

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE HIGH POWERED COMMITTEE HELD ON 11TH FEBRUARY, 2026 THROUGH VIRTUAL MODE

A meeting of the High Powered Committee chaired by Hon'ble Mrs Justice Meenakshi Madan Rai, Judge, High Court of Sikkim and Executive Chairperson, Sikkim SLSA/Chairperson, High Powered Committee was held on 11.02.2026 (*Wednesday*) through virtual mode.

The Meeting was attended by Mr Tenzing T Kaleon, Secretary, Home Department, Government of Sikkim/Member, High Powered Committee; Mr Avichal, Additional Director General of Police (Prison), State Central Prison, Rongyek, Mr Sharab Tonyot, Deputy Inspector General of Police (Prison), State Central Prison, Rongyek; Mr Khemraj Bhattarai, Special Secretary (Confidential), Home Department/Member Secretary, High Powered Committee and Mr Passang Tshering Lepcha, Superintendent of Police, District Prison, Boomtar, South Sikkim/Member, High Powered Committee.

### AGENDA ITEMS

**Item Agenda No. 1 : Confirmation of the Minutes of the Meeting of the High Powered Committee which was held on 5th September, 2025.**

The minutes of the meeting held on 5th September, 2025, was confirmed.

**Item Agenda No. 2 : Decongestion of Jails**

a) *To consider Convicts who have undergone their sentence or are entitled to remission/suspension/commutation of sentence under Sections 432 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 (for short, "CrPC")/ 473 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023, (for short, "B N S S") and Furlough in terms of the Sikkim Prison Manual;*

(I) The State Central Prison, Rongyek, East Sikkim : **23**

(II) The District Prison, Boomtar, Namchi, South Sikkim : **NIL**

(b) *To consider UTPs released on Bail by the Court, but unable to furnish sureties;*

**(I) STATE CENTRAL PRISON, RONGYEK - 04**

Sl No	Name and age of the UTP	Address	Police Station/ FIR Crime No and arrested under Section	Particulars of Court	Admitted in Prison on	Charges framed under Section	Detention period
1.	Krish Limboo 25/M	Samdur, Ranipool, at present Namnang, Gangtok, Sikkim	Sadar PS Case No 28/2025 dated 20.02.2025 Sections 309(4), 126 (2), 351(2) & 304 of BNS, 2023/392, 341, 506 & 390 of IPC, 1860	Chief Judicial Magistrate, Gangtok	27.02.2025	Sections 126(2), 351(2), 309(4), 304/3(2) of BNS, 2023/392, 341, 506, 390 & 34 of IPC, 1860	11 months and 9 days
2.	Sandeep Pradhan 30/M	Chadey, Mangan, Sikkim, at present Marchak, Ranipool, Gangtok, Sikkim	Sadar PS Case No 199/2022 dated 21.11.2022 Sections 7/9/14 of SADA, 2006	Special Judge (SADA,2006), Gangtok, Sikkim	25.03.2025	Sections 9(1)(c) and 9(1)(b) of SADA, 2006.	10 months and 11 days
3.	Buddhi Maya Rai 25/F	Ralap, Gangtok, Sikkim	Singtam P.S Case 29/2025 dated 13.08.2025 Section 118(2) of BNS, 2023/326 of IPC, 1860	Judicial Magistrate, (First Class), Gangtok, Sikkim	18.08.2025	Section 118(2) of BNS, 2023/326 of IPC, 1860	5 months & 18 days
4.	Abbas Ansari 21/M	Lower IBM, Rangpo, Sikkim	Rangpo PS Case No 51/2025 dated 16.09.2025 Sections 7/9/14 of SADA, 2006 r/w sec. 9(1)(c) of SAD Amendment Act, 2017	Special Judge, (SADA Act ,2006) Pakyong, Sikkim	19.09.2025	Sections 9(1)(c) and 9(1)(b) of SADA, 2006.	4 months and 17 days

(II) The District Prison, Boomtar, Namchi, South Sikkim : 01

Sl No	Name and age of the UTP	Address	Police Station/ FIR Crime No	Particulars of Court	Admitted in Prison on	Charges framed under Section	Detention period
1.	Ritesh Thapa 28/M	Dhambudara Namchi District	Melli PS Case No 17/2022 dated 14.07.2022 Section 21 of NDPS Act, 1985	Special Judge, (NDPS Act Namchi	19.07.2025	Section 21 of NDPS Act, 1985	6 months and 21 days

**RESOLVED:**

The High Powered Committee is of the view that the Learned Trial Court be requested to consider the case of UTP Krish Limboo 25/M, arrested in connection with Sadar PS Case No 28/2025 dated 20.02.2025, under Sections 309(4), 126 (2), 351(2) & 304 of BNS, 2023/392, 341, 506 & 390 of IPC, 1860.

