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Press Release

The North East Catholic Research Forum is deeply disturbed by the incidents of violence which resulted in loss of lives and properties, therefore strongly condemn such acts of violence, no matter who the perpetrators were. Also, the forum notes with deep concern about systematic attacks on Christian Churches, particularly in the valley districts, besides attacks on over 30 tribal villages located in close proximity to the valley districts. The state government is aware that tribal people, particularly belonging to the Kuki and Zomi communities are being targeted. As such, we fail to understand how in the heart of Imphal with massive deployment of security forces, so many Churches and localities inhabited by these communities are being soft targeted with impunity. We suspect that a police force, known for its reputation of quelling violent incidents in quick time, perhaps were looking the other way when these attacks took place.

We therefore humbly urge the State and the Centre governments to urgently take preventive measures to ensure the safety and security of all citizens, particularly in the valley districts, which has now become the nerve centres of mob rage against Christians and the tribal people. As we pray to God the Almighty for an early return of peace in the state, the governments are requested to ensure action on ground, and not remain complacent by mere issuance of official orders by respective District administrations.

**Media Cell,
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