

MIZORAM POLICE PRESS STATEMENT

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'Mizoram Police gears up for Elections – Appeals all stakeholders'

As General Election to the State Assembly of Mizoram 2018 is around the corner, Mizoram Police is confident that necessary security arrangements as per guidelines of the Election Commission of India are now in place. Preparations started early this year, and have been continuing ever since, going full swing since the month of July.

Elaborate Security Arrangements have been made by all District SsP, along the lines of the State Security Management Plan of PHQ, prepared under the directions and overall guidance of the DGP, Pu Balaji Srivastava, IPS. The Plan has spelled out action plans in crucial areas and important initiatives to be undertaken. All Units under Mizoram Police are now fully geared to ensure the elections are peaceful and transparent, as in the past.

In the run up to these elections, 36 vulnerable areas and 47 Critical polling stations, have been identified in 5 districts of Mizoram wherein adequate security personnel from both Mizoram State and Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF) are deployed. With the setting up of 15 special polling stations for Bru voters in Kanhmun (Mamit district), the total number of polling stations in Mizoram General Assembly Election, 2018 is now 1179.

Besides polling stations security, forces mobilised (both State Police and CAPF) are being utilized in different electoral activities like Flying Squads, Static Surveillance Teams, Zonal Officers, Sector Police Officers, Quick Response Teams, Special Nakas, EVMs/Strong Room guard, District Striking Force, Area domination and PSOs to all Candidates and Election Observers. This apart, 05 (five) DIG level Grid Officers have also been deployed panning the entire State.

In order to have 100% communication with all the Polling Stations, all 106 WT communication shadow areas which existed in 2013 elections have been eliminated. All polling stations are now covered by wireless transmission with cellular connectivity as a back up.

For ensuring free, fair and peaceful election, a number of special enforcement drives are being carried out by various Units, which has resulted in seizure /

destruction of illegal liquor, drugs and other contraband worth over `4,19,64,610/- as on 25.11.2018. Non-bailable warrants were speedily executed and appropriate action taken against all History Sheeters and known troublemakers. As mandated under ECI guidelines, licensed firearms were verified and most of them deposited, in customised rifle racks especially designed by Mizoram Police for their safe custody.

However, some election-related incidents have occurred in Mamit, Kolasib, and Lawngtlai districts. Appropriate legal action is being taken on merits and cases being pursued to their logical conclusion.

It is pertinent to remember that the State of Mizoram has a proud track record for the most peaceful conduct of elections in the country. This has been possible due to the participation and cooperation of our people, the NGOs viz. CYMA/YMA, MHIP, MUP, MZP, MSU and a host of other important groups and organizations. The roles played by various organizations in helping to keep a peaceful and congenial atmosphere are unparalleled anywhere in the country. The role of MKHC and venerable Church leaders in mediating between the Administration and the Civil Society groups deserves the highest accolades. The role of MPF in ensuring that Political Parties and their candidates comply with the instructions of the ECI is also, undoubtedly, a model worth emulating for others. Mizoram Police is indebted to the MPF for their untiring efforts in this regard.

Mizoram Police fervently appeals the public, all NGOs and other stakeholders to maintain our enviable track record of conducting the most peaceful elections in the country and also to work together, with the State Administration and the Mizoram Police to ensure that elections this year are free, fair and peaceful as well.

ISSUED BY PUBLIC RELATION OFFICER, MIZORAM POLICE
