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Report shows improvement in law and order situation

# Crime least in Meghalaya

## OUR CORRESPONDENT

**Shillong:** The Northeast has seen an improved law and order scenario with only 61 cases reported in the current year, while Meghalaya has seen the maximum reduction in security-related cases between 2018-19.

According to the annual report of the Union ministry of home affairs for 2018-19, during the current year, 61 security-related incidents were reported in the first three months of the year.

In these incidents, 188 militants were arrested and two were killed. Around 71 arms and ammunition were recovered.

In the first three months of the current year, there have been no casualties of security

forces while there have been four civilian deaths.

Around 11 militants have surrendered while 32 cases of kidnapping were reported, it said.

The report said the security situation in the Northeast has improved substantially since 2013.

It also said 2018 witnessed the lowest number of incidents of insurgency and civilian deaths since 1997. Compared to 2017, incidents of insurgency registered a decline of 18 per cent in 2018 — 308 in 2017 and 252 in 2018.

There was a 25 per cent reduction in the number of deaths of civilians and security forces personnel in 2018 — 49 in 2017 and 37 in 2018.

The report said counter-insurgency operations led to

neutralisation of 34 militants, arrest of 804 militants and recovery of 478 weapons in 2018.

Compared to 2013, insurgency-related incidents declined significantly by 66 per cent, civilian casualties by 79 per cent, casualties of security forces by 23 per cent and kidnapping/abduction cases by 62 per cent in 2018. It said while there is almost no insurgency in Tripura and Mizoram, there was a marked improvement in the security situation in the other states of the region.

In 2018, insurgency-related violence declined by 48 per cent in Meghalaya, 40 per cent in Arunachal Pradesh, 16 per cent in Assam and 24 per cent in Manipur compared to 2017.

However, the report said there has been an increase in incidents of insurgency in Na-

galand in 2018. Compared to 2017 where there were 28 security-related cases, such cases decreased to 15 in 2018 in Meghalaya, the report noted.

However, in Nagaland, from 19 cases in 2017, the security-related incidents increased to 42 in 2018 where 181 extremists were arrested while four were killed.

There were also 63 reported cases of kidnapping in Nagaland, while three security forces and an equal number of civilians were killed.

Assam saw a reduction of security-related incidents from 33 in 2017 to 28 in 2018. Last year, 133 militants were arrested, five were killed while 13 surrendered. Seven civilians and one security force personnel were also killed.

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