

GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR::INFORMATION & PUBLIC RELATIONS::
::WEST GARO HILLS::TURA::

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CM reviews law & order situation in Garo Hills

TURA, June 13, 2011: Concerned over the recent spurt of militant activities in the region, Meghalaya Chief Minister Dr. Mukul Sangma, along with Home Minister H.D.R.Lyngdoh held a meeting to review the law and order situation with the officials of Police department and administration of the three districts of Garo Hills at the Tura Circuit House today.

The meeting was attended by IGP Western Range, Mr. G.H.P.Raju, Deputy Commissioners of West and South Garo Hills Mr. Sanjay Goyal and Dr.B D R Tiwari, Addl. Deputy Commissioner, Williamnagar, Mr. W.D.Sangma and Superintendents of Police of the three districts, Mr. M. Kharkrang, Mr. J F K Marak and Mr.M. K. Singh among others.

The Chief Minister told the meeting that it was of utmost importance to make the presence of police felt among the citizens to instill a sense of security. He also said that without investing in security, all the development initiatives would go down the drain. He therefore stressed the need for complete restructuring of existing police outposts in the State and asked the department to work out their requirements for additional forces, adding that the government would look into these requirements on a priority basis.

Giving a detailed submission on the current situation, the IGP (Western Range) Mr. GHP Raju said even with committed police officers and strong squad teams, policing is not adequate in the region and the entire policing activity was confined to National Highway 62 and 51 areas. There is a need to take policing to the interior villages where militancy is growing with the support of NDFB and ULFA. He highlighted on the alarming cases of extortion notes being served to the coal traders, businessmen and government servants. He mentioned specifically that in South Garo Hills the Nokmas were being used to serve extortion notes; he however said that they were not “hand-in-glove” with the militants but were being “compelled”, adding that, they have already taken up the matter with the Council of Nokmas.

He however informed that the police had successfully busted militant camps and a number of cadres had surrendered. He was confident of his department and that the police force was ready to take up the challenge.

Stating that the city surveillance mechanism was the need of the hour, the IGP also underlined the need for more bullet-proof vehicles and excellent gazetted officers (GOs) with dedicated forces exclusively to take on the militants.

The Chief Minister also expressed his concern over the rising cases of car-lifting, particularly the two-wheelers and sought detailed report from the police on the matter.

He also raised the issue of rising robbery incidents in Mahendraganj which is creating fear-psychosis among the residents, to which the IGP replied that the department have taken steps to strengthen the police force and also to take the support of the village defence parties in the area.

Sd/-
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