

Editorial

Thursday, October 31, 2019

The final agreement – a mere mistake will distort the peaceful coexistence in the state

Life in Manipur has been put to a complete stand still, as almost all communities of the state waited what would happen tomorrow. A mere mistake while signing the so call final agreement between the interlocutor of Government of India R.N. Ravi and the Naga National Political Groups along with the NSCN-IM, which probably is likely to take place today have the tendency to put the entire region into flames. Almost all ethnic communities of the state – no matters they belong under the umbrella of Naga or under the Kukis or the Meitei or Meitei pangal, each and every-one of them are panic. A mere mistake in the signing that is happening today will surely distort the peaceful coexistence in the region as fear factor of unwanted incident is expected even as there has never been any communal enmity among the various ethnic group.

On the apprehension of distorting the peaceful coexistence in the state which is likely to be a fall out of the final settlement, life has been put to a complete stand still. People irrespective of which community they belongs are seen sitting at almost all places with placards and banners warning the India government of unwanted consequences, if any agreement to appease the NSCN-IM is signed in the so call final settlement.

Quite for sometimes people have stopped worrying, as the Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi and the Home Minister Amit Shah had assured that no boundary of the state of Manipur, Assam and Arunachal Pradesh will be affected while solving the problem. However, a likely segregation of the state administration which has been reported agreed between RN Ravi and the NSCN-IM collective leadership has once again alerted the people of the state.

The main thing which people of the state has been opposing is the creation of a territorial council for the Nagas of Manipur, Arunachal Pradesh and Assam. When it is known to the government of India that already there are Autonomous district Council existed in all the hill districts of the state and when the government of India already know that the Hill areas are given separate autonomy under the article 371 C of the Indian Constitution, one wonder on the kind of autonomy by creating a Territorial Council for Nagas of Manipur. This has been opposed by all communities of Manipur as there are no distinctive hill areas which are inhabited by Nagas alone. There are many Kuki people, Nepali people and also Meitei people settled at many hill areas and creation of a separate Territorial council on ethnic based will be none other than setting the hill under fire.

The idea of a Pan Naga Cultural Body is acceptable but without incorporating the Article 371 A of the Indian Constitution. Any measures or agreement to extend the provision of Article 371 A to all Naga inhabited area will amount to not only violation of the Constitution of India but will ignite a fierce uprising from the people of the state.

Now a report appeared at a National media about RN Ravi agreeing the demand for Greater Nagaland by the NSCN-IM is the worst mistake that the government of India is going to commit. The people across the state has witnessed additional paramilitary troop being sent in the state and this create fear psychosis to all the people of the state. There is a possibility that Government grants a separate Naga administered land directly control by the center even though the boundary of the state of Manipur is kept undisturbed.

And as RN Ravi fails to define the concept of Greater Nagaland clearly to the people, he will be the first bureaucrat who was appointed as the governor of a state who defy the promise of prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah. Because Greater Nagaland is the demand for a separate state of the NSCN-IM to be created by curbing out portion of land from Manipur, Assam and Arunachal Pradesh.

When the cease fire between the NSCN-IM and India was extended to the state of Manipur all form of administration or existence of government cease as there was a mass uprising. 18 plus people sacrificed. The state Assembly, political party offices, MLAs official quarters and some government offices were burnt just because people felt that extension of cease fire to the state of Manipur was equivalent to granting of a state for the rebel group by curbing out some territory of Manipur. Imagine if the government of India Grant Greater Nagalim, what will be the condition of the state of Manipur.

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We need to convert the philosophies and ideologies of our leaders into action- Minister Jayantakumar



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Health and Family Welfare Minister L. Jayantakumar Singh has urged the new generation to uphold and convert the Philosophies and Ideologies of our national leaders into action. Speaking at the observance of Rastriya Sankalp Diwas (National Re-Dedication Day) as chief guest minister Jayantakumar also renew the philosophies and dedication rendered to the nation by our leaders. Speaking at the state level occasion held at Manipur Secretariat, South Block, Imphal, Jayantakumar Singh said that this day of 31st October, have been being observed as

Rastriya Sankalp Diwas (National Re-Dedication Day) as a mark to honour the dedicated service of late Prime Minister of India, Smt. Indira Gandhi. She was shot dead by one of her personal guards on this day of 1984. The fateful incident shocked not only the people of this country but also the world. It was a really a great loss of this country, he added. Minister also recalled the dedicated works of the late prime minister by highlighting her activities and love of the nation and its citizens. He appealed the citizens of this new generation to play a role by igniting the great philosophies and ideologies bestowed by our national leaders to face the new trend of

global challenge. Minister also urged the citizens to re-dedicate to build a stronger nation and bring sense of unification and oneness for a new India.

