

WITNESS No. : 32
NAME : A.K. SINHA, IAS
S/O : HARICHARAN PRASAD
ADDRESS : CHURACHANDPUR
AGE : 42

Parlem
6th June
16th January

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, CHURACHANDPUR DISTRICT.

(STATEMENT RECORDED ON OATH, 10.07.2006)

I have been holding the post of the Deputy Commissioner, Churachandpur since 31st August, 2005. The Tipaimukh Sub-division is a part of Churachandpur district. The sub-division Hq. is situated at Parbung. Right from 1972 Tipaimukh sub-division has been in existence. As in other sub-division in the state of Manipur, the office of the sub-divisional officer, and the ancillary allien of all deptts. to support the SDO. There is also a Police Station. There is no office of the sub-divisional, Medical Officer, but there is CHC. Since 1972, there are office of the SDO/BDO, PWD Office, PHED, Hort. & Soil Conservation, Agriculture, Forest, Electricity and a Govt. High School and ICDS office. When I joined as Deputy Commissioner, Churachandpur District, I found that the above noted govt. dept. non-functional except the High School.

One Army unit was posted at Parbung 20th January 2006. Till the Army moved in, the P.S. continued to be non-functional. As regards road communication, the NH-150 passes through Churachandpur and Parbung and extends upto Aizawl, capital of Mizoram. Construction and maintenance of NH-150 are done by the central Govt. Earlier, this road was maintained by BRTF. There was no maintenance of this road for the last 10 years as such no vehicle to carry the passengers can ply on this road. People of those localities used to travel to Churachandpur in by Shaktiman or if there be any individual vehicle such as, Gypsy or Tata Sumo.. I occasionally visit Parbung, with routine duty on my part. And while visiting Parbung I go by that road. The distance from Churachandpur to Parbung is 226 kms. I required 2 days time to reach Parbung if I proceeded from Churachandpur, but I am to halt at Thanlon which is another sub-divisional headquarter of the same district. the plight of the villagers of Parbung area can best be imagined if they are required to come district headquarter at Churachandpur whether on private purpose or official purpose. It is very costly fare to travel by this road. The people are to pay Rs.300/- as carrying charge per quintal if they want to carry the same from Churachandpur to Parbung. So, it appears that, roughly, they are required to pay Rs.3/- per kg. as carrying charge.

There is no other route to come to Churachandpur from Parbung. There is another route connecting Parbung via Singhat sub-division, but the condition of the road is same. Many people take that route because it is shorter one, but plight of the travelling party remains the same. There is an arrangement from the side of the state govt. to supply eatables to Parbung. But, in the prevailing circumstances the foodstuff sent by the government generally does not reach Parbung. Generally foodstuff is sent from Imphal to Churachandpur and if it reaches Churachandpur then it is within the shortest possible time disbursed to Parbung, but sometime, it so happens that no foodstuff reaches Churachandpur at all. But even if it reaches Parbung the price of any commodity is almost equal to the prevailing market price at Parbung. So, practically there is no difference between the commodity supplied by the govt. and the commodity available in the local market.

For the first time I visited Parbung on 12th February, 2006. Before that it was not possible for me to go that place because of various factors, mainly lack of security for the govt. officers because of the

insurgents. On my arrival at Parbung on 12th Feb., 2006, I found all the govt. offices defunct. There is the office of the SDO but the SDO (civil) could not function from his office because it had already been under the occupation of the insurgents, who used office Almirah as their bed instead. The SDO could not stay there and function from his office.

The Community Health Centre was under the occupation of the Army. On the basis of my first hand knowledge, I submitted a report to the Government detailing the state of affairs at Parbung. I last visited Parbung on 3rd April, 2006, that time, I found that the Government took some steps to redress the grievances of the government officer as well as the public on the basis of my report. Police officer was made functional, other office were also made functional. By the time I visited Parbung, the SDO Office building was found to be vacated by the insurgent. There is a govt. residence for the SDO who now stays there. The P.S. at Parbung is now functional and all requisite number of Police personnel are functional. The OC is there, along with four/five constables.

