

# PDA MANIFESTO

2009



**PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE**  
**MANIPUR**

## Manifesto of People's Democratic Alliance (PDA)

The People's Democratic Alliance (PDA) is a regional party in Manipur State with firm commitment to protect the lands, forests and mineral resources of the Hill People of Manipur, ensure the democratic rights of the people, preserve the identity of the marginal nationalities with due respect to their aspiration and to facilitate the fulfillment of the same, like the Naga unification and that of other indigenous people of the State, and introduce land reforms (like land laws for the hill areas) as to face the changing time by tribal people themselves without extending the MLR & LR act of 1960 in the Hill Areas of the State and preserve customary laws and practices.

Emergence of regionalism is a healthy and constructive force to protect the regional and local interest with dialectical response which tend to bring about a transparent socio-economic development. The PDA is concerned on the social inequality between the advanced majority sections of the society and the backward hill people, negligence relating to the roads and transport, health service, electricity, water supply, education, agriculture and sports. Fund flow from the Tribal Affairs Ministry under Article 275 (1) of the Indian Constitution should reach the tribal people settled in the valley districts of Manipur. Recommendation of the Delimitation Commission of India for the increase of four Assembly Constituencies in Manipur Hill Areas as per 2001 census, reservation system to be continued and monitored by the State Government with transparency and the deep rooted corruption in administration in the State be addressed with sincere spirit by the State Government of Manipur.

The Party shall strive for the good governance i.e. E-G with equitable economic development, social harmony and brotherhood, social order based on liberty, equality and justice, identity of the ethnic indigenous people and to create fraternal contact with other regional political parties or groups that share the faith in democracy and universal freedom of mankind.

## 1. **PROTECTION OF LANDS, FORESTS AND MINERAL RESOURCES**

People's Democratic Alliance (PDA) shall strive to protect, safeguard and ensure proper management of the lands, forests and mineral resources of the hill people of Manipur. Land and Forest and Tribal/Indigenous people are inseparable. The tribal either community, clan or chief or even individuals are the owners of the lands as the "Scheduled Tribes and other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006" implies. There is no khasland in the Tribal Lands and Forests in the Hill Areas of Manipur.

## 2. **NAGA UNIFICATION AND OTHER INDIGENOUS PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MANIPUR AND PEACE PROCESS**

The Cause of the Nagas and that of other indigenous people of the state shall be upheld. PDA stands for solution of all political problems in the region and the Indian Sub-Continent through peaceful means. And that it supports the ongoing Indo-Naga peace process which calls for a strong political will.

## 3. **LAND LAWS FOR THE HILL AREAS OF MANIPUR**

As the hill people of Manipur rejected the extension of MLR & LR Act of 1960, which tends to destabilise the aged old land holding system inherited since time immemorial, and new land laws should be introduced to face the changing time and problems. Any alien land law should not be imposed on the indigenous lands and forest in the hill areas of Manipur.

PDA shall take up the issue in the Legislative Assembly to enact a law under the provisions of the Article 371 (c) of Indian Constitution and other provisions to facilitate the land owners, the equal benefits as provided for the valley people by the MLR & LR Act., 1960.

## 4. **THE VILLAGE AUTHORITY LAW**

The Village Authority Act, 1956 (as amended some parts) has failed to serve the interest of the Hill people of Manipur.

This party shall take up the matter to introduce a new law to suit the interest of the hill villages and the changing time.

## 5. **INTER DISTRICT LINK ROADS AND BUS SERVICE**

PDA shall strive for the improvement of Roads and Transport system in Manipur. Link roads from one District H. Qrs. to another District H.Qrs. in the hill areas of Manipur on the status of State High ways be constructed wherever required. Inter District Bus service should also be opened at the earliest for the welfare of the people in the hill and rural areas of the state.

6. **HILL UNIVERSITY**

The need of the time to set up a separate Hill University for the 5 hill districts of Manipur be taken up to ensure proper educational and academic enhancement and to fulfil the long standing aspiration of the students community in the hill areas of Manipur.

7. **ELECTRICITY AND WATER SUPPLY**

PDA shall strive to take up for intensive work programme for electricity and water supply to the whole state of Manipur.

8. **EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS FOR EVERY SUB-DIVISIONAL H.QRS.**

PDA shall strive for setting up of a Hr. Sec. School at every sub-divisional Hqrs as compulsory for the educational and academic advancement in the hill areas of Manipur and also fight for extension of incentives either in cash or kind to those recognised private schools and encouragement awards to those schools which excel in performances.

