GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA

PRESS RELEASE

Fire & Emergency Services Issues Winter Fire Safety Advisory, Urges Public to Keep Roads Clear for Fire Tenders

Shillong, Nov 25: The Office of the Superintendent of Police, Fire & Emergency Services, Meghalaya, has issued a public advisory urging residents to take precautionary measures against fire hazards during the winter season, when dry weather conditions are likely to increase the risk of fire emergencies.

The department stated that with the onset of the dry season, an increase in fire emergency calls is expected, making public awareness and preparedness essential to prevent loss of lives and property.

It also expressed concern over the reckless overnight parking of vehicles by residents in various localities within Shillong city and its outskirts, cautioning that such practices could obstruct the movement of fire appliances to emergency sites, delay response times and hamper firefighting operations.

The department has appealed to residents to avoid overnight parking on roads within their localities and ensure that access routes remain clear for emergency vehicles.

Points of Awareness & What to Do in Case of Fire

1. Do not get panicky or excited. Keep calm and check the extent of the fire.
2. Immediately inform the nearest Fire Station or Police Station in case of fire.
3. While informing, give the correct address and location.
4. Inform the local Headman regarding the fire and request volunteers to guide fire appliances to the scene of the fire.
5. Always avoid overnight parking on the roads of the locality to ensure easy access for fire appliances.
6. Do not interfere with firefighting operations. Assist only when asked to do so.
7. Do not overcrowd the place of occurrence, as this may hinder firefighting operations.
8. Do not carelessly light fires in jungles and shrubs near habitation.
9. Always keep the surroundings clean and free from dry grass or bushes.
10. Always check and switch off all electrical appliances, gas valves and open ovens before going to bed.
11. Do not store highly flammable liquids and combustible materials in the residence.
12. Always check electrical installations for faults.

The department has also urged citizens to promptly contact the following numbers in the event of fire emergencies:

Fire & Emergency Services Contact Numbers:

- Fire Control Room: 0364-2520004 / 0364-2520400, 8880563139.
- NERS/ERSS: 112
- OC Shillong Fire Station: 8575415433
- OC Barabazar Fire Station: 7085062258
- OC Lok Bhavan Fire Station: 9615609635
- OC Mawlai Fire Station: 9402535856
- OC Upper Shillong Fire Station: 9485444423