

JAC against anti-tribal Bills



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The Joint Action Committee [against](#) Anti-[Tribal](#) Bills ([JAC](#)) would like to convey its heartfelt gratitude to the tribal people of present [Manipur](#), including the people of Tamenglong, Senapati, Sadar Hills, Ukhrul, Chandel, Singngat, Jiribam, Lamka and [JAC](#) units at various sub-divisional headquarters for their support and cooperation in the 48-hours Total Shutdown of all [Tribal](#) Territories called by the [JAC](#) from the midnight of May 16 to the midnight of May 18, [2016](#).

The communal attitude, discriminatory policies and prejudiced mind set of the [Manipur](#) Government becomes more evident with each passing day. A brief two-month agitation in the Valley resulted in a Special Session of the [Manipur](#) State Assembly passing the three anti-tribal bills on August 31, 2015, and a three-day agitation in the Valley for pressurising the Union Government to give [President](#)'s assent led to an 'All [Political](#) Party Meeting' that resolved to send a delegation to voice the concern of the Valley people. However, the [Manipur](#) Government has still chosen to turn a [blind](#) eye to the 261-day old [Tribal](#) Movement in the Hills/[Tribal](#) Territories till date; in fact, the [Manipur](#) Government still refuses to call a Special Session of the [Manipur](#) State Assembly to deliberate on the [JAC](#)'s Charter of Demands in spite of the request made by the [JAC](#).

The fact that the ethnic and communal [Manipur](#) Government continues to undermine the cries of the [tribal](#) people till today only points to the deep, unrepairable gash between the Hills/[Tribal](#) Territories and the Valley.

The [JAC](#) would like to reiterate that the three anti-tribal bills are very much political in nature and have nothing to do with the Inner Line Permit [System](#) (ILPS) –

1. Identity politics [The Protection of [Manipur](#) People Bill, [2016](#)]
2. Politics of land [The [Manipur](#) Land Revenue and Land Reforms (Seventh Amendment) Bill, [2016](#)]
3. Politics of economy and livelihood [The [Manipur](#) Shops and Establishments (Second Amendment) Bill, [2016](#)]

As such, a political solution is the only acceptable and sustainable solution for the tribal people.

It is also our humble request to all media houses to refrain from misleading the public by wrongly projecting and publicizing these three anti-tribal bills as [ILP](#) bills and creating unnecessary confusion in the minds of the general public.

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