



HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS' ALERT - INDIA

NATIONAL SECRETARIAT

No. 555, West Cross 4th Street, K.K.Nagar, Madurai - 625 020, Tamil Nadu, India.

Mobile: 99943-68540

E.mail: hrda.india@gmail.com Web: www.hrdaindia.org

HRDA/NHRC-SM/NorthEast/MPR/06/10/2023

20 October 2023

To

Justice (retd.) Mr. AK Mishra
Chairperson,
National Human Rights Commission,
Manav Adhikar Bhawan,
Block-C, GPO Complex, INA,
New Delhi –110 023
Email: chairnhrc@nic.in

Respected Justice Mishra,

Subject: Requesting to initiate suo moto proceedings in the case of Manipur Human Rights activist whose home was vandalised by the mob on 05 October 2023.

We are writing to you in bring to your kind attention that on 05 October 2023 around 06.30 P.M, HRD Mr. Babloo Loitongbam's residence in Kwakeithel Thiyam Leikai, Imphal West district was vandalised by a mob.

The incident has been reported widely in the media and a link is shared here for your reference - [Manipur human rights activist's home vandalised | India News - The Indian Express](#)

The attack happened after the boycott of Babloo Loitongbam by Meitei Leepun organisation from giving any public speeches, following his interview in the New click.

Media reference to this incident is shared for your reference - [Meitei Leepun Boycotts Former Cop Thounaojam Brinda & Activist Babloo Loitongbam | Ukhrul Times](#)

Babloo Loitongbam is a lawyer human rights activist and director of Human Rights Alert who was actively engaged in the north east region for more than 30 years. He has been targeted, harassed, intimidated and now his residence was attacked for his activism.

This amounts to violation of multiple Constitutional rights that include freedom of speech and expression (Article 19(1)(a), freedom of association (Article 19(1)(c),

freedom to carry his profession as a lawyer and human rights activist (Article 19(1)(g) and right to life and liberty (Article 21) without any fear of intimidation and harassment.

We urgently appeal to you to exercise Section 12 (a) of the Protection of Human Rights (Amendment) Act, 2019, and take *suo moto* cognizance of this incident and initiate an independent inquiry through NHRC's investigation wing.

Over the recent years, there have been many targeted attacks against the members of the legal fraternity.

The United Nations Declaration on Human Rights Defenders 1999 states the following:

- Article 9 (1): "In the exercise of human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the promotion and protection of human rights as referred to in the present Declaration, everyone has the right, individually and in association with others, to benefit from an effective remedy and to be protected in the event of the violation of those rights".
- Article 9(3)(c) "Everyone has the right, individually and in association with others "To offer and provide professionally qualified legal assistance or other relevant advice and assistance in defending human rights and fundamental freedoms".
- Article 11: "Everyone has the right, individually and in association with others, to the lawful exercise of his or her occupation or profession".

We hope and expect that the NHRC will intervene in this case impartially and in a time bound manner and issue public statement condemning the violence against the HRD and keep us informed of the progress of the *Suo moto* action.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Henri Tiphagne', with a horizontal line underneath.

(Henri Tiphagne)

National Working Secretary