

Thingkho *Le* Malcha

A Weekly Newsletter by KSO Media & Documentation Cell



CONFLICTING

POLITICAL INTERESTS IN MANIPUR ON DELIMITATION

The delay by 23 years has given more seats to the valley constituencies to enjoy the status quo of having 40 MLA seats for at least four assembly elections since 2002.



Scan to visit official website



KUKI VICTIMS' UPDATE

As on 09. 03. 2025



226
DEATHS

* Lalgouthang Singsit



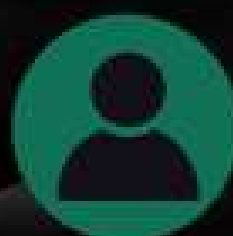
200+
VILLAGES BURNT



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.

KUKI, MEITEI GROUPS' DIALOGUE WITH MHA OFFICIALS ENDS IN A STALEMATE



New Delhi, April 06: In a significant development in the ongoing efforts to restore peace in ethnic strife-hit Manipur, delegations of the warring Kuki and Meitei tribes met face to face in New Delhi in the presence of senior Home Ministry officials to discuss ways to end violence in the state.

However, it is reliably learnt that the almost five-hour-long meeting ended in a stalemate with no side arriving at a consensus.

The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) is learnt to have put forward a roadmap for ensuring peace, but owing to objections by both sides, the talks ended in a stalemate.

Sources informed that the roadmap included appeal for non-violence and strong administrative action against perpetrators, support for disarmament efforts and cooperation with initiatives led by the Governor, facilitation of free movement along national and state highways, rehabilitation of internally displaced persons (IDPs) with government support, focus on developmental efforts in conflict-affected and neglected areas, as well as holding dialogues with MHA to ensure long-term resolution of contentious issues.

This meeting was being seen as a crucial one because in October last year, Kuki MLAs of the state had refused to share the same table with their Meitei counterparts during a similar round of negotiations with MHA officials.

Saturday's meeting — facilitated by the MHA — saw participation from six representatives of the Meitei community, drawn from the All-Manipur United Clubs Organisation (AMUCO) and the Federation of Civil Society Organisations (FOCS).

The Kuki community was represented by eight delegates, including six from the Kuki-Zo Council and two from the Zomi Council.

Senior central officials led the dialogue with Interlocutor AK Mishra and a Joint Director of the Intelligence Bureau (IB) representing the MHA.

The Manipur state government was represented by Chief Secretary PK Singh and Additional Director General of Police Ashutosh Kumar Sinha. (The Tribune India)

NHRC SEEKS 'ACTION TAKEN REPORT' FROM MANIPUR GOVT OVER CRIMINAL COMPLAINT FILED BY KUKI HUMAN RIGHTS BODY

Lamka, April 06: The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has sought "Action Taken Report" from the Manipur Government regarding a criminal complaint filed against former Chief Minister N. Biren Singh's alleged genocide campaign on the minority Kuki-Zo community of Manipur.

The intimation letter, dated 27 February, 2025, has directed the Chief Secretary of Manipur to submit or send a report with 15 days from the date of receive of the letter.

Kuki Organization For Human Rights (KOHUR) had filed a criminal complaint particularly against former Manipur Chief Minister N. Biren Singh based on his genocidal campaign against Kuki-Zo people to National Human Rights Commission on 10th of October, 2024.

Taking to X, the Kuki human rights body said, "Albeit late, the Commission has taken cognisance of the human rights violation on 27.02.2025 and forwarded the same for action to the Chief Secretary of Manipur. The commission also directed the Chief Secretary to send ACTION TAKEN REPORT within two weeks."

"With a case pending on the same matter in Supreme Court, we hope that justice will be served without any further delay. We'll not cease our fight till justice is served to the Kuki-Zo People," it added.

NHRC's letter to Chief Secretary of Manipur stated that it received a complaint from H. Shokhopao Mate, Chairman of Kuki Organisation for Human Rights Trust, on October 23, 2024, drawing the attention of NHRC for Kuki-Zo tribal community's urgent need for protection from the atrocities of majority Meitei community.

The complainant stated that the current state-sponsored Meitei war against Kukis was not only anti-human and anti-tribal but also anti-constitutional and anti-national that NHRC kind intervention would surely help in preventing them from going further. He had requested the Commission to take appropriate measures and intervene.



KOHUR
Kuki Organization for Human Rights Trust

On perusal of the complaint, the letter stated, the Commission is of the considered view that the allegations leveled in the complaint are serious violations of the Human Rights of the victim. Accordingly, it directed the Registry to send a copy of the complaint to the Chief Secretary, Manipur to examine the matter and submit a report on the points raised by the complainant expeditiously within a period of 15 days treating the matter very urgent.

Mention may be made that the Kuki Organisation for Human Rights, Manipur, had also urged the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Volker Turk, to intervene in the ongoing ethnic conflict in the state and take note of the "gross violation of human rights" faced by the Kuki-Zo community. The plea comes after violent clashes erupted in Kangpokpi on March 8, which resulted in the death of one Kuki man, and several others were injured.