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(c) *To consider release of UTPs booked under compoundable offences:*

- (I) The State Central Prison, Rongyek, East Sikkim : **NIL**  
(II) The District Prison, Boomtar, Namchi, South Sikkim : **NIL**

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(d) *To consider release of UTPs covered under Sections 436 and 436A of the Cr P C/Sections 478 and 479 of the B N S S:*

- (I) The State Central Prison, Rongyek, East Sikkim : **NIL**  
(II) The District Prison, Boomtar, Namchi, South Sikkim : **NIL**

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(e) *To consider release of UTPs who may be covered under Section 3 of the Probation of Offenders Act, 1958, namely, accused of offence under Sections 379, 380, 381, 404, 420 of the Indian Penal Code, 1860 (for short, "I P C")/Sections 303(2), 304, 305, 306, 315 and 318(4) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 (for short, "B N S"), or alleged to be an offence not more than 2 years imprisonment:*

- (I) The State Central Prison, Rongyek, East Sikkim : **NIL**  
(II) The District Prison, Boomtar, Namchi, South Sikkim : **NIL**
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(f) *To consider UTPs eligible to be released on bail under Section 167 of the Cr P C/Section 187 of the B N S and under Section 167(2)(a)(i) and (ii) of the Cr P C/ Section 187(2)(a)(i) and (ii) of the B N S read with Section 36A of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 (where persons accused of Section 19 or Section 24 or Section 27A or for offences involving commercial quantity) where investigation is not completed in 60/90/180 days:*

(I) The State Central Prison, Rongyek, East Sikkim : NIL

(II) The District Prison, Boomtar, Namchi, South Sikkim : NIL

(g) *To consider release of UTPs who are imprisoned for offences which carry a maximum punishment of 2 years:*

(I) The State Central Prison, Rongyek, East Sikkim : NIL

(II) The District Prison, Boomtar, Namchi, South Sikkim : NIL

(h) *To consider release of vulnerable UTPs who are sick or infirm and require specialized medical treatment:*

(I) The State Central Prison, Rongyek, East Sikkim - 02

Sl No	Name and age of the UTP	Address	Police Station/ FIR Crime No	Arrested under Section	Admitted in Prison on	Particulars of Court	Charges framed under Section
1.	Abbas Ansari 21/M	Lower IBM, Rangpo, Sikkim	Rangpo PS Case No 51/2025 dated 16.09.2025	Sections 7/9/14 of SADA, 2006 r/w sec. 9(1)(c) of SAD Amendment Act, 2017	19.09.2025	Special Judge, (SADA Act ,2006) Pakyong, Sikkim	Sections 9(1)(c) and 9(1)(b) of SADA, 2006.
<i>He was diagnosed with Tuberculosis and was at STNM Hospital on 19.09.2025 for treatment and was discharged on 25.12.2025 on being tested negative for Tuberculosis. He is currently under DOTS medication.</i>							
2.	Binita Sharma @Kessang 25/M	DPH, Gangtok, A/P Khanikhola Majhitar, Pakyong, Sikkim	Rangpo PS Case No 61/2025 dated 01.12.2025	Sections 21, 22 & 27 NDPS Act, 1985 r/w Section 3(5) of BNS, 2023/34 of IPC, 1860	03.12.2025	Special Judge, (NDPS Act, (1985) Pakyong, Sikkim	Charge sheet not filed
<i>She has been diagnosed with Syphilis on 02.02.2026, and is under medication. Her disease is not contagious as opined by the jail visiting Doctor.</i>							

