GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA

DIRECTORATE OF CIVIL DEFENCE & HOME GUARDS::SHILLONG

Top Floor-Horse Shoe Building, Lower Lachumiere, Shillong-793001

www.meghomeguards.gov.in

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Honb'le Minister Inaugurates Civil Defence & Home Guards Office Building in Jowai

Jowai: "Trained men, women and youths act as the first responders in the event of disaster in their home front before any help arrives. Their trained intervention during the golden window is crucial to save lives" said Shri Brenning A Sangma, Minister of Civil Defence and Home Guards today at the inaugural ceremony of newly constructed office building of the Civil Defence and Home Guards department at Hali Synna, Jowai, West Jaintia Hills district.

Speaking on the occasion as the Chief Guest, the Minister said that the Department of Civil Defence and Home Guards has been playing an indispensable role in Meghalaya's preparedness and response system. He said that the department has trained thousands of volunteers in disaster management, search and rescue, first aid, and community awareness, towards building a disaster resilient community in the State.

Dedicating the newly constructed district office building to the people of the State, the Minister remarked that occasion is not just the inauguration of an infrastructure, but a reaffirmation of the Government's commitment to strengthen institutions that safeguard people and serve communities in times of need. He informed the gathering that all this while, the district level offices of the Civil Defence and Home Guards were operating from a rented building at Dong Mihsngi, Ladthalaboh, Jowai.

Highlighting the recent achievements and developments of the Department, the Minister said that it has recently successfully completed the recruitment for 445 different posts and held its first ever Rozgar Mela on 20th August 2025 where appointment letters were distributed to all the successful candidates. He also said that the Government has approved the subsumption of 708 permanent posts of the Border Wing Home Guards Battalion into two Battalions of the State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) which he added will immensely increase the response capacity of this Force in times of disaster and crisis.

Shri Wailadmiki Shylla, Minister of Health & Family Welfare who was the Guest of Honour on the occasion highlighted his role in the construction of the road to the new building site as the local representative. Lauding the contribution of the Civil Defence & Home Guards Department through it's volunteer training he underlined the need for more such training to be conducted in Jaintia Hills and other parts of the State.

Earlier in the day the Chief Guest was accorded a Guard of Honour before he proceeded to cut the ribbon and unveiled the inaugural plaque to formally inaugurate the office building of the District Civil Defence office and District Home Guards Office at Hali Synna, Jowai.

Others who spoke on the occasion were Shri M.K. Sangma, Director of Civil Defence, Meghalaya and Shri R.P. Khongwar, Joint Commandant General of Home Guards, Meghalaya. The programme was attended by the rank and file of the Civil Defence & Home Guards department, top officials of the district and village administration and other line departments.

The programme also featured special items performed by the Brass Band of the Border Wing Home Guards Battalion and the Pipe Band of the Central Training Institute of Civil Defence and Home Guards, Meghalaya, Shillong.

Sd/-

Shri PH Shylla
Senior Staff Officer & Addl. PRO
Directorate of Civil Defence & Home Guards
Meghalaya, Shillong









