

Condolence service for 8 deceased in Manipur



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The Shillong-based [Manipur indigenous](#) tribal [community](#), under the aegis of the Committee for the Protection of [Manipur Tribal](#) Rights (CPMTR), held a condolence meeting in honour of the [8](#) deceased persons in the [fight](#) for [indigenous](#) tribal [rights](#) in [Manipur](#) at EFCI Centennial Hall, Demthring on 3rd September, 2015

The condolence service was attended by a thousand strong crowd drawing from the different tribal communities residing in the [city](#) and deeply mourned the sad demise of the young men who had sacrificed their lives for the cause of tribal [rights](#). During the service, a two-minute silence [as](#) a mark of respect to the departed souls was observed. Leaders at the gathering condemn the targeted discrimination and injustice [against](#) the tribal by the [Manipur](#) Government.

It may be mentioned that the current [indigenous](#) tribal mass movement that has recently erupted in the hill districts of [Manipur](#) is on account of three bills passed by the [Manipur](#) State Legislative Assembly, namely the Protection of [Manipur](#) People Bill, 2015, the [Manipur](#) Land Revenue & Land Reforms (Seventh Amendment) Bill, 2015, and the [Manipur](#) Shops & Establishment (Second Amendment) Bill, 2015. The [indigenous](#) tribes of [Manipur](#) objected to the bills owing to their infringement on the [rights](#) of [indigenous](#) tribes [as](#) granted by the Indian Constitution. Moreover, the Government of [Manipur](#) has not been forthcoming with the bills and has not held the necessary consultations with apex tribal authorities such [as](#), among others, the Hill Areas Committee (HAC). This infuriates the [indigenous](#) tribes. Things came to a head on 31st August 2015 when protests by the [indigenous](#) tribes in Churachandpur District of [Manipur](#) were met with brute force by [state](#) security resulting in both fatal and non-fatal casualties. The situation has grown graver each day.

The CPMTR is likely to conduct a peaceful demonstration in Shillong next week to protest the three bills that allegedly infringe upon the [rights](#) of the [Manipur](#) tribals. A meeting will be held this Saturday at the Kuki Worship Service [Conference](#) Hall, Law-u-Sib, Shillong to discuss the matter, according to CPMTR spokesperson Mr. Khup Hangzo.

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BY SIMON L INFIMATE

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