

**Ministry of Home Affairs**  
**Disaster Management Division**  
**Government of India**  
**(National Emergency Response Centre)**

**Brief Report on Dzukou Valley as on 05<sup>th</sup> Jan'2021 at 1900 Hrs.**

On the 29th December 2020 office of Principal Secretary Home, Government of Nagaland requested for deployment of helicopter for containing forest fire in Dzukou Valley under Kohima District. It was further conveyed that Dzukou Valley is a relatively remote and inaccessible area of the State and given the terrain, high altitude and other factors the emergency response operation is a challenge.

**1. Steps taken by Central Government:**

- Situation is being closely monitored 24x7 by Central Government at highest level.
- On 05.01.21, three teams moved from base camp to the incident place and carried out dousing operation on an isolation area at the eastern side of Esii hill and covered an area of around 50 meter dousing fire. On 05.01.2021, as per the district administration all teams have been shifted to JNV campus, Mao, Senapati (Manipur).
- On 05.01.21, all three teams moved from base camp to the incident place and carried out dousing operation on an isolation area at the western side of Esii hill and covered an area of around 120 meter dousing fire. On 05.01.21, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Nagaland made an aerial reccee over Dzukou Valley.
- Indian Air force – IAF deployed from 31.12.2020 and extinguishing the fire by using Bambi bucket with the help of 04 helicopters (two from Rangapahar and two from Dimapur) along with NDRF representative.

**2. Current situation as on 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021:**

- Personnel of NDRF, SDRF/Home Guard and Civil Defence, Police and Paramilitary supported by DDMA, Kohima and DFO, and volunteers from SAYO have been working to further make the traditional fire control line to protect the fragile portion of the valley.
- Operations by 4 (four) IAF Chopper with spraying of waters are underway.
- NDRF personnel SAYO volunteers and camping in the Valley to keep watch.
- The fires in the Dzukou Valley are seen in multiple locations as on 5<sup>th</sup> Jan. 2021.
  - As per today's observation by the NSDMA officials along with NDRF representatives who made an aerial survey of the incident site at 3:30 pm – 4:00 pm on 5th of Jan. 2021, fire continues to burn at multiple locations. Hence,

demobilization of the Air operations is not advisable and it is suggested to continue with the fire fighting operations by the helicopters of IAF.

### **3. Steps taken by State Government Nagaland:-**

- The NSDMA, requisitioned IAF helicopter on the 29th Dec.2020 and the requisition letter for IAF, Chopper was sent to the concerned by the Principal Secretary, Home on the 30th of Dec. 2020.
- The deployment of IAF, helicopter began on the 31st Dec.2020. However, due to the prevalence of strong wind in the mountains, IAF, Chopper could not carry out the operation, apart from conducting the aerial survey to assess the affected area.
- Meanwhile, the District Disaster Management Authority, (DDMA), Kohima requisitioned personnel of Kohima District Executive Force (DEF), SDRF Kohima Unit, Home Guards and Civil Defence, 4th NAP, and together with DFO Kohima and forest personnel along with volunteers provided by local Civil Societies such as Southern Angami Youth Organization (SAYO) executed a traditional fire control line on 31st of Dec. 2020 /1st of January 2021 stretching over 5 (five) kilometres to protect the more fragile part of Dzukou Valley.
- The personnel of Forest Department /Police and volunteers of SAYO have been camping in the Valley to keep a watch.
- The NSDMA, Home Department sent a situational report to MHA as required by the Government of India since 1st of Jan. 2021.
- Additional man-power of NDRF personnel were airlifted from Guwahati by IAF aircraft to Dimapur on the 1stJan. 2021 at 7.45 PM.
- MoD, Govt later on deployed additional IAF helicopters based on the requirement and requisition by the Government of Nagaland on the 31st Dec. 2020.
- Additional manpower of NDRF personnel 7 (seven) teams were deployed and they reached the State of Nagaland on the 2nd Jan. 2021.
- Water body at Padumpukhri close to Dimapur airport was identified initially with support from DDMA-Dimapur and another water body closer to Dzukou Valley has also been identified on the 3rd of Jan. 2021 at Chida Lake Khezakenoma with support from the DDMA-Kohima and DDMA Phek to fetch water by IAF Chopper as on 4 thJan. 2021.

### **4. Steps taken by State Government Manipur:-**

- The NDRF team consisting of 50 personnel and SDRF team consisting of 35 personnel sent earlier to base camp at the upper ranges in Mt Khungo range for containing the forest fire on 01-01-2021 have been withdrawn and brought down

to JNV (Mao).

- On spot assessment of the extent of wildfire was carried out by team consisting of Shri Dikho, Hon'ble Minister, Shri Kailun, Addl. DGP, Manipur, DC Senapati, SP Senapati and DFO Senapati.
- In regards to the wildfire, today it has progressed more towards the south-west direction of Dzuko valley along the slope of the ridge facing Manipur state. Teams of Manipur Police (from Mao Pungdung side & Willong side) and another separate team of villagers (from Willong side) have trekked to find the locations of the wildfire that is still prevalent. As the fire in the locations are not so far effectively doused, using the choppers and other alternative measures are being explored.
- All Manipur Working Journalists Union, consisting of 28 members visited the locations from where wildfire managements are being done.
- The Government is making all possible efforts to support supply system of essential items at the base camp of the firefighters today by providing Blankets and mattresses and generators.

#### **5. Operational requirements:**

- Situational assessment shall be carried out on the 6thJan. 2021 along with IAF team and NSDMA official.
- The uniformed personnel on the ground with the help of volunteers shall continue making the fire control line.
- NSDMA in collaboration with GIS & Remote Sensing, Nagaland shall be deploying UAV (Drone) for area damage assessment.

#### **6. For emergency please contact the following**

- SEOC NSDMA 0370-2291122/2291120
- State Emergency Response Officer. Mr. Rendemo,8731804882/9402489435
- SDO (Civil) Shri Ruopfukhotuo, DDMA-Kohima for ground situationalupdates.
- NDRF Control Room:-01123438091/8136
- NERC Control Room:-01123438252/53

#### **7. For other important updates on the situation:**

- Shri Raj Kumar, IFS, DFO Kohima (Forest Department) @ 7085995177.

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