The Organisation accused the security forces of using excessive force, including "firing" on protesters who were singing the national anthem and waving the national flag on the first day on which Union home minister Amit Shah's order of "free movement" between the valley and the hills came into force.

Since the conflict started in May 2023, Meitei-majority valley areas and Kuki-majority hill areas had been closed to members of the other community.

KUKI-ZO WOMEN PROTEST MEITEI'S ATTEMPT TO ENTER KUKI AREAS; MANIPUR GOVERNOR'S PLEDGE ON KOUBRU AND THANGTING HILLS PREJUDICE AGAINST KUKI-ZO PEOPLE, SAYS COTU WOMEN'S WING

Kangpokpi, April 05: In a significant move that has sparked widespread protests, the Women's Wing of the Committee on Tribal Unity (CoTU) organized a demonstration in Gamgiphai, Kangpokpi district, as Kuki-Zo mothers gathered to voice their opposition against the government of Manipur's recent initiative. The initiative will allow the Meitei community to freely move into Kuki-Zo dominated areas. This action is seen as an attempt to facilitate the controversial Meira Paibis' pilgrimage, which many view as discriminatory against the Kuki-Zo people.

The Kuki-Zo women expressed concerns over the lack of prior peaceful negotiations between the two communities and the ongoing political bias faced by the Kuki-Zo community. The government's handling of the situation, particularly the absence of justice, resettlement, and rehabilitation for the Kuki-Zo people, has raised questions about the fairness of the process. They argue that the Kuki-Zo have been subjected to immeasurable discrimination and injustice, further fueling tensions in the region.

The Kuki-Zo women issued a stern warning to the Meira Paibis, urging them to refrain from crossing the designated buffer-zone until a meaningful dialogue takes place under the supervision of the Ministry of Home Affairs.

The Governor of Manipur's recent pledge to save and preserve the Kouburu and Thangting Hill and to guarantee the infamous Meira Paibis to go on a pilgrimage there is prejudice against a particular community, which is an abomination to his esteemed position, said the Women Wing of Committee on Tribal Unity (COTU).

In a press statement issued on Saturday, the leading Kuki-Zo body of Kangpokpi said, "This act of blatant political partisanship amid communal conflict clearly deviates from the principle -'without fear or favour' -



expected of govt. servant who holds the highest position in the state."

"His statement is an implication of favoritism shown towards a particular community, which doesn't augur well for peace and harmony," it stated.

The Kuki-Zo tribal body alleged that such an absurd development came months after a dialogue with an unlawful organization - Arambai Tenggol at Raj Bhavan, which it said is a preposterous diplomatic effort, deserving contempt. "The conflict-ridden state of Manipur has witnessed an immeasurable discrimination towards a particular community - the Kuki-Zos, to whom JUSTICE seems to be an unattainable goal under His Excellency," COTU said.

The Committee asserted that the Meiteis claim of Kouburu and Thangting hill, and to effectuate their so-called holy pilgrimage during this time of communal turmoil, is nothing more than a wicked effort to exacerbate the conflict.

The Governor is expected to account for the 300+ churches and 5000+ houses belonging to the

Contd.

Contd.

Kuki-Zo people that were burnt and destroyed by the predominant Meitei population. The lack of justice, resettlement and rehabilitation, as well as compensation for the Kuki-Zo people, clearly indicates that political bias is at its highest point, the Committee alleged.

In order for peace negotiation to get under way, COTU demands, Mr. Korounganba, leader of an unlawful organization - Arambai Tenggol; Mr. Athouba, leader of COCOMI; Mr. Pramod Singh, leader of Meitei Leepun; Mr. Jadumani, leader of Federation of Haomee (FOH) who are directly involved in the genocide campaign against the Kuki-Zo people must first be prosecuted in accordance with the law and their arrest expedited.

Additionally, the Women Wing of COTU demanded that before favouring the Meitei aggressors of their cheap propaganda, the Governor should first rebuild and reconstruct 300+ churches and 5000+ houses belonging to the Kuki-Zo people if there is justice in the land.

“The primary function of the governor is to preserve, protect and defend the constitution and the law as incorporated but not to act in favour of a particular community the Meiteis, especially during this time of communal strife, while utterly disregarding the rights of the minority community-the Kuki-Zo people,” it added.

The tribal Women Wing issued a stern warning to the infamous Meira Paibis to stop crossing buffer-zones until a meaningful dialogue is materialized under the Ministry of Home Affairs with the Kuki-Zo representatives.

Cautioning the Government of Manipur for taking calculated risks regardless of any fallout that may occur, the Kuki-Zo body asserted that they would meet them with firm resistance and fight them tooth and nail in case the Meiteis’ Meira Paibis do so.

PARLIAMENT ADOPTS STATUTORY RESOLUTION CONFIRMING PRESIDENT’S RULE IN MANIPUR

New Delhi, April 06: Parliament has adopted a Statutory Resolution confirming the imposition of the President’s Rule in Manipur, with the Rajya Sabha giving its nod early this morning. The Statutory Resolution is related to the Proclamation issued by the President on the 13th of February this year under Article 356(1) of the Constitution in relation to Manipur. The Lok Sabha has already approved it.

