethnic persecution of the minority Christians.

### Continuous Suppression of Minorities' Rights:

It is now clear to all right thinking citizens that Amit Shah still fails to learn anything from the State-sponsored ethnic violence in Manipur. He continuously suppresses the rights and aspirations of the minority Kuki-Zo tribals at the expense of the majoritarian fascists' rhetorics; thus, allowing hardcore or radicalised elements to hijack agenda and unleashing bullies without addressing the genuine cause for lasting peace. His directives have serious ramifications and a sure recipe for

**Contd.**

**Contd.**

disaster rather than restoring peace and tranquility.

For nearly two years, the northeastern state has been engulfed in state-orchestrated violence, and the central government stood by as the Kuki-Zo people were slaughtered, displaced, and brutalized. The so-called BJP's "double-engine" governments let Manipur burn while Biren Singh and his political cohort Amit Shah openly sided with fascist Meiteis. The suppression, oppression or persecution of the tribals by the current regime continues with impunity, shattering justice and accountability.

Instead of forcing unwanted peace, Amit Shah must wake up and do revisit the Constitutional provisions to resolve the ongoing violence through political dialogue. He should realise that Constitution does not prohibit people from advocating for new states/UT. Article 3 of the Constitution empowers Parliament to create new states/UT, alter existing state boundaries or change state names. The process does not require the concerned state's consent, though the President must refer the proposal to the state legislature for its views. However, these views are not binding on Parliament.

Further, the Supreme Court has repeatedly upheld Parliament's power under Article 3, making it clear that no state has absolute territorial rights.

**Separation Only Solution for Peace:**

Real peace in Manipur depends on addressing the root causes—disarmament of Meiteis' armed groups, confidence-building measure between communities, and addressing long-term political problems. Without these, it may only be a band-aid solution.

The Government of India must note that when the people are oppressed, when tyranny reigns and justice is denied; when no power in the land answers the cries of the sufferings, the only choice remain is clear—to resist and fight until a drop of bloods flows in their veins.

The Centre's top priority must be to institute a genuine peace-making efforts through political dialogue and transitional justice mechanism, not unilaterally restoring the geographical status quo ante.

If the concerned authorities are adamant on the state's territorial integrity, they are putting the cart before the horse once again. Regardless of one's perspective, the reality remains that the State administration under the former narcissistic Chief Minister, N. Biren Singh has effectively created a division between Meitei and Kuki-Zo territories. This separation has resulted in a fundamental transformation, rendering it impossible to reunify Manipur as it once was. The consequences of this bifurcation will be long-lasting and far-reaching.

The conflict-resolution should now begin based ground reality. As the two warring communities are already separated and a partition wall has been created, the only solution lies in formally enforcing the separation of administration. Peace or free movement can come only after the formal partition is given as the Meiteis' hate campaign against Kuki-Zo groups cannot go away by shaking hands again.

Amit Shah has to accept that the Kuki-Zo people cannot go to Imphal anymore unless the framework of partition is given and the separate administration is given. Peace is not something one can declare overnight or cannot be imposed by force. It has to be built brick by brick by upholding justice, accountability and long-term political solution.





NEWS ANALYSIS

## Amit Shah's Miscalculated Move: How an Empty Bus Sparked Unrest in Manipur

B. Gunlien

March 8, 2025—International Women's Day. A day meant to celebrate and honor women around the world. But in Kangpokpi district, it became a day of violence and anguish. More than 20 Kuki women, along with a few men, were brutally assaulted by security forces. Their crime? Protesting against Amit Shah's bizarre decision to push an empty bus through their region under heavy security.

### Why Now, Mr. Home Minister?

For the past 21 months, Amit Shah watched Manipur burn. He stayed silent while ethnic tensions spiraled out of control, while homes were set on fire, and while innocent lives were lost. He did nothing when Kukis were lynched, butchered, and driven out of Imphal.

But suddenly, after Biren Singh was forced out and President's Rule was imposed, Shah decided to act. Not out of concern for Manipur's people, but out of political desperation—to fix the BJP's position in the state.

But instead of bringing peace, he made things worse.

