



## Indigenous Tribal Leaders' Forum (ITLF)

Conglomerate of Recognised Tribes in Lamka, Outer Manipur

File No: ITLF-PR-202513

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### CONDEMNATION & SOLIDARITY

The Indigenous Tribal Leaders' Forum (ITLF) is deeply shocked and anguished by the brutal killing of four members of the United Kuki National Army (UKNA) by security forces in Khanpi, Henglep. According to reports, the four men were shot dead while they were asleep – a manner that can only be described as an act of cold-blooded execution.

While the Valley-Based Insurgent Groups (VBIGs) of the Meitei continue to operate with complete impunity, ITLF strongly condemns this selective and inhumane act perpetrated under the guise of security operations. This unprovoked and barbaric killing of our own people – executed without confrontation, without due process, and while they were asleep – is an appalling abuse of power and a direct assault on the rule of law. Such actions not only constitute a grave violation of human rights but also expose the deep-rooted bias and double standards within the state's security apparatus.

It must be clearly stated that UKNA is not a terrorist organization, nor has it ever acted against the interests of the Indian nation or its security forces. Like other Kuki-Zo armed groups, UKNA has been part of the ongoing struggle for our people's right to self-governance within the framework of India. To target them in this manner is not only unjustified but also reflects the continued misuse of power by the security forces in the hills of Manipur.

ITLF mourns the tragic loss of four of our brave sons – our own flesh and blood. Whether they were village volunteers or members of an armed group, they were all driven by the same aspiration: *the pursuit of justice and the demand for a separate administration* where our people can live in peace and dignity. We convey our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families and stand in solidarity with them in this hour of grief.

Their untimely deaths will not be in vain. ITLF reaffirms that their sacrifices will continue to inspire our collective struggle for political recognition and lasting peace for the Kuki-Zo people.

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