(II) The District Prison, Boomtar, Namchi, South Sikkim - 09

Sl No	Name of the UTP	Address	Police Station/FIR No	Arrested under Section	Admitted in Prison on	Detention period
1	Kamal Gurung 52/M	Panday Colony, Gyalshing	Gyalshing P S Case No 16/2024 dated 10.04.2025	Sections 64, 98, 99, 3(2) & 3(3) of BNS, 2023/376, 372, 373, 7 & 27 of IPC, 1860 r/w Sections 3, 4, 5(i)(1) & 6 of POCSO Act, 2012.	11.04.2025	9 months and 29 days
<i>The above UTP has Diabetes Mellitus and has been on daily insulin administration to manage blood sugar levels. The UTP is frequently hospitalised, daily medical follow-up is being conducted.</i>						

2	Tenzing Sherpa 60/M	Lower Manzing, Namchi	Yangang P S Case No 02/2025 dated 15.06.2025	Sections 103 & 3(5) of BNS, 2023/302 & 34 of IPC, 1860.	19.06.2025	7 months and 26 days
<i>The above UTP is suffering from gall bladder stone and hypertension. He is undergoing treatment since 16.07.2025. Daily medical follow-up is being conducted.</i>						
3	Shivijan Subba 33/M	Chisopani, Jorethang	Jorethang P S Case No 11/2025 dated 05.05.2025	Section 22(c) of NDPS Act, r/w Section 7(b) of SADA, r/w Section 9(1)(a) of SADA, 2017 & 2018, r/w Sections 111 & 3(5) of BNS, 2023/34 of IPC, 1860.	19.05.2025	03 months
<i>The above UTP is suffering from gall bladder stone and is undergoing treatment since 07.06. 2025.</i>						
4	Mogle Azam 48/M	Masjid Line, Jorethang	Jorethang P S Case No 14/2025 dated 17.05.2025	Sections 7(a) and 9(1)(b) SADA, 2006 r/w Section 22(b) of NDPS Act, 1985.	19.5.2025	8 months and 21 days
<i>The above UTP is suffering from gall bladder stone and hypertension and is undergoing treatment since 16.07.2025.</i>						
5	Jit Bahadur Rai 40/M	Takuthang ,Soreng District	Kaluk P S Case No 06/2025 dated 18.08.2025	Section 117(2), 118(1) and 103 of BNS Act, 2023/325, 324 and 302 of IPC, 1860.	11.09.2025	5 months
<i>He is a known case of Chronic Liver Disease with Bilateral Renal Calculi (Kidney Stones). Treatment has been initiated at District Hospital Namchi, and Gastroenterology consultation at STNM Hospital, Gangtok has been done. The patient is under medication and taken for periodic reviews.</i>						
6	Krishna Chettri 40/M	Lower Chisopani, Namchi District	Jorethang P S Case No 12/2025 dated 07.05.2025	Section 7(b) SADA, Section 9(1)(b) SADA, 2017 and Section 3(5) of BNS Act, 2023/34 of IPC, 1860.	08.05.2025	9 months and 1 day
<i>He is diagnosed with Syphilis and has been under medication since 03.11.2025.</i>						
7	Kishore Tamang 38/M	Salghari, Namchi District	Jorethang P S Case No 12/2025 dated 07.05.2025	Section 22(a) NDPS Act r/w Section 7(b) SADA and Section 9(1)(b) SADA.	08.05.2025	9 months and 1 day
<i>The UTP is suffering from Diabetes Mellitus and is presently under medication. He is also suffering from Hepatitis C, for which he has been under treatment since 10.12.2025. His next medical review is scheduled on 22.02.2026.</i>						
8	Rakesh Rai @Spiderman 39/M	Gyalshing Keyongsha A/P Shiv Mandir Siliguri	Gyalshing P S Case No 21/2025 dated 29.10.2025	Sections 305(A) and 331(3) of BNS Act, 2023/380 and 453 of IPC, 1860.	12.11.2025	2 months and 28 days
<i>He is diagnosed with Syphilis and has been under medication since 17.12.2025.</i>						
9	Zigme Sonam Bhutia 30/M	Gyalshing A/P Middle Pelling, Gyalshing District	Gyalshing P S Case No 21/2025 dated 29.10.2025	Sections 305(A) and 331(3) of BNS Act, 2023/380 and 453 of IPC, 1860.	06.11.2025	7 months and 29 days
<i>He is diagnosed with Cirrhotic Liver disease and has a history of Chronic Alcohol consumption. He has been under medication.</i>						