Speaking as president Deputy Chairman, Manipur Planning Board, S. Rajen Singh said that the dedicated service of late Smt. Indira Gandhi is an inspiration to the citizens of this country. Her role to build an united India can never be ignored by the people of India, he added.

The observance was also attended by Chief Secretary Manipur, Dr. J. Sureshbabu, IAS, DGP, Manipur, LM Khaute and other top officers of different departments of the Government.

A Rejoinder to press communique of Kuki Chief Association, Tengnoupal Dated 26th October, 2019 - CNPO

The Chandel Naga Peoples' Organization (CNPO) and Naga Students' Union Chandel (NSUC) hereby issued a rejoinder to the press communique issued by the information and publicity of Kuki Chiefs' Association dated 26th October, 2019 regarding the distorted/ concocted history and claim of Chandel and Tengnoupal as ancestral land of Kukis. The CNPO & NSUC opposed the centenary celebration of so called Anglo-Kuki War for the undermentioned reasons:

1. There was no Anglo-Kuki War of 1917-19 in the History of Manipur. The Kuki rising was known as Kuki Rebellion which was started on 19/12/1917 and ended in 20/05/1919. Many scholars has already clarified/ declared both in print and electronic media.

2. There is no Kuki ancestral land or Kuki independent country in Tengnoupal/ Chandel. The name of Kuki was heard only when Kukis arrived in 1845 and settled at Khangbarol Village. How can the Kuki claim that there is ancestral land in Tengnoupal and Chandel. The Kukis fought against the British Colonial Power with the main aim to invade the ancestral land of the Nagas. In support of the non-existence of Kuki land in Tengnoupal, a dispute land case was settled in favour of the Anals. In the court of the President, Manipur State Darbar Civil Case No. 208 of 1929-30 the Kuki Chiefs namely 1. Ngulkhup, Chief of Lamkhanghang Mombi.

2. Leothang, Chief of Lamphou Gobok Khuman claimed to establish their right to land against the Anal. Chiefs namely 1. Kanlun Khullakpa of Thulcham (Thorcham), 2. Monal of Khubung Khunou

(Respondents) was dismissed in favour the mentioned Anal Khullakpas by JC Higgins (P. A. 24/ 01/1933).

3. In another case, in the court of Sub-Divisional Officer, Ukhrul (East) vide Misc. Case No 256 of 1934 -35, between 1. Beting, Khulakpa of Lambung Village 2. Shelong, Khulakpa of Pantha Mantri Village versus Limkon Ningthou of Tonghang Village, Limkon was directed to pay Lousal of Rs. 20 to Lambung Village by an Order of S.J. Duncan (Limkon Camp, 26/02/1937).

4. Again, in the court of Sub Divisional Officer Ukhrul vide inter district case No. 28 of 1934 - 35 between 1. Berung 2. Kotham Khulakpa of Thangpuk (Thangbung) Minou Village versus the Kuki Chiefs of Tamu District and Angou Khulakpa of Moreh, it was recognized that the defendants (Kuki Chiefs of Tamu District and Angou Khulakpa of Moreh) were not allowed to take trees, bamboos, fishing etc. They were also penalized to pay Re. 1 and a jar of Zu for their earlier mistake by an Order by G. Gimson P.A and TD Gaudoin DC/UC Camp Tamu dated 15/01/1936.

5. That, the Anal, Lamkang, Moyon, Monsang, Maring etc. are classified as Nagas by the Govt. of India according to the Historical facts maintained by the Political agents or British administration. The above mentioned tribes were called Naga in the early centuries before the Kukis arrival to Khangbarol. Therefore, the theory of forcing themselves to affiliate to Naga fold by the Tangkhul is baseless.

