



NAMTA

NORTH AMERICAN MANIPUR TRIBAL ASSOCIATION

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July 19, 2023

President, Ajay Banga
The World Bank
1818 H Street, NW Washington, DC 20433 USA

Re: Manipur Infotech Enabled Development Project

Dear Mr. Banga,

We are writing to you as a follow up to our letter sent to you on July 9th, 2023, raising a serious concern regarding project P176733 "*Manipur Infotech Enabled Development Project*". The conflict that started with the ethnic cleansing of the minority Kuki-Zomi tribals from the Imphal valley in Manipur, India, has continued deteriorating. Details of two [Kuki women paraded naked before being gang-raped](#) have just emerged adding to the growing list of gruesome atrocities we have witnessed so far. Women's bodies have been turned into battlefields by the cruel and inhumane mobs from the majority Meiteis.

This conflict violates your own "*Environmental and Social Framework*" policy document Section 4(b) since the Kuki-Zomi have borne the brunt of the impact from this conflict, not only the potential risks. *ESS1-Annex 1. Environmental and social assessment* Section 5(e) *Social and Conflict Analysis* clearly indicates that the situation in Manipur does not qualify to be funded. These are just a few examples we wanted to bring to your attention and assert that the due diligence conducted for this project are embarrassingly lacking and therefore must be paused and reviewed immediately.

The recently prepared [Report No: ESRSA02581](#) on July 13th 2023 shockingly makes no mention about the ongoing crisis. As stated in our prior letter, the categorization of this project's "**Environmental and Social Risk**" as "**Moderate**" is deeply inaccurate and alarming since it ignores one of the most violent times in the entire history of the state. We, at NAMTA, hold unwavering faith in your commitment and ability to safeguard human rights while you provide funds to make the world a better place for all.

Respectfully,

Niang Hangzo
VP Communications, NAMTA

Lien Gangte
President, NAMTA Canada

Copies to:

1. Auguste Tano Kouamé, Country Director for India
2. Siddhartha Raja, Team Leader