Replying to a debate on the Resolution, Union Home Minister Amit Shah said that since November last year, no violence was reported in Manipur. He also rejected the opposition’s allegation that the President’s rule was imposed in the State due to the failure in handling the situation. He also said that after the resignation of the State Chief Minister, no party came forward to stake claim to form the government and given it, the President’s Rule was imposed there. Mr Shah also rejected the Congress allegation, saying that there was not any No-Confidence motion against Manipur Chief Minister as Congress did not have numbers to do so. The Home Minister said 10 thousand youth gave up arms and surrendered in the northeast. He

added that since the appointment of Ajay Kumar Bhalla as Governor of the State, peace is prevailing there. He informed that two meetings of the two communities in Manipur have already taken place, and the third and final meeting of these communities is expected to take place in New Delhi soon.

Earlier, initiating a discussion on the resolution, Leader of the Opposition Mallikarjun Kharge accused the Government of failing to control the violence in Manipur. He alleged that there is no strategy and long-term policy concerning Manipur. He also demanded an inquiry in connection with the violence in the State. Mr Kharge said the entire country stands with the people of Manipur, and this House must send out a message of peace for the people there.

Derek O’ Brien of the TMC, Dr Kanimozhi and NVN Somu of the DMK and Sanjay Singh of the AAP also participated in the discussion.

KUKI-ZO COMMUNITY OBSERVES 23RD REMEMBRANCE DAY, REAFFIRMING HOPE FOR POLITICAL SETTLEMENT



Kangpokpi, April 03: The Kuki-Zo community solemnly observed the 23rd Remembrance Day across Sadar Hills, marking the occasion with a renewed sense of determination to secure a long-overdue political resolution. The day was dedicated to honoring the sacrifices of Kuki-Zo martyrs who laid down their lives in the ongoing conflict, with community members emphasizing that their supreme sacrifice must not be in vain.

As a gesture of tribute, all shops, business establishments, and educational institutions—both private and government-run—remained closed throughout the district. The streets bore a quiet testament to the community's collective grief and resilience, as daily activities came to a standstill. Instead of engaging in routine affairs, families and individuals chose to remain indoors, reflecting on the significance of the day and paying silent homage to their fallen brethren.

The main Remembrance Day event, organized under the aegis of the Committee on Tribal Unity (CoTU), was held at the Martyrs' Cemetery in Phaijang, Sadar Hills. With heavy hearts yet unwavering resolve, attendees gathered at the sacred site to pay their respects. Amid a solemn

atmosphere, community leaders, tribal elders, and representatives from various organizations reaffirmed their commitment to achieving a political solution that honors the sacrifices of the martyrs.

Key leaders from Kuki Inpi, SAHILCA, student bodies, and prominent tribe organizations, along with women's groups and CoTU executive members, were present at the event. In their addresses, they echoed a unified call for justice and a dignified resolution to the political aspirations of the Kuki-Zo people.

The observance of the 23rd Remembrance Day not only served as a tribute to the fallen but also as a rallying cry for unity and perseverance. The community, standing resolute in its demands, reiterated that their struggle for a just and lasting political settlement must be realized to uphold the legacy of those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

The event concluded with a collective pledge to continue the pursuit of justice, peace, and self-determination, reinforcing the hope that the long-cherished political solution will soon become a reality.

KONSAKHUL VILLAGER'S DISREGARD FOR GOVT. ORDERS LEAVES TWO INJURED IN KANGPOKPI'S KANGCHUP GELJANG REGION OVER LAND DISPUTE

Kangpokpi, April 05: A land dispute in the Gulpi Tuitin area escalated into a physical confrontation today in the Kangchup Geljang region of Sadar Hills, Kangpokpi District, following an alleged violation of government orders by the Konsakhul Village Authority.

The disputed land, situated between Leilon Vaiphei and Kharam Vaiphei, falls within the jurisdiction of L. Phaijang and L. Tangnuam (Haraothel) villages — both officially gazetted under the Kangchup-Geljang Sub-Division, Kangpokpi District, Manipur. Historically, the land has been jointly used for agricultural purposes by the two villages and has been clearly demarcated by official orders issued by the SDO, Saitu Gamphazol, on December 22, 1999, and January 15, 2002.

In a decisive move to prevent potential violence and safeguard public safety, the District Magistrate of Kangpokpi, Mahesh Chaudhari, imposed an immediate public curfew on April 2, 2025. The curfew covers Konsakhul, Haraothel, and L. Phaijang — all under the Kangchup Geljang Sub-Division.

Enforced under Section 163 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), 2023, the curfew follows alarming reports from the Superintendent of Police and the Sub-Divisional Officer, which indicated a high likelihood of serious breaches of peace, threats to public tranquility, and grave danger to human lives and property in the area.

With the Cr.P.C. 1973 officially replaced by the BNSS on July 1, 2024, the district administration acted swiftly and ex-parte — without prior notice — citing the urgency of the situation.