### The Highway Was Never Blocked—So What Was He Trying to Prove?

The National Highway (NH-2) was always open for transport. Trucks carried goods, private vehicles moved freely, and thousands of commuters traveled without disruption. The only ones avoiding it were Meiteis—out of fear of facing the same horrors they inflicted on Kukis in Imphal.

So why did Amit Shah order an MST bus—completely empty—to be forcefully driven through Kuki areas under heavy security?

If the bus had Meitei passengers, one could at least understand the need for security. But this? This was nothing more than an arrogant show of power, a manufactured crisis that served no real purpose.

### Unwarranted Move

#### 1. A Political Stunt Disguised as Policy

Amit Shah's decision wasn't about restoring peace—it was about restoring BJP's control in Manipur. After Biren Singh's removal,

Contd.

**Contd.**

the party needed a quick fix, and this bus stunt was meant to stage an illusion of “normalcy.” But instead of calming tensions, it inflamed them.

## **2. A Shameless Display of Arrogance**

What was the need to push an empty bus through a volatile zone? Even Meitei organizations like FOCS struggled to convince their own people to join the convoy, and the security forces themselves advised against the plan. When the bus ultimately went through with no passengers, it became clear—this wasn’t about transportation. It was about showing dominance over Kuki areas.

This kind of arrogance does nothing but deepen the divide.

## **3. A Foolish Blunder or Meitei Bias?**

Was Amit Shah misled by Meitei hardliners, or is he actively siding with them? Biren Singh had twice attempted to force MST buses through the buffer zone—created by Shah himself—but failed. Now, with Biren gone, Shah seems to be following the same script.

How exactly does pushing MST buses—an already loss-making government service—bring peace? Was this a setup to frame Kukis as “anti-government” and justify a harsher crackdown?

## **A Black Day for Kuki Women**

The real tragedy unfolded when security forces turned their guns and batons on peaceful Kuki women. On a day dedicated to women’s rights, these women were thrashed, humiliated, and injured—for standing up against an unjustified military-backed operation.

Was this Amit Shah’s idea of peace? Sending troops to brutalize women protesting against his reckless decisions?

## **What Was the Real Agenda?**

This entire operation raises serious questions:

Was this meant to provoke the Kukis into reacting, so the government could justify more repression?

Was it a staged performance to show that the central government was “restoring order” in Manipur?

Or was Amit Shah simply trying to project power in a state where BJP’s influence is slipping?

## **A Dangerous Precedent**

Amit Shah has made a grave miscalculation. Instead of healing Manipur, he has only deepened the wounds. Instead of fostering peace, he has fueled more anger.

The message is clear: his priorities are not about justice, fairness, or reconciliation. They are about control.

But the people of Manipur, especially the Kukis, are not pawns in his political game. And they deserve better.



## THE SOCIAL MEDIA BUZZ



**BhaiPal**  
@RayiCis

For those who still believe that "March to the Hills" by FOCS was not done with ill intent.

"Manipur is only for Meitei..."



4:50 pm · 09 Mar 25 · 292 Views



**H S Benjamin Mate**  
@BenjaminMate1

The radicalized Meitei armed militia, who looted 6,000 automatic rifles from the government and are responsible for killings, rapes, and the destruction of 350 churches, have been granted amnesty. Meanwhile, an unarmed Kuki-Zo youth was mercilessly assaulted by the Indian Army. This stark contrast is revealing of the Government of India's complicity in the genocide against the minority Christian Kuki-Zo community in Manipur.