6. That, the recent allegation that Nagas never live in Chandel/ Tengnoupal is completely a wrong information, because, many documentary evidences have proved that Nagas are land owner in Tengnoupal / Chandel and

these documentary evidences are a proof that there is no ancestral land of Kukis in Tengnoupal/ Chandel. Hence, safeguarding of Ancestral Land, Culture and Custom by the Kukis does not arise while protesting against the British administration.

7. That there is no record or any standing order for the Nagas to obtain prior permission from the Kuki Chiefs for settlement in any part of British Manipur according to the verdict of Land Dispute Court Cases.

8. That, there is a record that the Finance Ministry, Govt. of India Vide Memo No. F/3/966 granted fund for the Kuki Refugees. Payment of Relief Fund was made by the Govt. of Manipur Vide Memo No. 301/R/RLF in 4 (four) Installments on the following dates i.e., 22/4/ 1957, 7/7/1959, 28/2/1966 and 18/7/1968. However, there is no record of Memo No. 01/R/RLF for payment of Installments of relief fund to the Nagas. It is the habit of Kukis to fool the people by distorting thus becomes a great liar in the land of Nagas. "Be sure your sin will find you out"- Number 32:23. "Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is a sin"-James 4:17.

9. The CNPO and NSUC further appeal the Kuki Community and various Kuki Committees to avoid any distortion and display of cultural attitudes of the Naga Tribes of Chandel/ Tengnoupal in any occasion or festivals.

Sd/-
Huten Alexander
Gen. Secretary, CNPO
And
Sh Kalenchung
Gen. Secretary, NSUC

Thadou Inpi met with Mr Mathur for finalisation of Indo-Kuki talks simultaneously with Indo-Naga talks

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A delegation of Thadou Inpi, General Headquarters (Manipur), led by its president Lamminthang Kipgen and four others including Michael Lamjathang Haokip, secretary general, Thadou Students' Association (TSA) met with Mr AB Mathur, Red IPS, Interlocutor (Govt. of India), Indo-Kuki talks this afternoon at New Delhi and discussed various critical issues at this crucial stage of finalization of Indo-Naga peace talks.

The delegation, on behalf of Thadou people, the largest tribe of Manipur, apprised Mr Mathur about their desire for the Government of India to conclude the Indo-Kuki talks simultaneously with the Indo-Naga talks which is widely reported to be finalized on 31st October, 2019.

The Thadou delegation also highlighted the overlapping settlement of the Kukis and Nagas in Manipur and stressed its strong objection if there is any plan to give away Thadou inhabited land by way of boundaries or territorial council in the event of final Naga political settlement. The delegation emphasized the need for mutually acceptable solution to both Kuki and Naga political problems on the basis of equal respect, equal treatment and equal recognition of the political aspirations of both communities for genuine and permanent peace and solution in north-east India.

In view of the political developments against the backdrop of the process of finalisation of Indo-Naga peace talks, the Thadou people, as a major stake holder, are compelled to assert their rights to their land, culture and identity and thus the call for finalisation of Indo-Kuki talks at the same time as finalisation of Indo-Naga talks.

During the meeting that lasted for 2 hours, Mr Mathur acknowledged that the issues raised by the delegation are legitimate and assured that they would be addressed at the most appropriate level in a timely manner.

AR Conducts Security Meet

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Mantripukhri Battalion of 9 Sector Assam Rifles under the aegis of HQ 1GAR (South) organised a security meet at Sagolmung Company Operating Base (COB). The Security forum was attended by locals Villagers, Ex-Servicemen, Pradhans, Ward Members and Councilors, Youth Clubs Secretary and Shopkeepers, and representatives of local.

During the meet the locals were sanitised and updated on current situation existing in the area of responsibility. There was also an interaction carried out on necessary measures required to be undertaken by locals in synergy with Assam Rifles for maintaining a strict vigil against illicit activities in the area. In addition to the security issues, future action plan in respect of civic action projects like medical camps, recruitment in Assam Rifles and Army and career counseling for youth were also discussed during the meet.