**RESOLVED:**

The High Powered Committee is of the view that the Learned Trial Court be requested to consider the case for bail of the following UTPs in view of their medical conditions :

- a) Kamal Gurung, aged 52 years old lodged in the District Prison, Boomtar in connection with Gyalshing P S Case No 16/2024 dated 10.04.2025, under Sections 64, 98, 99, 3(2) & 3(3) of BNS, 2023/376, 372, 373, 7 & 27 of IPC, 1860 r/w Sections 3, 4, 5(i)(1) & 6 of POCSO Act, 2012; and UTP.
- b) Shivijan Subba, aged 33 years old lodged in the District Prison, Boomtar in connection with Jorethang P S Case No 11/2025 dated 05.05.2025, under Sections 22(c) of NDPS Act, r/w Section 7(b) of SADA, r/w Section 9(1)(a) of SADA, 2017 & 2018, r/w Sections 111 & 3(5) of BNS, 2023/34 of IPC, 1860.

(i) *To consider release of UTPs who are women;*

(I) The State Central Prison, Rongyek, East Sikkim : 05

SI No	Name of the UTP	Address	Police Station/FIR No	Arrested under Section	Admitted in Prison on	Detention period
1	Basanti Darjee aged 34	Tamang Gumpa, Sichey, Gangtok, Sikkim	Rangpo P S Case No 20/2025 dated 24.04.2025	Sections 21, 22 & 27 of NDPS Act, 1985.	28.04.2025	9 months and 8 days
2	Sushila Pradhan aged 62	Aho Yangtam, Chota Singtam, Pakyong, Sikkim	Rangpo P S Case No 20/2025 dated 18.05.2025 and Rangpo P S Case No 21/2023 dated 13.10.2023	Sections 7, 9(1)(b) & 14 of SADA, 2006 r/w Section 9(1)(b) of SAD Amendment Act, 2017 and 7(a)(1)(b)/14 of SADA, 2006 r/w Section 9(1)(b) of SAD Amendment Act, 2017.	19.05.2025	8 months and 17 days
3	Jas Maya Kami @ Babita Chettri aged 29	Jorethang, Namchi, Sikkim at present Vajra Gangtok Sikkim	Rangpo PS Case No 30/2025 dated 30.05.2025	Sections 7, 9 & 14 of SADA 2006 r/w Section 9(1)(c) of SAD Amendment Act 2017 r/w Section 3(5) of BNS, 2023/34 of IPC, 1860	02.06.2025	3 months and 1 day
4	Buddhi Maya Rai aged 25	Ralap, Gangtok, Sikkim	Singtam P.S Case 29/2025 dated 13.08.2025	Section 118(2) of BNS, 2023/326 of IPC, 1860	18.08.2025	5 month and 18 days
5	Binita Sharma @Kessang 25/M	DPH, Gangtok, A/P Khanikhola Majhitar, Pakyong, Sikkim	Rangpo PS Case No 61/2025 dated 01.12.2025	Sections 21, 22 & 27 NDPS Act, 1985 r/w Section 3(5) of BNS, 2023/34 of IPC, 1860	03.12.2025	2 month and 3 days

II) The District Prison, Boomtar, Namchi, South Sikkim : 04

SI No	Name of the UTP	Address	Police Station/FIR No	Arrested under Section	Admitted in Prison on	Detention period
1	Pema Uden Bhutia aged 40	Panday Coloney, Gyalshing District	Gyalshing P S Case No 05/2025 dated 10.04.2025	Sections 3/4/5(i)(1)6 of POCSO Act, 2012.	11.04.2025	9 months 29 days

2	Manpreet Kaur aged 24	Patti Japat Nathana Bathinda District, Punjab	Sombaria P S Case No 09/2025 dated 22.08.2025	Sections 308,119 and 351 BNS Act 2023/383, 327 and 503 of IPC, 1860.	19.11.2025	2 months and 22 days
3	Passang Lhamu Sherpa aged 21	Mazigoan, Jorethang Namchi District	Melli PS Case No.19/2025 dated 08.10.2025	Section 21 NDPS Act, 1985.	09.10.2025	4 months
4	Priya Rai aged 24	Dalep, Namchi District	Temi PS Case No 02/2026 dated 11.01.2025	Sections 7,9(1) (c)/14 SADA 2006 r/w Section SADAA 2017 & 2018	11.01.2026	4 weeks 1 day

