

MIZORAM POLICE PRESS STATEMENT

NO.F.14018/1/19-SMC/PART FILE/26

Dated Aizawl, the 7th April, 2020

Dt. 1.4.2020 zan lam atang khan Social Media platform Whatsapp group hrang hrang ah thu dik lo **“VAIRENGTE GATE AN KHAR TAWH DAWN A, ENKIM ENKIM REN ANGAI TAN TA. INDIA RAMAH LOCKDOWN AVANGIN SUM A VANG DAWN A, TELEGANA SORKAR LEH MAHARASTRA SORKAR CHUAN SORKAR HNATHAWKTE HLAWH 75 PER CENT IN AN TIHNIAM DAWN. MIZORAM SORKAR PAWHIN A TIHNIAM LOVANG TIH A SAWI THEIH LOH. INRENCHEM LA: (1) TUM KHAT CHAWEI AH CHAWHMEH SIAM TLEM ZIR RAWH. (2) GAS REN RAWH, A HARSA DAWN. (3) ELECTRIC REN RAWH, A MAN A TO DAWN. (4) TUI REN RAWH, SUPPLY A TLEM DAWN: INBUAL KHAT RAWH. INSUK LOH DAN NGAWT ZIR RAWH. EI TUR BAK, SILHFEN ETC. ETC. LEI TAWH SUH.”** tih thu a darh a. He thu hi darh zau zelin Dt.3.4.2020 atang khan a darh zau zual zel in mipui tam tak a ti chia i a.

He thu dik lo hi Mizoram Police ten chhui nghalin he thu chhuahna hi uluk takin chhui nghal a ni. Dt. 5.4.2020 ah khan a post hmasa ber tu (originator) chu Aizawl a cheng kum 68 mi a ni tih hriat chhuah a ni a. Amah hi thu zawhfiah a, a statement record niin he thu hi ama post tan ngei a nih thu Police hma-ah a sawi a. Covid-19 confirmed case a pun zel chuan Vairengte gate hi khar a la tul mai thei nia thu a dawn chu ‘*Vairengte gate an khar tawh dawn*’ tih anga thu a dawn sual a nih thu a sawi a. An kohhran Whatsapp group-a a post-na member ten nitin mamawh (essential commodities) renchem zawka an hman theih nana a hrihlawkna chauh a nih thu sawiin, a tum loh lam thlengin a darh ta tih a sawi. A thu post hi thudik zik tluak lo leh belhchian dawl lo a nih thu pawh Dt. 6.4.2020 khan an kohhran Whatsapp group-ah a post leh tawh a ni.

He thu dik zik tluak lo leh belhchian dawl lo phuah leh thehdarh chungchangah hian Aizawl Police Station Case No. 193/2020 Dt.4.4.2020 u/s 188/505(1)(b) IPC R/w 54 of the Disaster Management Act 2005 siam a ni a. He thu lo thehdarhtu mi thenkhat pawh Police Station ah koh niin thu zawhfiah an ni a. He thu post tantu hi kum lama upa tawh, prominent citizen niin tlanbo mai tur chi a nih loh vangin man rih loh a ni.

Mipui rilru a dik lo zawnga hruai thei leh mipui tichiai a thu dik tluantling lo leh thu belhchian dawl lo thehdarh hian nghawng tha lo tak a nei thei a. Mipui te i fimkhur tlang theuh ang u.

ISSUED BY MIZORAM POLICE MEDIA CELL, PHQ

Copy to:

- 1) Director, I&PR for kind information and to take necessary action for wide publicity to Electronics and Print Media please.
- 2) Director / News Editor - LPS Vision/Zonet Vision/Doordarshan Kendra/All India Radio (AIR), Aizawl.
- 3) President, MJA for kind information and necessary action please.
- 4) SO to DGP(M) for kind information of DGP(M).


(JOHN NEIHLAIA) IPS

Inspector General of Police (Hqrs)

&

Chief Public Relation Officer (CPRO)

Mizoram Police Media Cell

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NO.F.14018/1/19-SMC/PART FILE/29

Dated Aizawl, the 7th April, 2020

On the night of 1.4.2020, there was a post on various Whatsapp groups in Mizo which translated as **“VAIRENGTE GATE WILL BE COMPLETELY CLOSED SO SAVE UP ALL YOUR SUPPLIES/STOCK. THERE WILL BE SHORTAGE OF CASH DUE TO THE LOCKDOWN. TELENGANA AND MAHARSHTRA GOVERNMENT WILL LOWER SALARY OF GOVT. SERVANTS BY 75%. THERE IS POSSIBILITY THAT MIZORAM GOVT. WILL ALSO BE DOING THE SAME. SO SAVE UP (1) LEARN TO EAT LESS ITEMS PER MEAL (2) USE LPG SPARINGLY, THERE WILL SOON BE SHORTAGE (3) SAVE ELECTRICITY PRICES WILL SOON GO UP (4) SAVE WATER, THERE WILL BE SHORTAGE. DO NOT TAKE BATH OFTEN AND LEARN TO DO WITHOUT LAUNDRY. BUY ONLY FOOD ITEMS NOT CLOTHES.”**. This post went viral till 3.4.2020 creating panic among the general public.

Mizoram Police acted immediately on this false and baseless post and during investigation, the originator of the post was identified on 5.4.2020 who is 68 years old resident of Aizawl. His statement was recorded and confessed that he did originate the post and also claimed that the information ‘if the confirmed case of Covid-19 continue to increase, the closure of Vairengte Checkgate may be inevitable’ was wrongly interpreted by him as “Vairengte Checkgate will be completely closed”. His post was meant solely to warn his fellow church members to take strict economic measures on essential commodities but went viral beyond his expectation. He also did make an apology on the same whatsapp group on 6.4.2020.

Aizawl Police Station Case No. 193/2020 Dt.4.4.2020 u/s 188/505(1)(b) IPC R/w 54 of the Disaster Management Act 2005 was registered and the accused (originator) and some other persons who forwarded the post were also summoned at Police Station. However, the originator being a prominent citizen and not likely to abscond, arrest is not yet made.

Posting of unconfirmed rumours which can create panic and fear among the general public is a very serious issue and can invite legal action against those responsible for the same. Public are advised to be careful and stay safe.

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(JOHN NEIHLAIA) IPS 7/4/20

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