Key Provisions of the Order:

1. Complete restriction on public movement outside residences within the affected villages.
2. A ban on all construction and developmental



activities that may disturb the status quo or incite disharmony.

3. Exemptions apply only to law enforcement and essential service providers, including medical personnel. The curfew took effect from 5:00 PM on April 2, 2025, and remains in force until further notice.

District authorities have ensured the order has been widely disseminated through public notice boards and official channels. Law enforcement agencies continue to closely monitor the situation.

The imposition of the curfew underscores the administration's firm stance on maintaining peace and preventing further escalation in a region already fraught with tension.

Despite the standing status quo orders issued by both the Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Kangchup Geljang (Ref No. SDM(K-G)-9/LO/2024, dated March 21, 2024), and the District Magistrate (Order No. DC(KPI)1/1/L&O/2016, dated April 2, 2025), Konsakhul villagers reportedly resumed land demarcation

Contd.

Contd.

activities around 1:00 PM today using heavy machinery — a move viewed as a direct defiance of government directives intended to maintain peace.

According to eyewitnesses, when villagers from L. Phaijang and L. Tangnuam (Haraothel) approached the site to intervene, a physical clash ensued. During the altercation, the Chief and Chairman of the Konsakhul Village Authority sustained minor injuries.

In a joint statement issued later in the day, the Chiefs of L. Phaijang and L. Tangnuam (Haraothel) condemned Konsakhul's actions as a "blatant breach of government authority," warning that further provocation could lead to serious consequences. They reaffirmed their right to protect their ancestral land and stated that the concerned authorities would be held accountable for any untoward incidents stemming from the ongoing tension.

Residents and the general public are advised to remain vigilant and not to fall prey to any misleading narratives that may arise in the wake of this incident.

Weaponising Narratives: The Communalisation of Local Issues

However, what is equally alarming — and deeply unfortunate — is the manner in which some media houses in Manipur, along with vested individuals and organisations, are persistently engaged in communalising such sensitive issues. Rather than presenting a factual and balanced view, several reports

have sought to distort the situation, painting it as an ethnic or communal confrontation — a tactic that not only exacerbates tensions but also diverts attention from the real issue: the defiance of government authority and the rule of law.

This is not an isolated case. The communalisation of administrative, land, and governance-related issues has become a dangerous pattern in Manipur's current media and political landscape. Instead of promoting peace and accountability, selective reporting and narrative manipulation have become tools to inflame public sentiment and deepen divides.

Call for Responsible Journalism and Government Action

As Manipur stands at a crossroads, the role of the media, civil society, and government institutions becomes even more critical. Sensationalist and communal narratives only serve to deepen existing wounds. It is imperative that all stakeholders, especially the press, act with responsibility, integrity, and a commitment to truth.

The district administration must also ensure strict enforcement of legal orders and take strong action against those who defy them. The safety of the region's residents — and the preservation of rule of law — depends on it.



**Integrity is the quiet strength
behind every great leader.**

— Jeje Jariyo

CENTRE RELEASES ₹217 CRORE FOR RELIEF IN MANIPUR; ₹1,926 CRORE TOTAL AID IN MARCH ALONE

New Delhi, April 06: The Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has provided Rs 217 crore as financial support in the last fiscal year (2024-25) for relief and rehabilitation measures for those people displaced due to the ethnic violence in Manipur since May 3, 2023, officials said here on Sunday.

More than 50,000 men, women, and children have been staying in around 250 relief camps in many districts after they were displaced from their homes and villages soon after the ethnic violence broke out 23 months ago.

Several thousand prefabricated houses were constructed across various districts of Manipur for the violence-hit families who are currently living in relief camps.

A senior official of the Manipur Finance Department said in the recently ended financial year (2024-25) massive support was received from the Central government in different sectors.

He said that in March (2025), Rs 1,926 crore of Central assistance was received in the form of Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS), Scheme for Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment (SASCI) and other Central schemes.

This is the highest ever receipt of such assistance in a month.

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman had recently assured support for Manipur under SASCI. A total of Rs 1,437 crore was received under SASCI in the last financial year, which is the highest receipt ever in a financial year. Sixty per cent of the support, amounting to Rs 869 crore, was received in March alone. The SASCI



funding also included a special funding of Rs 320 crore for clearing liabilities of ongoing and recently completed works of PWD.

The official said that in the fiscal year 2024-25, Rs 169 crore was received as funding for Rural Housing under PMAY-Grameen. About Rs 520 crore was received for School Education, Rs 305 crore for Health and Rs 458 crore from the Ministry of Women and Child Development.

For the first time, an additional (fifth) instalment under the National Health Mission, beyond the usual four instalments, was received.

As Manipur has been under the President's Rule since February 13, Union Finance Minister on March 10 presented in the Lok Sabha the state budget for 2025-26, proposing an expenditure of Rs 35,104 crore, up from the revised estimates of Rs 32,657 crore in the current financial year (2024-25). (FPJ)



Contrary to the claims of Mr. Biren Singh, ex-chief minister of Manipur and the alleged main conspirator behind the ethnic violence in Manipur regarding former Meghalaya chief minister, the late Mr. PA Sangma's stance on creation of smaller states in the eastern region to uphold regional autonomy, it is rather the divisive, communal and majoritarian politics that harm the unity of the nation more than dividing the states on ethnic lines. The existing states with different ethnicities but with the same patriotism, loyalty and love for our country is the proof if he may need one.