So far, the communication is concerned, it is in a horrible state. There is no telephone at Parbung and I cannot contact the SDO (civil) because of this lack of telecommunication. Whenever if any person wants to talk to a person at Parbung over telephone, it has to be routed through Aizawl. It is a very costly affair, one is required to pay Rs.10/- for local call. I am to contact the SDO through the same route.

As regards electricity, the office of the Electricity Board maintain one 200 KV generator which cattus to the villagers of Parbung numbering approximately 3000 (three thousand). It is sufficient for this population but it is not functional.

There is a govt. agency under the name MANIREDA which supply solar energy to the public. These are all individual arrangement and the Solar Energy is supplied to every household.

To improve the general situation in those villages people should also come forward to help the govt. Sometimes it so happens at some villages, villagers offer help to the insurgents. It is also seen that sometime they are helping the insurgent under-coercion. To bring normalcy to the villages govt. offices should be functioned all the time and the public have also a duty to extend all the co-op-to the govt. At present the police personnel who stayed at Parbung are unarmed. This does not inspire the confidence of the public. So there should be armed personnel whether they be drawn from the Army, CRPF or state forces like IRB or MR or Assam Rifles etc. Such units should be stayed there permanently. The only demand of the villagers put before me is to post Armed personnel permanently so that they may feel secured.

Regarding the incident of 16th Jan. 2006, I did not get any communication from the concerned villagers. But for the first time, I came to know about the incident only through newspaper. After that I immediately discussed the matter with the SP and then we decided to send the SDO and the OC to Parbung to obtain a firsthand account of the incident. After that I myself visited the place along with the DLOs.

I reported the matter to the Govt. It is not very clear to me but most probably GOC in C, Leimakhong sent one army unit to Parbung with the knowledge of the state govt. After the arrival of the Army General public are very happy and feeling secure. If the Army post is withdrawn from that place, the situation will again reverse to the situation that had existed before the 16th January 2006.

XXX (Counsel of HRA Kh. Chonjon Singh, Adv.)

I heard the name of village Lungthulien in Tipaimukh Sub-division of Churachandpur district, I visited Lungthulien on 13th,14th Feb. 2006 only one I received some report of the villagers of

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Lunghulien/Parbung regarding the incident of 16th Jan., 2006 at Lunghulien. Those representations so far I received from the villagers are still lying in my official file. The action taken up so far by me on the basis of those representations was that I visited Lunghulien as aforesaid. And, I sent the report to the govt. as aforesaid, and also relief materials to the villagers. I received the representation from the villager on 13th Feb., 22006 when I visited the village. I also received a report from SDO, Parbung regarding the incident bu I cannot remember the exact date of which I received the said report of the SDO.

*written by
S. Rajkhowa*

I did not see any of the FIR anywhere in connection with the incident. I never came across any insurgents during my normal duty as DC, CCPur. It is not a fact that no villagers had ever reported to me about any incident of 16th Jan., 2006. I made recommendation to the state govt. for taking up departmental action against officers for their absence in duty at Parbung. For some of the officer payment of their salalry has been stopped consequence on my report. But I cannot say the particulars of those for whom payment of salary has been stopped. As far as I know no other action other than stopage of their salary has been taken up by the govt. against of those officers.

XXX (Counsel for MAFIF, S. Lakhikanta Singh)

The nearest security post to Parbung and Lunghulien in Manipur is Churachandpur. I cannot say about any security post in Mizoram. There was a security post manned by the Army at Thanlon before 16th Jan., 2006 which was nearest to Parbung, which is about 126 kms. from Parbung. The administration of all sub-division including Parbung were functioning from CCPur which is the dist. hqtrs. Yes I had put information about the present of the insurgent at Parbung area. I reported about the said information to the govt. during the discussion in the meetings.

Sometime in April to May 2005, Govt. called in Army and posted them within CCPur Dist. but in Parbung area Army moved in only on 20th Jan. 2006. It is not a fact that there was no occurance on 16th Jan. 2006.

Read over and admitted to be correct.

S. Rajkhowa
10.7.06