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**SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE,
SIAHA, MIZORAM.**

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PRESS RELEASE

The recent crime trends in Siaha Town has shown a spurt in thefts and burglaries. In fact the crime in these categories have registered an upward trend of about 74-75% in 2016 compared to 2015. The analysis of these crimes indicate that about 61% of such incidents occur during the night while only 11% occur during the day, 9% during the afternoons and about 12% during the evenings. It was found that approximately 66% of such crimes were occurring in eight areas namely Council Veng, College Veng, Saihatlangkaun, New Colony, New Siaha West, Meisatla-II, New Siaha East-I and Vengpui. Cash, Electronic Items, Food Items, Gas Cylinders and Mobile Phones were the items most frequently pilfered.

Siaha District Police has already taken some concrete steps to counter the spurt of such crimes in the town. The active burglars have been identified and their dossiers prepared including details of their modus operandi, the names and addresses of their friends and associates and their present whereabouts. The beat system has been revamped with an emphasis on keeping a track of all criminals and for intelligence gathering. Night patrols are being done on a daily basis, although the police staff moves on foot and covers only a limited area. Surprise picket checking during the day and night are being organized on a regular basis. The efforts have also borne fruit. Recently the police patrol party was able to apprehend a gang of juveniles which led to their arrest in seven cases of house burglaries. 75% of all theft and burglary cases have been worked out and about 85% recoveries have also been affected.

In order to extend the reach of our night patrols and to make them more effective, the night patrol teams have now been made mobile and facilitated by one four wheeler and one motor cycle. The vehicles to be used for such patrols have been fitted with flasher lights and are being formally launched in the service of the community by the Deputy Commissioner today. The police patrol staff are now being equipped with wireless sets and mobile phones for better communication. A Social Media interface too has been prepared by the District Police namely: facebook: saihapolice and whatsapp : saihapolice&public where citizens can provide information and seek help. Further, we also intend to take up joint action incl. citizen patrols in active collaboration with the VDPs, if not in the entire town then at least in the eight most affect areas.

Last but not least, it has emerged that items that are once stolen are also being sold in the black market and people are simply buying them without much thought. Siaha District also intends to the examine the issue of purchase of stolen property with greater objectivity and would not hesitate in prosecuting the receivers of stolen property under law, if deemed fit.

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