



ARMED FORCES SPECIAL POWERS ACT AT MANIPUR : GOVERNANCE

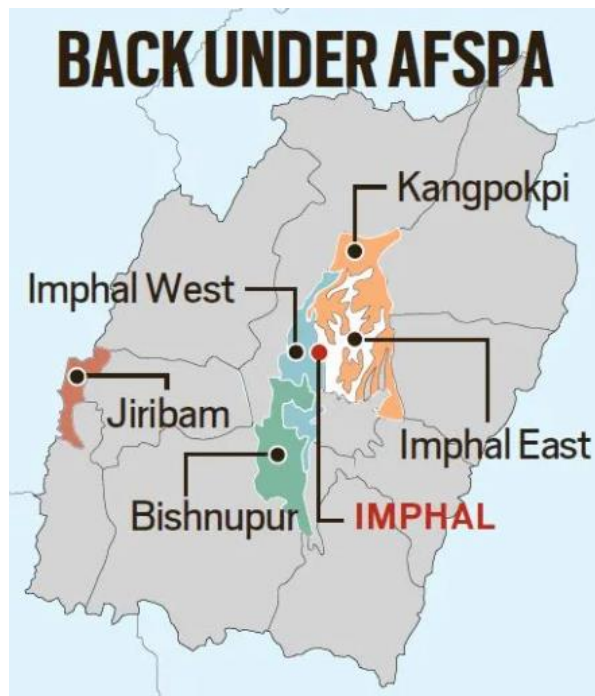
NEWS: Centre reimposes AFSPA in six police station limits in Manipur

WHAT'S IN THE NEWS?

AFSPA has been reimposed in parts of Manipur until March 2025 to help security forces manage ongoing ethnic violence. While it aids in countering insurgency, AFSPA faces criticism over human rights concerns.

AFSPA Reimposition in Manipur

- **Reimposition of AFSPA:** Due to ongoing ethnic violence, AFSPA has been reimposed in six police station areas in Manipur, effective until March 2025.
- **Affected Areas:** Includes parts of Imphal West, Imphal East, Jiribam, Bishnupur, and Kangpokpi districts, declared as “disturbed areas” for security operations.
- **Reason for AFSPA:** Intended to aid security forces in handling insurgency and violence; it allows armed forces to operate without needing prior approval from Magistrates.
- **Ethnic Violence:** Clashes between Meitei and Kuki-Zo communities since May 2023 have resulted in over 240 deaths, with recent violence causing further casualties.
- **AFSPA Overview:**
 - Enacted in 1958, AFSPA grants the armed forces special powers in "disturbed areas" to maintain law and order.
 - Allows armed forces to act more freely in insurgency-affected areas, declared by either the central or state government.



- **Controversies Surrounding AFSPA:**



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- Criticized for enabling human rights abuses such as extrajudicial killings and arbitrary arrests.
- Prolonged enforcement raises debates on its impact on civil liberties and effectiveness.