

Need to take steps to maintain law and order and communal harmony in Manipur ? laid

PROF. SOUGATA RAY (DUM DUM): Manipur has been seeing ethnic violence between Meiteis and Kuki-Zomis since May. Tribal Students Unions have been protesting on a Court order to send recommendation to include Meitei community in Scheduled Tribe list. A video circulating on social media, showed two Kuki women being paraded naked by a mob. The incident occurred in B Phainom village in Kangpokpi district on May 4, one day after the ongoing clashes. Since then, people from both sides have attacked each others homes, vehicles, churches and temples. Hundreds of people have been killed and lakhs of people are in temporary sheds/shelter camps. The European Union and Western countries have passed resolutions blaming the violence as a result of divisive policies. The clashes have resulted in complete segregation of the two communities. Manipur violence raises concerns about intelligence failure, heavy militarisation and ongoing economic blockades. The breakdown of law and order in Manipur is an indictment of the Central Government and a setback to New Delhi's long-term strategy in the Northeast. The State and Central Government have failed to protect the human life and livelihood in the State. I urge upon the Central Government to take urgent steps to maintain law and order and communal harmony in Manipur immediately.