



PRESS RELEASE



Forest department cracks down on illegal saw mills in West Garo Hills

Tura, June 29, 2026: In a major enforcement drive against illegal timber logging and unauthorized sawmill operations, the Office of the Range Forest Officer, Hollaidonga Range, under the Divisional Forest Officer (DFO), West & South-West Garo Hills (Territorial) Division, Tura, has successfully dismantled and shut down four illegal sawmills operating in the Chibinang-Bolarbita and Selsella areas.

The enforcement operations, conducted on June 23 and June 29, 2026, dealt a significant blow to the illegal timber trade in the region. Three illegal sawmills were dismantled in the Chibinang-Bolarbita area, while one was closed down in the Selsella area.

DFO, Territorial, West & South West Garo Hills Shri Rupankar K Marak informed in an official communique, that Forest enforcement teams following credible intelligence regarding the clandestine operation of unauthorized sawmills, carried out surprise raids in the affected areas. The operations resulted in the immediate closure of the illegal establishments, seizure of machinery, and dismantling of the sawmill infrastructure.

During the raids, the forest personnel intercepted newly established sawmills operating under makeshift sheds and dismantled their mechanical frameworks, including heavy-duty bandsaw assemblies and driving wheels. A substantial quantity of illegally procured timber logs was also seized from the sites.



The Forest Department confiscated three complete sawmill machine sets along with additional machinery components, including one electric motor, one platform (plat), and one driving wheel.



The department stated that it is actively gathering information from multiple sources on illegally established sawmills across the district and will continue to carry out stringent enforcement measures to curb illegal timber-related activities. It also reiterated its commitment to protecting forest resources and taking swift legal action against those involved in illegal logging and unauthorized sawmill operations.