The idea of India as envisaged by our founding fathers is unity in diversity and harmonious co-existence of different races, castes, creeds and genders whereby each and every citizen is equal before the eye of law, the states and its agencies like the state government. Thus, when any government or any leader pitches for any particular community and spreads hatred towards a particular community, it is no one but that government or that leader who murder the idea of India alongside killing the dignity and equality their victims are entitled to as Indians by the constitution of India.

Much before Mr. Biren's audio tape which prove the

allegations made against him as being the main conspirator of the ethnic violence got leaked, his social media account replies way back before the ethnic violence act a infallible evidence to his animosity and hatred towards the Kukis even if he dismissed his discriminatory actions and policies towards the Kukis as a normal administrative exercise. Breeding and unchecked the growth of organisations like those of Haomee Federation that fuelled fake conspiracies and hatred against the Kukis is something he cannot rubb off either. Thus the question is, can someone who murder the idea of India and practice hate and discriminatory politics towards a particular community have the moral and ethical right to preach others on the unity of the nation?

As a wise man once said, times change and we change with time. As a tribal leader who represented tribals across India, had the tragedy which the Kukis have been subjected to today been subjugated while he was alive, Mr. Sangma would not have pitched in for Mr. Biren. Manipur

Contd.

Contd.

was a once a home to Kukis as well, but who made the place they once called home “A HELL ON EARTH” for them? Thus, people study history to evade the blunder committed in the past, for history repeats in itself if the same policies are implemented and actions are committed. Thus if today there arises the issues of disintegration of Manipur, it was the divisive, communal and majoritarianism politics that is responsible.

The issues of illegal immigrants and drugs are pan-community problems in Manipur where Kukis are scapegoated easily, the million dollar question however is, who makes these issues a communal one? They are problems that can be solved through government effective policies and actions. Who is playing the power politics here? A former chief minister who divides even today the people of Indian-born and raised up in Manipur into two viz, INDIGENOUS AND NON-INDIGENOUS, who proudly express his role in the implementation of ILP in the state to protect his so called Indigenous people but oppose when victims of his politics demand for a solution that protects their life, ethnicity, culture, language and dignity which are presently threatened in the state of Manipur, communal and divisive politics surely is one of the actors playing the power politics here.

One must accept the problem first if they want a solution. Leaders across all political parties and civil society organisation from the majority community are too fearful or too absorbed themselves. They are not yet ready to accept that the majority of their people are now being radicalised to hate a particular community and they are brainwashed to believe that they are not even Indians but illegal immigrants. Thus the question is, when this hate and divisive ideology has been entrenched deeply into the minds of the

majority community and their leaders, what is the peace we are talking about? Surrendering of Kukis as a second class citizen in their own country or guaranteed justice in the form of separate administration. For we see no tall leaders preaching communal harmony or correcting fake and hate news being spread against the Kukis in the state so far, a corrective step necessary to harmonise the state and to bring the minority community into confidence.

If the respect for dignity and equality for all as envisaged in the constitution of India is what BJP believes, then Separate Administration as a solution demanded by Kukis is something they must be guaranteed in return. One size does not fit all, every problem requires different solutions

The unity in diversity ideology should thus incorporate the creation of smaller states to ensure their cultures, religion, language, identity and dignity are preserved because their patriotism, loyalty and love for the country is not diminished with their demands. Rather it is their belief in the systems and the constitution of the country that they seek the protections within the walls laid down in the constitution.

There is no smoke without fire. Thus in a police-administrative set up where different communities feel protected and equally treated and respected, unanimous voice for separate administration in a community would not have arisen, is what the political leaders in the state and our countries must acknowledge because peace cannot be kept by force but it can only be achieved by understanding.



NEWS ANALYSIS

Silencing the Truth: Arambai Tenggol Threatens State's NPP President; Kuki MLA Demands Prosecution of Meitei Militias

In a latest development of silencing the truth over falsehood in Manipur, the Chief of Arambai Tenggol, a Meitei militia group, has now threatened the former DGP and present NPP President, Yumnam Joykumar, with dire consequences, and demanded a clarification or an apology for his revelation of truth over the ethnic violence.

The social media post of the former Deputy Chief Minister, Yumnam Joykumar, allegedly exposing the ulterior motive of N. Biren Singh and his private militia groups of orchestrating and perpetrating the ongoing genocide against the minority Kuki community, which began on May 3, 2023, met strong reaction from the Meitei radicalized outfit.

In his Facebook handle, Korounganba Khuman said, "In the midst of your [Joykumar Yumnam's] politically oriented conflict, do not sell the land. On May 3, it was 4 pm when AT went to Phougakchao (in Bishnupur district) to save houses engulfed in inferno burnt by armed mob from Churachandpur. Phougakchao is located 10 km from Churachandpur. We demand an apology from Joykumar for his remarks on X. He

must also clarify if the account is his or if its fake" Khuman added.

