

## UCM reacts to 'Alternative Arrangement'

IMPHAL: A strong reaction has come from the United Committee Manipur (UCM) with regard to the report that the Government of India is all set to constitute a 'high level committee' (HLC) in connection with the United Naga Council's demand for Alternative Arrangement for the Nagas of Manipur outside the state government.

Talking to reporters here today, UCM president Y Nabachandra alerted the people of Manipur to be ready to face any eventuality in connection with the outcome of the ongoing 'Alternative Arrangement' talks. Nabachandra said, "Any arrangement designed for any community in Manipur that is a threat to the Manipur territorial and social integrities will be opposed tooth and nail by the people of Manipur," cautioned Nabachandra, adding, "The people will never allow such thing to happen." UCM president Y Nabachandra's comment was a reaction to Joint Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), Shambhu Singh, who had commented to a news agency in Delhi two days ago that a 'high level committee' is being set up to study in detail the demand for an "alternative arrangement" for the Nagas in Manipur and recommend practical measures to settle the issue.

UCM, a conglomerate of several civil society organisations of Manipur, was formed in the year 2001 to protect the territory of Manipur.