

**GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA
HOME (POLICE) DEPARTMENT**

ORDERS BY THE GOVERNOR

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

No. HPL.118/2023/124

Dated Shillong, the 10th March, 2025.

**Subject : Misc. Application No. 393/2023 in SLP (Crl.) No. 12831/2022
Rajendra Singh –Vrs- The State of Uttar Pradesh**

In pursuance to the directions emanating from the Order dated 7th November, 2024 passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in connection with the above referred subject where by the Hon'ble Supreme Court has emphasized regarding the widespread use of unlicensed firearms which poses a significant threat to the rule of law and public safety. This Office Memorandum laying out the Action Plan is issued in the interest of the general public and for compliance of all the respective Deputy Commissioners and the District Superintendents of Police and other concerned Government Departments.

ACTION PLAN:

A. Formulation of an Action plan for implementation of the Arms Act and Rules in Meghalaya:

1. Establishment of a Nodal Committee:
 - A State Level Committee chaired by the Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya to oversee implementation has been constituted.
 - The Committee consists of members from the Home (Police), Law Departments and expert member from the Directorate of Forensics for effective coordination.
2. Awareness and training programs:
 - Organizing workshops and awareness programs for District Magistrates, Police officers and arms dealers on the provisions of the Arms Act and Rules will be held from time to time.
3. Streamlined Licensing and Renewal process:
 - All licensing and renewal process will be effectively shifted to the digital platform to ensure transparency and accountability for which Home (Police) Department will coordinate with NIC, Shillong.
 - Introduce a robust verification mechanism for applicants including criminal background and mental health checks.
4. Periodic Audits and Reviews:
 - Conduct quarterly reviews to assess compliance and address challenges in enforcement.

B. Inspection and Audit of Licensed and Unlicensed Factories/Works:

1. Standardized Inspection Protocols:
 - A notification designating dedicated officers to inspect arms manufacturing units and workshops for compliance with safety and quality standards will be issued within the month of March, 2025.

- The designated officer will ensure compliance with the manufacturing standards and stock maintenance.
- 2. Frequency of Audits:
 - Mandatory annual inspections of licensed arms factories will be conducted by the designated officer.
 - Undertake surprise inspections to detect and take action against unlicensed or illegal arms manufacturing units.
- 3. Strict records maintenance:
 - Verify products, stocks and sales record to prevent misuse or diversion of arms and ammunition. Copy of such records to be maintained at Special Branch (SB) Headquarters, Shillong.
 - The Police has been implementing stringent verification measures to curb unauthorized activities and will continue to do so.
- 4. Enforcement against Unlicensed Works:
 - Special drives to identify and shut down unlicensed factories operating in violation of Section 5 of the Arms Act, 1959 will continue to be taken by the concerned authority on a regular basis.

C. Securing data on manufactures, sale and transportation of illegal Arms:

1. Centralized database:
 - A State-level database to record information on arms manufacture, sale and transportation, integrated with national systems will be implemented shortly by Home (Police) Department in coordination with the NIC, Shillong.
2. Data collection and Analysis:
 - A nodal agency will be appointed by the Committee shortly with a task for gathering district-level data on illegal arms and ammunition.
3. Stakeholder Coordination:
 - Collaborate with other line departments such as Transport and other line agencies to monitor and secure transport channels.

D. Prevention of smuggling of illegal arms and ammunitions:

1. Strengthening Border controls:
 - Specialized anti-smuggling teams will be deployed at all entry points, including airports and inter-state borders.
 - Advanced surveillance systems like CCTV and RFID scanners at key checkpoints will be installed.
 - Surveillance and frequent checks along the Indo-Bangla Border with proper coordination between the Border Security Force (BSF) and the local police stations.
2. Inter- agency Collaboration:
 - Work with other central agencies like BSF, CRPF, IB, to curb smuggling activities.
 - Proper coordination between Central Intelligence agencies with the State agency to prevent the illegal sale and transportation through the State.
 - Share intelligence with neighboring states to track cross-border smuggling networks.

3. Public Vigilance programs:

- Encourage public reporting of suspicious activities related to arms smuggling through helpline and reward which will be implemented by the Police.

E. Study on the use of Illegal Arms in crime and preventive steps:

1. Data Compilation:

- Establish a dedicated team to conduct a comprehensive study on crimes involving illegal arms and ammunition.
- Classify crime based on social impact, such as gang violence, organized crimes and anti-state activities.

2. Impact assessment:

- Analyze the socio-economic and security impact of crimes committed using illegal arms.
- Use findings to guide policy decisions and enforcement strategies.

3. Community based preventions:

- Launch awareness campaigns in vulnerable areas prone to illegal arms use in the insurgency affected areas.
- Promote community policing initiatives to involve citizens in arms control efforts.

Sd/-

(Shri D.P. Wahlang, IAS)

Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya,

Memo. No. HPL.118/2023/124-A

Dated Shillong, the 10th March, 2025.

Copy to:

1. The P.S to the Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya, for kind information of the Chief Secretary.
2. The Director General of Police, Meghalaya, Shillong for kind information.
3. The Commissioner & Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya, Home (Police) Department for kind information.
4. All Deputy Commissioner for kind information.
5. All District Superintendent of Police for kind information.
6. The Law Department for kind information.
7. The Director Forensic Science Laboratory, Meghalaya, Mawdiangdiang for kind information.
8. The Director, Printing and Stationary, Meghalaya, Shillong with a request to publish in the Meghalaya Gazette.
9. The State Informatics Officer/Senior System Analyst, NIC, Meghalaya Shillong for uploading in the Meghalaya Website.

By order etc.,



(Shri F.R. Kharkongor, IAS)

Principal Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya,
Home (Police) Department.