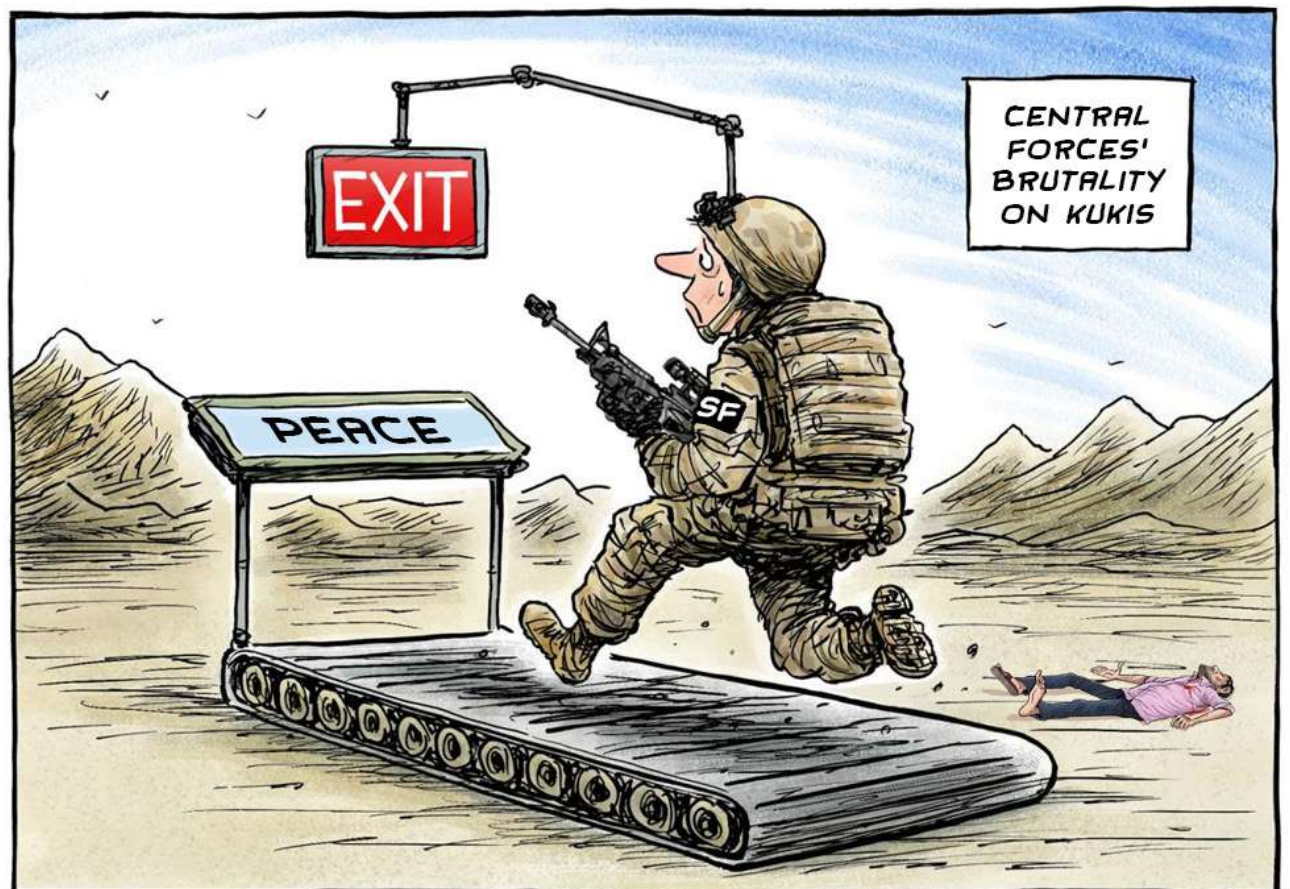
@AllIndia @BhallaAjay26 @UNHumanRights @volker\_turk @hrw @OHCHRAsia @ohchr @UNOSAPG @AJEnglish @DDNewsMizoram @POTUS



11:42 AM · Mar 9, 2025 · 1,395 Views



**THE  
IMPOSSIBLE  
FORCED  
PEACE EFFORT**







# KUKILAND IS BURNING

The land of hope  
A tribe of peace  
A blood of love  
A gene of never give-up  
Kukiland is burning

We say we worship the true living God  
Yet we have fallen into delusion;  
Our leaders crave for themselves;  
We have mocked the Almighty God.

The land my ancestors once settled  
Becoming the place of cemetery  
The house once called "home sweet home"  
Has been demolished, and is no more  
Kukiland is burning

The brave guardians of Kukiland  
now trembling with fear  
The public who once search for a true leader  
Is now threatening the chosen one  
Kukiland is burning

~ Seineo KUKI