Earlier, former Deputy Chief Minister, Joykumar, in a post on X said, "It's unfortunate that Mr. N. Biren Singh dragged Late P.A. Sangma's name into the Manipur crisis via his Twitter and Facebook posts on 31/03/2025. His statement is baffling, as NPP never backed Kukiland. The 2014 video he shared predates the issue, showing his poor grasp of the Meitei-Kuki conflict. Despite ample time, he failed to restore peace."

"The 2014 video of P.A. Sangma is irrelevant to today's clash. Biren's queries to NPP President Conrad expose his weak understanding. He claims credit for ILP, but it was the Dy CM from NPP, not BJP, who pushed for it in the delegation meeting."

"Biren Ji misjudged the Kuki-Meitei conflict's roots. The Tribal Students' rally against the High Court's ST status order for Meiteis was a law-and-order issue he let spiral into communal strife. Why did

Contd.

Contd.

his govt allow massive rallies, withdraw commandos from Churachandpur, and let groups like Arambai Tengol attack Kukis?” Joykumar said.

“His govt’s failure to protect lives and property fueled this crisis. Biren blames drugs, illegal immigration, deforestation, and power grabs, but who runs the drug trade? Refer to ex-SP Brinda Devi’s exposé. Who let Kuki immigrants from Myanmar settle in Tengenoupal to aid BJP’s Letpao Haokip and SS. Olish’s wins? Jhum cultivation, not Kukis, harms forests. If he means BJP’s deals with Kuki groups, NPP isn’t involved. Conrad’s right—focus on peace, not blame, for Manipur’s future” he added.

Meanwhile, the Kuki leaders continued a tirade of their rants against insanity of the Meitei militia group. In a post on X, a Kuki MLA from Saikot Assembly Constituency, Paolenlal Haokip, attacked the Arambai Tenggol and demanded that they must be prosecuted.

“Arambai Tenggol are the aggressor militia instrumental in the ethnic cleansing of Kuki Zo community. Classifying them as village volunteers is a fallacy. They must be prosecuted,” said Paolenlal.

Strongly reacting on the issue, Lamtinthang Haokip, a Kuki outspoken leader, said Yumnam Joykumar was threatened with dire consequences for exposing the ulterior motives of BJP Governments in causing Manipur unrest.

Chronology of Incidents leading to Ethnic Violence on May 3, 2023:

It is well-established the fact that the ongoing ethnic pogrom against the Kukis is orchestrated and pre-

planned by the BJP Government of the State under the autocratic rule of N. Biren Singh, alongwith his patronage militia groups - Arambai Tenggol, Meitei Leepun and other banned Meitei extremist outfits.

April 28, 2023: On this day, a protest was held in Churachandpur against the “ill will policy” of the former Chief Minister N. Biren Singh. It led to vandalism of an open gym scheduled for inauguration by the then chief minister. The people of Churachandpur also expressed resentment over deployment of biased Police Commandos, the personnel of which were largely drawn from the Meitei community.

After intense protest, the Police Commandos were withdrawn and subsequently, the Meitei militia groups like Arambai Tenggol, Meitei Leepun were allegedly mobilised for a covert task- to commit violence against Kukis in fringe areas of Bishnupur-Churachandpur district borders.

April 29, 2023: The All Tribal Students’ Association, Manipur (ATSUM) - comprising Manipur Nagas and Kukis - issued a press statement calling for a “Solidarity Rally” on May 3, 2023, to protest against the Manipur High Court’s order recommending the inclusion of Meiteis in the Scheduled Tribe (ST) category. This move allegedly infuriated N. Biren Singh and his Arambai Tenggol cadres, leading to escalating tensions.

May 2, 2023: A day before the scheduled ATSUM Rally, members of the Arambai Tenggol and Meitei Leepun announced a counter-blockade on all

Contd.

Contd.

roads leading the Kuki-Zo dominated districts, thus selectively targeting the Kukis. They began blocking Kuki travelers from moving to and from the Imphal Valley. The Meitei radicals set up roadblocks at key locations: Phougakchao (on the route from Imphal to Churachandpur), Sekmai (Imphal to Kangpokpi), and Sagolmang (Imphal to Saikul). Travelers through these areas faced violent attacks—many were beaten, and their vehicles allegedly destroyed.

Despite the rally being organized by all tribal students of Manipur (Nagas and Kukis), only Kukis were targeted in those incidents.

May 3, 2023: The Solidarity Rally was peacefully conducted in all the hill areas of Manipur including the Naga-inhabited areas. However, after the rally concluded in the afternoon, members of the Arambai Tenggol stationed at Phougakchao, along with their unit in Churachandpur, allegedly traveled in a white Bolero and set fire to the Anglo-Kuki War Centenary Gate at Leisang Village, Churachandpur. The Gate, a symbolic landmark for the Kuki people, is located about 3-4 kilometers from the rally venue - Peace Ground, Tuibong. The act of arson enraged the Kukis who were returning from the protest site towards their respective homes.

