



Indigenous Tribal Leaders' Forum (ITLF)

Conglomerate of Recognised Tribes in Lamka, Outer Manipur

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Saturday, 15th July 2023

CONDEMNATION

Meitei womenfolk (Meira Paibis) today burned down three trucks carrying LPG cylinders owned by a Kuki-Zo tribal in Imphal West's Sekmai village.

The trucks, stranded at IOC's gas plant in Sekmai since May 3, were being moved out to Kangpokpi district after the owner Misao Gas agency received approval from the police. After being tipped off by an insider, Meira Paibis blocked the route and set fire to the trucks around 12 pm.

The Indigenous Tribal Leaders' Forum (ITLF) vehemently condemns the disregard for life and property that Meira Paibis continue to display.

Meitei womenfolk, who claim to be the guardians of society, have morphed into killers, arsonists and abettors of armed militants. They've accompanied gunmen during raids on tribal settlements, blocked security forces from helping villagers while they are being attacked, and forced the release of separatist militants responsible for the killings of soldiers. And they are not shy of burning innocent women and children alive if given the opportunity.

Despite claims of the N. Biren Singh-led government that the state is returning to normalcy, there is no peace on the ground. The majority community is still continuing with its ethnic cleansing programme – targeting the life and property of all Kuki-Zo tribals.

This is why there needs to be total separation of the communities for peace to return.

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