9. **COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRES**

This Party will take up efforts for effective health services for the people of the hill areas especially the rural poor. A community Health Centre on the status of Hospital should be opened in each sub-division by the State Government.

10. **TRIBAL SUB-PLAN SCHEMES FOR VALLEY TRIBALS.**

The Tribal people in the valley of Manipur (46,319 of 1991 census and about 70,000 of 2001 census) are deprived of all facilities and schemes till today.

This party shall take up step for legislative enactment to provide Tribal Sub-plan and other developmental schemes including employment avenues for valley tribals in Manipur under the provisions of Article 275 (1) of the Indian Constitution.

11. **TRIBAL MARKET AT IMPHAL**

PDA shall take up prompt action to set up more tribal markets at any suitable sites in Imphal which would enhance trade and commerce in the state.

12. **INCREMENT OF FOUR A/Cs IN THE HILL AREAS OF MANIPUR**

PDA will strive for the realization to increase four Assembly Constituencies as recommended by the Delimitation Commission of India for the Hill areas of Manipur as per 2001 census.

Any hurdle in the process shall be dealt with democratic means and positive approach with fraternal contact with other political parties or groups and even individuals who believe in democracy and unity in diversity.

13. **MANIPUR LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**

PDA will strive for the realization of the creation of a 45 member Legislative Council (Vidhan Parishad) for Manipur with one third representation for women and unrepresented communities.

14. **THIRD LOK SABHA SEAT**

PDA will take up the matter to increase an additional seat of the Lok Sabha for the state of Manipur.

15. **TRIBAL ADVISORY COMMISSION**

PDA will take up step to enact law for setting up Tribal Advisory Commission like that of other Commissions on Women, Human Rights and others.

The Proposed Commission shall deal with various matters of Tribal People such as employment, reservation, custom & Culture, Customary laws and traditional practices, on marriage, inter-marriage with non-tribal or other matters of the same manner, land holding system, developmental matters relating to traditional or customary obligations etc.

16. **STATE INVESTIGATION AGENCY (SIA)**

PDA will take up the issue of the deep rooted corruption and for a proper management of the state exchequer and also the public properties etc. Suitable law should be enacted for setting up SIA as that of NIA.

17. **PROTECTION AGAINST ILLEGITIMATE URBANISATION IN THE HILL AREAS**

PDA will take up special measures to check any systematic distortion of the state policy on the pretext of urbanization of tribal inhabited areas of Manipur such as illegitimate implementation of Panchayati Raj Act and the Municipality Council Act in the Hill Areas.

18. **PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS**

Manipur with the para military and police force stationed all over the state looks like a police state and vast concentration camp. The violation of the Human Rights committed by the security forces in the name of fighting the revolutionary movement are known throughout the world. The Party (PDA) has always stood for the protection of Human Rights of citizens. The PDA shall endeavour for the following :

- i) Strengthening of the State Human Rights Commission.
- ii) Withdrawal of the draconian laws, the Armed Forces Special Powers Act, 1958.
- iii) To check State and non-State sponsored terrorism and extra-judicial killings.
- iv) Political Prisoner Status for revolutionaries of various groups when arrested or imprisoned.

19. **ENVIRONMENT AND ECOLOGY**

The future of the state as a human habitat and cradle of civilization depends on her environment & ecology. All possible

efforts should be taken up for preserving the environment and ecological balance in the state;

- i) Water management of the lakes and rivers shall be undertaken on scientific lines.
- ii) All negative effects of developmental projects should be rectified.
- iii) PDA is opposed to the Tipaimukh High Dam and the similar types.

## **20. SOCIAL HARMONY & CO-EXISTENCE**

PDA stands for social harmony and peaceful co-existence in the region. This party shall work for the peaceful resolution of all ethnic conflicts and misunderstanding between different sections of the people.

## **21. TOURISM AND BORDER TRADE**

Manipur of the hill and the valley is a paradise for tourists and that tourism should be developed into an industry. Tourist centres should be developed with assistance of the Govt. of India in the state in general and the hill areas of Manipur which would also enhance border trade in the state of Manipur. Restricted Area Permit (RAP) should be relaxed or abolished to attract tourists and merchants from across the world over.

Place : PDA Office, Ragailong Imphal,

Date : 19/01/09

Published by  
People's Democratic Alliance