

# Statehood rally in ENPO areas in Nagaland

Courtesy: Nagaland Post Kohima, July 13,

Massive public rallies under the aegis of the Eastern Nagaland Peoples' Organisation (ENPO) was organised Thursday simultaneously in four eastern districts of Nagaland—Tuensang, Mon, Longleng and Kiphire—in solidarity with the ENPO statehood demand.

In Tuensang, a public rally was held at Tower Clock, Tuensang town, where ENPO president, Kekongchim Yimchunger, highlighted the demands of the statehood and its progress thus far.

He asserted that from time immemorial eastern Nagaland was not under any administrative establishments. ENPO president claimed that since attainment of the statehood the eastern Nagaland areas were deprived in every social aspect of development. "Thus it is time to revive and change for the good," he said.

Stating that ENPO areas support the Naga political issue, Kekongchim Yimchunger, however, said that the demand for frontier Nagaland cannot be comprised or suppressed by any external force.

At the rally, solidarity speeches were also delivered by Chang tribal council (CKS) president, Sangtam Union Tuensang Town (SUTT) president, Khiamnungan Union Tuensang Town (KUTT) president, Yimchunger Union Tuensang Town (YUTT) president, Phom Union Tuensang Town (PUTT) president, President of All Ward Union Tuensang Town, Confederation of Chang Students Union, Changsao Thangjam Satshang (Chang Women Organization), Hd. GB Tuensang Town.

Mon: Along with the other eastern districts of Nagaland, Mon also held public rally at Private Bus Station Montown on Thursday in solidarity with the ENPO statehood demand. In his solitary speech, Konyak Union president Manlip Konyak stated that "the demand for frontier Nagaland (FN) is our legitimate right for social economic upliftment and political justice". Konyak said they were not against any other people, but their demand was to fulfil all round development under ENPO jurisdiction, which he said could be attained only through statehood. He also claimed that since the



date of inception of Nagaland statehood, development in Eastern Nagaland remained same in every aspect. Therefore, KU president said it was the cry and yearning of the public for frontier state. Former president and advisor ENPO, Khoiwang Konyak stated that the reason behind the demand of frontier state was due to poor education system, less employment and poor road connectivity in all the eastern districts. He said the demand was for the uplift of its people in all round development and for the betterment of the future of Eastern Nagas.

The solitary speeches were also delivered by presidents of KNSK, KSU, KU Mon unit, MDGBU and Hoka Konyak on behalf of the senior citizens. After the programme, the general public led by KU, KSU, KNSK, MDGBU and MTSU marched towards DC office to submit a memorandum to the Prime Minister of India, through the DC Mon. The rally was attended by hundreds of people from all walks of life. (Correspondent) Longleng: Extending solidarity with the ENPO demand for creation of "Frontier Nagaland", the Phom Peoples' Council (PPC) organized public rally in Longleng Thursday. People from all walks of life, young and old today converged at local ground Longleng holding banners and placards.

ENPO general secretary C. Manlang Phom, while highlighting the reports on state demand, said that more than 30 rounds of talks were held and several memorandums have been submitted to the central government. He said the aspiration of the people of ENPO that demand for separate statehood was genuine.

Manlang Phom urged the central government to take up the demand for Frontier Nagaland seriously during the forthcoming monsoon season. During the rally, solidarity speeches were delivered by GBs' association president P.

Zunge Phom, Phomla Hoichem president A. Shamthai Phom and Phom students' conference (PSC) president A. Mane Phom. After the rally, the PPC submitted memorandum to the Prime minister of India through the deputy commissioner Longleng. (Correspondent)

Kiphire: Public rally demanding for statehood was held at Delux point Kiphire town, which was organized by United Sangtam Likhum Pumji (USLP), United Sangtam Students' Conference (USSC) and Akheta Sangtamlaru Thsingmujang (AST). ENPO vice president, P Setsacho Sangtam, said that ENPO's Demand is a legitimate right of the people of eastern Nagaland. He said that genuine demand of the people should not be neglected as there is people of Eastern Nagas have suffered enough. Other speakers at the rally included USLP, USSC and AST leaders, who also expressed support for ENPO demand for statehood.

After the rally, a team led by USLP, AST and USSC marched to the DC office Kiphire and submitted a representation addressed to the Prime Minister of India. DC Kiphire Mohammed Ali Shihab assured to forward the letter to higher-up. (Correspondent) Shamator: Joining the rest of the Eastern districts of Nagaland, the Yimchunger also held a programme cum public rally at its headquarters in support of the ENPO demand for separate statehood.

The rally was led by Yimchunger Tribal Council (YTC), Yimchunger Akheru Arihako (YAA), Yimchunger women Organization (YWO) and Yimchunger Baptist Boru Amukhungto (YBBA). The programme was attended by all village councils under YTC. The solidarity speeches were delivered by YTC president S. Throng, Yimchunger GB Union president Lakumong, YWO president Y. Shojia, YAA president, S. Yansomong Tum.

# Minister Kayisii visits landslide-affected Thonglang in Kangpokpi District

IT News Imphal, July 12,

As per report from the DIPR, Tribal Affairs & Hills and Fisheries Minister N. visited Thonglang in Kangpokpi district which falls under his constituency Tadubi, to take stock of the situation post the devastating landslide that occurred in the village last week.

Upon his arrival at the village, the Minister conducted a spot inspection of the damage caused by the landslide. Interacting with the villagers, Kayisii encouraged the villagers to plant more trees to maintain the ecological balance in the area. While extending some immediate relief materials, the Minister assured to provide CGI sheets to the affected households. Expressing concern over the poor connectivity in the village especially the road condition, mobile and power connectivity, he assured that the issues will be addressed to bring development in the area. He further expressed that he will put more effort to bring closer ties with the locals in the coming days.

