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The Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Special Procedures Branch of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and has the honour to refer to its Joint Communication No. AL IND 9/2023 dated 29 August 2023 from the Special Rapporteur on violence against women and girls, its causes and consequences; the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions; the Special Rapporteur on the right to food; the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of right to freedom of opinion and expression; the Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living; and on the right to non-discrimination in this context; the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders; the Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers; the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons; the Special Rapporteur on minority issues; the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons; the Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights; the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance; the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion and belief; the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism; the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment and the Working Group on discrimination against women and girls pertaining to the violence that has been taking place in Manipur since May 2023.

The Mission requests the Special Procedures Branch to bring the enclosed inputs (**Annexure**) received from relevant authorities in India to the kind attention of concerned Special Procedures mandate-holders.

The Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Special Procedures Branch of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights the assurances of its highest consideration.



**Special Procedures Branch
(Kind Attn.: Chief of the Special Procedures Branch)
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Annexure

- 1. Background:** Ethnic violence broke out between Meitei and Kuki communities in the State of Manipur on 03 May 2023 after a Tribal Solidarity March undertaken by All Tribal Students Union, Manipur (ATSUM) in opposition to the demand for inclusion of the Meitei community in the list of Scheduled Tribes. During the ethnic strife, as on 03 September 2023, 169 people have been killed and 788 got injured. In addition, 5151 cases of arson have been reported. In all, 9149 First Information Reports (FIR) have been registered by the police.
- 2. Fostering Unity:** This unfortunate situation has resulted due to ethnic strife and is not communal in nature. Further, no specific community can be exclusively held responsible for the unrest in Manipur. The victims of this ethnic strife hail from various segments of society, representing both the communities. Moreover, the recent incidents of violence in the state have resulted in the destruction of places of worship, including those within the confines of private homes, belonging to members of both the communities.
- 3. Public Order and Security:** Though the issue of ethnic violence primarily pertains to preservation of public order, which falls under the domain of State Government (Government of Manipur), the Central Government has been consistently extending its support as required by the State Government. The Central Government has progressively augmented the allocation of Companies (Coys) of Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) and Columns of the Army/Assam Rifles, as per the requisition of the State Government, to address the security situation. As on 01 September 2023, 184 Coys of CAPFs and 185 columns of the Army/Armed Forces had been provided.
- 4. Relief and Rehabilitation:** Remedial measures undertaken include a financial package of 1017.5 million Indian rupees for relief and rehabilitation of people living in Shelter camps in the State. In addition, an overall amount of 2094.5 million Indian rupees has been approved as a special package to Government of Manipur on its request for construction of pre-fabricated shelter units, compensation to farmers for potential crop loss (paddy), one-time assistance for clothing and personal belongings, etc. Ex-gratia compensation is being extended to the next of kin of the deceased as well as to the wounded persons.
- 5. Investigation and Accountability:** Recognizing the need for a highly skilled and well-equipped investigative agency like the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) to effectively apprehend and prosecute the offenders, the State Government recommended the transfer of 27 cases, including those involving heinous crimes against women and children, to the CBI, which was accepted. Further, 42 Special Investigation Teams (SITs) have been formed by the Government of Manipur for a time-bound investigation into the other FIRs.

Government of India has also appointed a Commission of Enquiry headed by a retired Chief Justice of High Court, to inquire, inter-alia, into the causes and spread of violence. Through this inquiry, the sequence of events leading to and all the facts relating to large-scale violence will be brought out besides identifying those responsible for the violence.

6. **Peace Process:** Necessary and concerted efforts are underway to restore peace and normalcy using peaceful and democratic means. The Central Government along with the State Government has been actively engaging with political leaders and members of civil society organizations, in addition to issuing appeals to representatives from various communities, urging them to abstain from violence and support the return of peace and normalcy.

7. Collaborating closely with the Central Government, the State Government has been diligently working at the grassroots, district and state levels to restore peace and reintroduce normalcy to the State. The government has appealed to all members of the public, including public officials, to refrain from making statements or engaging in activities that target any specific community. Orders and instructions have also been issued by the State Government for strict action against any person found spreading fake news, lies, rumours or misinformation. Additionally, regular dialogues are being conducted with societal leaders and Civil Society Organizations to counteract the spread of any unfounded rumours or misinformation.