A minor shuffle broke out at the Gate and the situation was controlled under the able leadership of the Indigenous Tribal Leaders' Forum (ITLF). Interestingly, some media persons belonging to the Meitei community were already present at the site of Anglo-Kuki War Centenary Gate when the arson occurred.

While the rallyists were returning home in Torbung and Kangvai areas, the same Meitei radicals stationed at Phougakchao began attacking the Kukis. Phougakchao,

a Meitei locality, in Bisnupur district, is just a stone's throw away from the Kuki-Zo villages of Kangvai and Torbung in Churachandpur district. Shockingly, the Bishnupur Police, who were deployed at the scene, did not intervene to stop the violent mobs. Instead, they gave free hand to the Arambai Tenggol, thus drawing the first blood of a Kuki pastor. They then started burning the Kuki homes located in the vicinity of the Meitei locality.

As the news of burning of Kuki homes and a murder of a Kuki individual spread, the Kuki mob retaliated by vandalising Meitei properties in Torbung areas. In Imphal, the capital city of Manipur, the Meitei militias began all-out attacks on Kukis. A Kuki-Zo MLA was one of the first victims in the hands of Arambai Tenggol.

The violence spread like wildfires. But, the State government did not intervene; instead, it led the situation to escalate further. Utilising state machinery, the Meitei state police helped the militia groups in perpetrating heinous crimes against the Kukis.

It seems that Yumnam Joykumar, former DGP and now NPP President, has deep knowledge about the truth of what transpired in the initial days of the violence. He knew that Biren Singh had given those militia groups a free hand to attack the Kukis. Now, after speaking the truth two years later, he is being threatened by the same radicals who have blood in their hands. However, his remark on Kuki illegal immigrants in Tengenoupal is factually incorrect.



FEATURED ARTICLE

Conflicting political interests in Manipur on Delimitation

Ngaranmi Shimray

“Delimitation literally means the act or process of fixing limits or boundaries of territorial constituencies in a country or a province having a legislative body. The job of delimitation is assigned to a high power body. Such a body is known as Delimitation Commission or a Boundary Commission. In India, such Delimitation Commissions have been constituted 4 times – in 1952 under the Delimitation Commission Act, 1952, in 1963 under Delimitation Commission Act, 1962, in 1973 under Delimitation Act, 1972 and in 2002 under Delimitation Act, 2002. The Delimitation Commission in India is a high power body whose orders have the force of law and cannot be called in question before any court. These orders come into force on a date to be specified by the President of India in this behalf. The copies of its orders are laid before the House of the People and the State Legislative Assembly concerned, but no modifications are permissible therein by them.” Extract from Delimitation of Assam, 2023.

The above quote gives the background of what delimitation is about and the importance of the exercise as far as Manipur is concerned as it would become law and cannot be called in question before any court.

The delimitation ordered by the Supreme Court is based on Constitutional provisions and is to be implemented within three months in 4 NE states, including Manipur.

It only entails alteration of the boundaries of constituencies to equally distribute population among the parliamentary and assembly seats. The number of Lok Sabha seats and assembly seats of Manipur has remained unaltered since 1971 census and will undergo changes only after 2026 as continuing the freeze on the total number of seats in each state till 2026 has been provided in the 84th amendment to Constitution. This means that the impending delimitation exercise will only affect the boundaries of constituencies in Manipur and not affect the total numbers. The delimitation exercise for Assam is completed, Arunachal and Nagaland is under process, but nothing has started in respect of Manipur.

Guidelines and methodology guides the Delimitation Commission of India and it prescribes that all parliamentary and assembly constituencies throughout the State should have similar size population as far as practicable allowing a deviation to the extent of plus or minus 10 percent from the State average population. Further, all assembly constituencies in a district should be confined within the territorial limits of that district, whenever possible i.e. an assembly constituency

Contd.

Contd.

should not ordinarily extend to more than one district. Furthermore, as far as practicable, sub-divisions are to be kept intact as one administrative unit and not unnecessarily broken. In addition, they should be contiguous, and communication and convenience should be taken into consideration. It is also important to avoid putting areas that are separated by natural barriers, such as rivers, hilly ranges, or forests, in the same constituency. The delimitation process should start from the North and move towards the North-West and then proceed in a zigzag manner to end at the Southern side.

Some political party in Manipur, majority of them having greater influence in the valley, have opposed the implementation of delimitation exercise directed by the Supreme Court. These political parties fear that, even if the number of assembly seats in Manipur remains at 60, the valley district may lose out some seats to the hill districts on account of higher population figures in the hill areas as per population Census of 2001.

As far as seats in parliament is concerned, it is highly possible that the valley assembly constituencies of Thoubal and Jiribam falling in Outer Manipur parliamentary constituency may be deleted and added to Inner Manipur parliamentary constituency which would be received well by the voters of Thoubal district.

