

Indigenous Tribal Leaders' Forum (ITLF)

Conglomerate of Recognised Tribes in Lamka, Outer Manipur

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PRESS RELEASE

The Indigenous Tribal Leaders' Forum (ITLF) is alarmed over the Manipur government's attempt to station state security forces in Moreh town in Tengnoupal district, which is inhabited by Kuki-Zo tribals.

It is common knowledge that Meitei security forces are openly supporting the majority community in the present ethnic conflict. This is why tribal women in Moreh are blocking the national highway in an effort to stop state forces from entering the border town.

There are also fears that cadres of the militant groups Arambai Tenggol and Meitei Leepun are embedded with police commandos and could wreak havoc if they enter Moreh.

It may be also mentioned that the majority of civil and police officers in Tengnoupal district are from the majority Meitei community, including the Addl. District Superintendent of Police, Sub-divisional police officer and officer-in-charge.

Amit Shah had promised during his visit to Manipur that no state security forces would be stationed in Moreh. Therefore, to maintain fairness and neutrality, we humbly request the government to withdraw all Meitei security personnel from Moreh.

If our request is not met by 6 pm today (July 31, 2023), we will be forced to start a public agitation in all tribal districts.

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