It may be noted that the devastating landslide damaged six dwelling houses including a church building and the office building of Thonglang Youth Club. Although there was infrastructural damage caused by the landslide, there was no report of human casualty. The landslide also damaged a stretch of a state highway at Thonglang village- IT Road preventing any vehicular movement at the road stretch. Multiple crack lines are clearly visible at a spot on the road. According to villagers, Thonglang village-IT Road is the lifeline to more than 200 villages belonging to Kuki, Naga and Nepali communities in the surrounding area. With the lifeline being cut off, goods and necessities are transported through Thonglang - Senapati Road by taking a bypass through a steep inter-village road. Incidentally, a culvert and a road stretch along Thonglang-



Senapati road were also damaged by the landslide. Villagers opined that

along with a retaining wall may avert landslide to recur. The Minister was accompanied by Chairman and Ex-Chairman of

Thonglang Village Council, local Member of District Council, church leaders and villagers during the survey.

## Guest Column

# Who Created the Border Pillar Conflict? For What?

By: Ms. Marina Kongsam

The recent issue of border pillar number 81 and 82 created a fear among the people of Manipur after experiencing of the incident of Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru completely gifted of the Kabaw valley to the Burmese government as a token of peace in the year 1952. Various civil societies and the villagers of the area located near the pillar have been highlighting the facts of where the border pillar is suppose to be comparing with the recent erected pillar by the Myanmar Government. Unfortunately, the stories and the facts revealed by the indigenous villagers inhabited near the border area are mocked as an illiterate by the Government of Manipur. It cannot be forgotten that those villagers have been inhabited in the area before the existence of the Government of Manipur and it could also be asked that how many times has the government of Manipur visited those areas?

Many people have visited the area to find or in search of the real facts and circumstances of where the pillar was and where it is suppose to be, however, it could be found that few government officials having less knowledge of the pillar have visited the area but not the actual people who had involved in the real demarcation of the border in the past between the Government of Myanmar and representatives of Government of India from Manipur. The statement released on 8<sup>th</sup> of July, 2018 by the Spokesperson's of the Ministry of External Affairs have informed that the "State Government of Manipur has been involved in the entire exercise." of the exact alignment of the international boundary. Then where are the officials of the Government of Manipur and India involved in the entire exercise and why are they silent still? The funny part is the central government has just pinned upon the Government of Manipur through the statement

released on the 8<sup>th</sup> of July, 2018 and it clearly indicates that the Central Government doesn't want to be responsible instead trying to create another conflict between the people and the government of Manipur which the Government of Manipur has no guts to raised voice against the central Babu's sitting at Delhi.

Here the question arises is on Who is guarding our land? Who is the ultimate responsible authority to look after it? Who must be blamed upon? Who should be liable for it? Isn't it the government or the Indian Armed Forces who are deployed in our state? As per my knowledge, they are here for the protection of the nation and people at large from external forces as India shares International boundary through Manipur with Myanmar. Then why haven't they have any knowledge with regard to the recent Border Pillar issue which are meant to protect by them and where were they at the time when the Myanmar Forces entered and claimed that the land belongs to Myanmar? If they are not capable enough to protect the people and our land from outside forces then they are pleased to "GO BACK". On the other hand why the government of Manipur is still silent and unable to provide a positive response to the people of Manipur and aren't they capable of running the state is yet another big question arises among many of the youths of the state.

It is very eye opening to see our Chief Minister for initiating many welfare schemes for the citizens like the mission "Go to village", "CM gi haksel gi Tengbang", "Go to Hill", etc, then it won't it be a great Idea to remind the CM to add another mission called "Go to Border" in order to protect our motherland to do so and sometime we fear that "are central forces involved in creating the conflict having nexus with the Myanmar Army?". If yes then "We are not safe".

After suffering enough since many decades old struggling the citizens have woken up already realizing the

fact of suppression and down-trodden by the Central Government then why the government of Manipur didn't? Kneeling down to Babu's sitting in Delhi then we cannot deny the fact that our precious motherland "Manipur" will be disappeared from the surface of the earth then there will be no more your government anymore, and if the government is somehow formed then it will be just for namesake.

Therefore, it is high time for people who are now part of the Government of Manipur to raise voice against those Babu's who are remotely controlling the Government of Manipur before our land are sold out to other nations by creating hatred among our people. Decide now and settle the boundary dispute which is suspicious to be created by the Government of India in allied with the Government of Myanmar using their military forces or become slave for the entire generation which will be hard to regain consciousness again once we land up to be a slave.

Further to remind the government of Manipur that current issues are more important and need to be solved urgently and immediately. Past will remain in the past, it can never be present. This present day will also be a past after tomorrow. We cannot rewind it, likewise, if we solve our present problems now, then there won't be time to solve it in the future from getting started again. We can't go to the past and solve it.

Lastly my question to the citizen of Manipur is "Is the issue of Border Pillar a Distraction to loot the Natural Resources found in the Border Region by India and Myanmar?" is another serious issues which we need to understand before getting looted by the devils.

# SEACO opens branch, selected 11 office bearers and 5 advisors

IT News Imphal, July 13,

South East Asian Cultural Organisation (SEACO), which has been working for protection and revival of traditional meitei culture, religions and traditions have open a new branch at Sonia Tulagram Part 11 in Cachar on July 9 at 1 pm in simple function held.

The function held for opening of the new branch was presided by Loitongbam Borjeshwar of Sonia as the president while the president of the SEACOKolomcha Achoubi Khuman as the the Chief Guest. Akham Langol Advisor to SEACO attended as special guest . Secretary Publicity of SEACO head quarter Thangjam Inao and Taorem Nandeshwar also attended as guest of honours. Oinam Nillu is the new president of the new branch.



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