

OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL DIRECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE: CID
MEGHALAYA: SHILLONG

PRESS RELEASE

Dated Shillong, the 30th August 2016

ADVISORY ON KIDNAPPING AND TRAFFICKING OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN

Public is aware that some cases of alleged trafficking of children and women have come to notice in the recent days. This is a worldwide menace and involves unscrupulous criminals and criminal gangs. Number of NGOs, civil society organizations and individuals are doing a lot of creditable work to combat this menace. Various Govt. agencies including police are also contributing to nab these criminals. There is however a need to co-ordinate efforts of all the stakeholders viz. NGOs, society, Govt., police organization, educational institutions, traditional institutions and etc. Police as a public service organization would like to issue following guidelines as advisory in the light of experience gained, to counter this menace collectively in an effective manner.

TO SOCIETY AT LARGE

- (i) If any member of a family goes missing, the family should report to the police immediately. Many times people spend 2-3 days conducting search themselves due to which precious time is lost. While search by members of family, friends and relatives is important, at the same time police should be informed without loss of precious time.
- (ii) Families should keep track of movements of children and young boys and girls in groups or individually for educational purpose or employment outside the State. If there is anything suspicious, it should be reported to Police for verification/enquiry etc.
- (iii) Families should encourage setting up of self help groups amongst children specially girls from our cities studying in institutions outside and staying in private boarding schools / hostels etc.
- (iv) Public should report if any suspicious activities are noticed in any house / lodges / guest houses within their locality.
- (v) Locality should keep a watch when suddenly a citizen seems to have started having a lavish life style out of tune with his/her recent financial position to detect early warning signals of suspicious and undesirable activities.
- (vi) People should report immediately to the nearest Police station when they notice any unaccompanied child wandering in the streets.
- (vii) People commuting in public transport should alert the police if they see unaccompanied children travelling at odd hours in suspicious circumstances.

- (viii) People may alert the police, if they notice any unwilling minor specially girls being taken by an adult forcibly against his/her wishes.

TO PRINCIPALS AND HEADS OF THE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- (i) A specific age/class limit of students may be set for allowing children to leave the institution premises by themselves unaccompanied.
- (ii) Schools /colleges should report of any drop out or continuous absence of a student without any information from the parents and take up the matter with parents/ guardians of students who are not coming to school regularly.
- (iii) College / Schools should take up programmes to create awareness amongst teachers and students regarding kidnapping and trafficking of children etc.
- (iv) Any lifestyle change or behavior change of the student noticed by teachers, may be discussed with parents.

TO NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS (NGOs)

- (i) NGOs can play a significant role by taking up programmes and projects to make the parents and target group i.e. women and children aware of being deceived and trafficked. Modus operandi used by traffickers to influence young minds by way of allurements, inducements, coercion etc can be vividly described to give them meaningful insights.
- (ii) NGOs may act as watch groups on the suspicious activities of various agencies and groups including those advertising jobs outside Meghalaya, and identify them and share the information confidentially with the police for necessary follow up.

ADVISORY TO MEDIA

- (i) Media is an important vehicle through which factual information can be obtained, exchanged and disseminated. It can play an effective role in sensitizing the public about the problems of trafficking of women and children through specialized reporting and co-ordination with police and NGOs.
- (iii) Random use of archive photographs and video images to illustrate a story may be avoided to protect the privacy of individuals, victims and families.
- (iv) Due care and caution may please be exercised while interviewing victims/families and sharing such information in public domain to avoid accentuating trauma of such victims/families.
- (v) While reporting cases of crime against women/children, details of alleged perpetrators must not get published prematurely, when the case is still in active investigation.

ADVISORY TO SUMO/TOURIST TAXI AND BUS OPERATORS/DRIVERS

- (i) The operators/drivers of tourist taxis and buses should question and if required, hand over any child found travelling alone or unaccompanied by an adult to the nearest police station, if they find circumstances suspicious.
- (ii) Any suspicious activity by any adult passenger accompanying a young girl/child be reported to the nearest police station.
- (iii) Drivers may be encouraged to report at any police unit on the highways when they feel they have suspicious elements travelling in their vehicles.

INFORMATION TO POLICE

For any assistance, help or reporting of above mentioned suspicious activities, the following officers may be contacted through mobile, email etc.

SSP CID(Mobile.9863021516) email ahtu.meghalaya@gmail.com - Coordinator.

In charge Anti-Human Trafficking Units at Shillong, Jowai and Tura can be contacted in their mobiles as follows:-

Shillong (Mobile No. 9856822984)

Jowai (Mobile No. 9863082268)

Tura (Mobile No.9436160171)

The District SPs and nearest police stations/units can be contacted by the public to report such activities.

Sd/-
Smti. CA Lyngwa, MPS
Special Superintendent of Police, CID
Meghalaya, Shillong

Memo No M/CID/Cell-5/HR-29/Voll-3/Pt/2016/10

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