

Government's insensitivity towards climate change criticised



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With the [state](#) government miserably failing to take up any concrete measures to tackle the issue of climate change, concerned social [leaders](#), intellectuals and NGOs of Ukhul on Wednesday minutely deliberated on the global phenomenon and unanimously endorsed the formation of a new committee to facilitate a common pathway in addressing the climate [crisis](#).

While there have been numerous debates and deliberations on the issue at different levels in the district, no tangible initiatives have been taken up by any organizations/NGOs so far. Time has come for the public [leaders](#) of the district to institute a special platform to host authentic, inclusive, reflective and insightful communication among the people to enhance the [community](#) capacity to address the climate [crisis](#) where the government has little concern. This was the common reflection of the day's deliberation on the critical issue held at the office of Ramungo Library Group (RLG), Phungreitang.

In the contemporary context of Ukhul, people are merely informed but remain insensitive to the impending threat of climate [crisis](#). After all, one tends to ignore the issue in the absence of any accurate physical evidence of effects of climate change, opined Ramthar senior staff RLG, adding that fast depletion of Shirui water sources may be one impact.

Stating the [state](#) government has not implemented the [State](#) Action Plan on [Climate Change](#) till date though it was approved way back in 2014, Hungyohung secretary RLG questioned the motive of the [state](#) government behind the delay terming it a 'deliberate [act](#)'.

In the same vein, Gajendra Prasad of PASDO Ukhul questioned [as](#) to why [Manipur](#) does not have its forum for Sustainable Mountain [Development](#) which all the 11 Hill States of [India](#) including [Nagaland](#) and Sikkim have.

In order to tackle climate change in the district, TNL has come up with a restriction on exporting of charcoal, firewood and pinewood, said general secretary Nobert Khayi adding that this is clearly stated in its recently produced constitutional publication on preserving land & natural resources in the district.

Citing the biblical context, Dr Ngahorshai Luithui expounded that human beings are mere steward of God's creation and it's [against](#) Hill will that we destroy nature and its resources. Protection of nature reflects true relationship between man and God for we cannot love God and hate His creation, he added.

While Wungpam Kasar of Elshadai felt that reaching out to the far off villagers with adequate information on climate [crisis](#) remains a tough task, senior citizen Ms Janeth insisted that the government has a big role in providing alternative arrangement keep them from subsistence related activities in the villages.

With the talk positively taking shape, a [workshop](#) on the climate [crisis](#) has been slated for 22 April next in connection with the World Earth Day.

Lester Makang

Ukhrul, Manipur

BY LESTER MAKANG

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