



Indigenous Tribal Leaders' Forum (ITLF)

Conglomerate of Recognised Tribes in Lamka, Outer Manipur

File No: ITLF-PR-202503

Tuesday, 08 October 2024

CONDEMNATION

The Indigenous Tribal Leaders' Forum (ITLF) secretary's house in Dorcas Veng, New Lamka, was attacked by unidentified miscreants last night at around 10:30 p.m. It is important to note that leaders of ITLF received multiple threats after the October 5, 2024, Zo United meeting.

We strongly condemn the attack on the home of the Secretary of the Indigenous Tribal Leaders' Forum (ITLF). These kinds of acts are attempts by those who wish to sabotage our progress in this conflict. It not only targets individuals but also strikes at the heart of communities striving for justice and peace. Violence of this nature, whether politically motivated or driven by other factors, undermines democratic values and violates the peaceful reconciliation agreement that was recently signed under Zo United.

It should be highlighted that there have been numerous attacks against ITLF leaders in the past. ITLF has long served as a cornerstone in the fight for the causes and rights of the Kuki-Zo communities, and such heinous crimes against its leaders are deeply troubling. It is critical that authorities take immediate and decisive action to investigate this incident, ensure the safety of the ITLF Secretary and others who may be at risk, and hold the perpetrators accountable. The use of violence to silence voices or intimidate leaders serves only to deepen divisions and instill fear in the communities.

Furthermore, community leaders, church leaders, civil society, and government institutions must collectively work towards de-escalating tensions and promoting peace. Everyone, regardless of their political, social, or ethnic affiliations, deserves to feel safe in their homes and communities.

This attack is a stark reminder of the growing dangers faced by our leaders, and we call upon all citizens to reject violence in all its forms. We stand in solidarity with the ITLF Secretary and all leaders who work tirelessly for the cause of our movement.

Issued by —

Department of Media & Publicity,
Indigenous Tribal Leaders' Forum (ITLF)