



Indigenous Tribal Leaders' Forum (ITLF)

Conglomerate of Recognised Tribes in Lamka, Outer Manipur

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PRESS RELEASE

The ITLF Women's Wing has launched an indefinite Dharna from 2nd June 2026, demanding justice for the brutal killing of three Kuki-Zo pastors and the immediate release of 14 Kuki-Zo men held hostage since 13 May 2026.

More than three weeks have passed since these crimes were committed, yet no meaningful action has been taken. Those responsible for the murders remain at large, while the hostages continue to be unlawfully detained, causing immense suffering to their families and communities.

The continued captivity of 14 Kuki-Zo civilians by the Senapati District Students' Association (SDSA) represents a grave violation of the rule of law and a direct challenge to the authority of the Indian State. The failure to secure their release or hold the perpetrators accountable has only deepened public concern and strengthened a culture of impunity.

The ITLF Women's Wing strongly condemns NSCN-IM and its proxy outfit, ZUF-K, for the killing of the three pastors and the Senapati District Students' Association (SDSA) for its role in the ongoing hostage crisis. We also condemn all individuals, groups, and organisations that have aided, supported, justified, or remained complicit in these crimes.

The ITLF Women's Wing demands:

1. Immediate and unconditional release of all 14 Kuki-Zo hostages.
2. Swift arrest and prosecution of all those responsible for the murder of the three pastors and the abduction and detention of Kuki-Zo civilians.
3. Immediate intervention by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India and the Union Home Minister to secure the safe release of the hostages and ensure justice for the victims.
4. Initiation of appropriate legal action against SDSA and all others found complicit in these unlawful acts.

The Dharna will continue until the hostages are safely reunited with their families and those responsible for these crimes are brought to justice.

Justice delayed is justice denied. Release the 14 hostages. Arrest the killers. End the impunity. Act now.

Issued by –

ITLF Women's Wing.