

I, Prof. Lakhon Kma, have decided to embark into this tough journey of joining active politics and contesting elections starting with the MP election as an **Independent Candidate** with a one-point agenda, i.e. to see that Meghalaya, and more specifically, East Khasi Hills, West Khasi Hills, South West Khasi Hills, Eastern West Khasi Hills, East Jaintia Hills, West Jaintia Hills and Ri-Bhoi districts flourishes into an overall developed and self-sufficient one where people living in the villages and towns of these districts have a regular source of income which can result in overall well-being. In order to achieve this, we have to address the most neglected and downtrodden groups and try to raise them up so that there is a level playing field for everyone to compete among themselves and then with the rest of the world. Basic needs such as schools, roads, electricity, potable water, health care, sanitation, etc. will be the top priority. More importantly, the problems and aspirations of Meghalayans have to be raised in the Parliament with full force so that a new chapter on development can be chartered by all of us. We cannot afford to shy away from developmental agenda such as better connectivity in land or through the air. Tourism, being the highest selling point for the State need to be up-scaled so that it can lead to increase in footfall while maintain sustainable tourism with perfect balance with nature. It must be able to generate employment in hospitality, transportation and ecotourism sectors for the benefit of the local populace as seen in case of Goa or any international destinations. Lucrative industries such as pharmaceuticals, food processing, herbal medicines, etc. with a huge potential of generating employment and sustainability with a balance with the natural ecosystem have to be encouraged and sustained efforts have to be made with all sincerity. Border disputes, uninterrupted power supply, proper training facilities for our sports persons and athletes, alternate bridge over Umiam lake, scholarships for meritorious students and those at the lower strata of the society, etc. has been our problems for ages and subsequent governments and MPs have not been able to do enough to address these problems. It is largely attributed to corruption at every level of governance and implementation of various welfare schemes and therefore, ***I have adopted a 'zero-tolerance policy' on corruption and corrupt practices as a way of public life.*** The developmental agenda will surround around these issues and many other issues. The issue of setting up of CUET centers across the State will be of immediate priority so that our students don't suffer and denied of higher education. The recognition of Khasi language under Eighth schedule of the Constitution is another priority. However, as MP there are also bigger challenges such as safeguarding the local population, protection of fragile ecosystem, water bodies, and protection of rights of all Meghalayans while embracing developmental projects. Issues like railways, Inner Line Permit, State Reservation Policy, protecting our land and water resources, interstate dispute with Assam, etc. are delicate issues and require handling with all sensitivities keeping everyone's interest in mind while ensuring that it does not hamper the progress into a new Meghalaya. There has to be a balance and harmony between protecting our identities and economic progress that can benefit everyone.

In the quest for a developed Meghalaya, support and full cooperation of the entire population of Meghalaya and more specifically, those residing in Khasi, Jaintia and Ri-Bhoi districts is required since I am attempting to get a chance to represent the wishes and aspirations of the people as a Member of Parliament from the Shillong seat in the coming Lok Sabha election. With a huge population of young Meghalayans, we cannot effort to fail them. A young Meghalaya requires jobs for our youths through government services or entrepreneurship for which financial and infrastructural support is of utmost importance. Conflicts arise when there is serious dearth of employment opportunities. Peace comes when everyone is gainfully

employed and has a decent standard of life and this is true across the globe. In this journey that I am embarking, there will be difficulties and shortcomings but I believe that if we unite together and work for a new Meghalaya, with each other's cooperation, we can reach greater heights. I am relying on the support of all the young Meghalayans and will do everything at my disposal live up to your aspirations. I strongly believe that I can be your voice in our Parliament and in the State of Meghalaya as your friend, brother, uncle, mama, bah, ma, etc., whatever you want to call me.

I don't have any party or organization because I have decided to stand as an Independent Candidate, but I have no fear or worries. If elected, even in Parliament, I will be alone representing the voices and concerns of people from East Khasi Hills, West Khasi Hills, South West Khasi Hills, Eastern West Khasi Hills, East Jaintia Hills, West Jaintia Hills and Ri-Bhoi District, and there will be no one with me and I will have to stand alone independently on my own feet. I will be in touch with you through meetings, this website (www.lakhonkma.com), WhatsApp and my YouTube channel (@lakhonkma) and other social media platforms which is there under 'contact me' in the website. You can listen to me and interact with me at your own convenient time through these means of communications. Obviously, I may not be able to organize big rallies but I have visited numerous places across Khasi, Jaintia and Ri-Bhoi districts over the years and will be doing it more as per my schedule to understand your problems and aspirations. If you want me to visit your places on priority, pl. drop a message through this website or any other means; I will be there in your localities. Hope you will find me fit to represent you in the Parliament and cast your valuable vote on my name. I assure you that I will never fail you till my last breath.

Long live Khasi, Jaintia and Ri-Bhoi districts and more importantly long live Meghalaya!

Khublei Shibun, Chi Hajar Nguh and Jai Hind!