However, the main concern of the political parties appears to be on the changes in assembly seats likely to take place between the valley and hills. Manipur has "hill areas" which is protected under Article 371-C and hence 20 assembly seats are given for hill areas of which 19 seats are reserved for ST category. As the delimitation exercise would be based on Census 2001 population figures, it is possible that the assembly seats in hill areas could increase at the expense of the valley.

The principles, guidelines and methodology for delimitation exercise is based on constitutional provisions for implementation across the country and has been laid down for all governments to implement

under the Election commission of India. Opposing overdue delimitation exercise based on 2001 Census population, which has been already implemented across the country except in Arunachal, Nagaland and Manipur, is against the tenets of the Constitution. Since the existing methodology is based on size of population, states in south India who have successfully implemented population control programme are likely to lose seats and have stated objecting to the next delimitation exercise to be based on first Census population exercise taken after 2026. Most southern states having contained population growth is likely to lose out parliamentary seats to Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh etc where the population control programme have failed upsetting the delicate north - south balance in parliament. In Manipur the family planning campaign, while successfully implemented in the valley, must have failed miserably in the backward hill areas resulting in higher population growth which could now narrow down difference in number of representatives between the valley and hill areas. The delimitation exercise is to be carried out as per constitutional provisions and the SC is ensuring that justice is not denied to the 4 north eastern states. Opposing the overdue delimitation directed by the SC would be unconstitutional and smacks of foul play by the dominant community. Hill areas of Manipur cannot wait for the next delimitation exercise which will take place based on the first Census population exercise to be carried out after 2026. The overdue delimitation exercise of Manipur based on 2001 census population figures should have taken place in 2002 along with other states. The state government dominated by the Meitei community had objected to the delimitation exercise in 2002 indicating that the tribes were either befooled or cowed down to accept the decision of the dominant community for

Contd.

Contd.

postponing delimitation during 2002. The delay by 23 years has given more seats to the valley constituencies to enjoy the status quo of having 40 MLA seats for at least four assembly elections since 2002. The valley should be happy that status quo continued for them for 4 assembly elections, but should now accept realities provided under the Constitution and not oppose the delimitation exercise directed by the SC. On the other hand, had the delimitation exercise been done in 2002, the hill areas would have gained a few MLA seats from 2002 onwards for at least 4 elections. The dominant community has been advocating a policy of continuing their strategy of suppression and subjugation of the people in the “hill areas” by demanding ST status with ulterior designs to grab tribal lands in “hill areas”, threatened extension of MLR&LR Act to hill areas again to grab tribal lands, proposed amendment of Article 371-C of the Constitution with intention to interfere in the working of the Hill Areas Committee and compromise the special safeguards given to “hill areas” in respect to land and, to assuage the tribes by offering to carry out amendments to state law called the Manipur (Hill Areas) District Council Act, 1971 with

limited empowerment when it is well known that nothing less than a Bodoland type of district/territorial council under Article 244 and Sixth Schedule would be acceptable now. All these attempts can be termed as strategies of the dominant community in Manipur to carry out their hegemonic designs of grabbing tribal lands in “hill areas” and continue their grip for suppression, exploitation and subjugation of the tribal people in “hill areas”. The rule of law has to be accepted and followed by the dominant community if Manipur has to remain as a single entity. These are modern times driven by technology and knowledge. The tribes are no longer simpletons and rustic. They are well informed and know their rights. They will fight for their rights as all the issues discussed above will impact their future and they will not standby and allow anybody to run roughshod over their future. The SC direction to implement constitutional provisions for justice and fair play to the people of Manipur should not be obstructed.

Published by: [The Morung Express](#)



Paolienlal Haokip
@paolienlal



Hon'ble UHM is partly right, the carnage in Manipur is not religious, nor is it terrorism. But UHM sayin' it's not Law and Order failure is a shock. It's communalisation of law and order under the CM. Now the separation needs to be accorded constitutional recognition.

[@PMOIndia](#)

9:53 pm · 05 Apr 25 · 3,491 Views



Greeshma Kuthar
@jeegujja

Four senior officials (MEN) of the Indian govt held talks with Six Meitei MEN and eight Kuki-Zo MEN in Delhi to discuss how to 'resolve Manipur crisis' started by CM Biren and his MEN while not discussing the actions of the CM and his MEN. Nothing came out of it. I wonder why

2:15 am · 06 Apr 25 · 6,181 Views



SEPARATE ADMINISTRATION

A plea for autonomy, a cry for right,
A separate administration, to shine with new light.
For too long, our voices have been unheard,
Our stories, our struggles, our triumphs, blurred.

We, the Kuki people, with our distinct pride,
Our culture, our language, our traditions, we cannot divide.
We yearn for self-governance, to determine our fate,
To preserve our heritage, to create a brighter state.

A separate administration, to address our needs,
To empower our communities, to plant the seeds.
Of progress, of peace, of prosperity, and growth.
To unlock our potential, to give our youth a voice and a path.

Let us unite, let us stand, let our voices be heard
For a separate administration, a new dawn to be stirred.
For the Kuki people, by the Kuki people, we shall thrive,
With autonomy, we shall rise, our future, we shall revive.

~ Obed Paogoulien Singson
Songpi, Kukiland