(j) *To consider release of UTPs who are first time offenders between the ages of 19 and 21 and in custody for offences punishable with less than 7 years of imprisonment and have suffered at least 1/4<sup>th</sup> of the maximum sentence prescribed;*

- (I) The State Central Prison, Rongyek, East Sikkim : **NIL**  
 (II) The District Prison, Boomtar, Namchi, South Sikkim : **NIL**

(k) *To consider release of UTPs who are of unsound mind;*

- (I) The State Central Prison, Rongyek, East Sikkim : **NIL**  
 (II) The District Prison, Boomtar, Namchi, South Sikkim : **NIL**

(l) *To consider UTPs eligible for release under Section 437(6) of the Cr P C/Section 480(6) of B N S S, wherein in a case triable by a Magistrate, the trial of a person accused of any non- bailable offence has not been concluded within a period of 60 days from the first date fixed for taking evidence in the case:*

- (I) The State Central Prison, Rongyek, East Sikkim : **NIL**  
 (II) The District Prison, Boomtar, Namchi, South Sikkim : **NIL**

(m) *To consider release of UTPs detained under Sections 107, 108, 109, 151 of the Cr P C/Sections 126, 127, 128 and 170 of B N S S:*

- (I) The State Central Prison, Rongyek, East Sikkim : **NIL**  
 (II) The District Prison, Boomtar, Namchi, South Sikkim : **NIL**

**Item Agenda No 3:**

**UTPs and Convicts with Covid-19 in the State Central Prison, Rongyek, East Sikkim and District Prison, Boomtar, Namchi, South Sikkim and availability of medical facilities and treatment.**

- (I) The State Central Prison, Rongyek, East Sikkim : **NIL.**  
 (II) The District Prison, Boomtar, Namchi, South Sikkim : **NIL**

**Item Agenda No 4: Continuation of sanitization and maintenance of hygiene and cleanliness in the State Central Prison, Rongyek, East Sikkim and District Prison, Boomtar, Namchi, South Sikkim.**

As informed by the State Central Prison vide letter bearing No 579/SCP/JAIL/2026 dated 07.02.2026, sanitization in the Prison is being carried out on fortnightly basis as resolved by the High Powered Committee on 29.04.2025.

As informed by the District Prison, Boomtar vide letter bearing No 13/DPN/S dated 09.02.2026, sanitization in the District Prison is being carried out on a fortnightly basis.

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**Item Agenda No 5: Number of new UTPs since 05-09-2025 and the latest vaccination position of UTPs, Convicts, Officers and Staff at the State Central Prison, Rongyek, East Sikkim and District Prison, Boomtar, Namchi, South Sikkim.**

The State Central Prison, Rongyek and District Prison, Boomtar, forwarded the following information vide letters bearing No 579/SCP/JAIL/2026 dated 07.02.2026 and 13/DPN/S dated 09.02.2026 :

**STATE CENTRAL PRISON, RONGYEK**

a) Newly admitted UTPs since <b>05.09.2025</b>	-	<b>64</b>
b) Number of UTPs administered with both first and second dose of COVID-19 vaccine	-	<b>25</b>
c) Number of UTPs not vaccinated with COVID-19 vaccine	-	<b>14</b>

**DISTRICT PRISON, BOOMTAR**

a) Newly admitted UTPs since <b>05.09.2025</b>	-	<b>88</b>
b) Number of UTPs administered with both first and second dose of COVID-19 vaccine	-	<b>117</b>
c) Number of UTPs not vaccinated with COVID-19 vaccine	-	<b>03</b>

**Item Agenda No 6: Present mode of production of UTPs before Courts and continuation of video conference for Remand.**

The State Central Prison, Rongyek and District Prison, Boomtar, vide letters bearing No 579/SCP/JAIL/2026 dated 07.02.2026 and 13/DPN/S dated 09.02.2026, have informed that all the UTPs required for remand are being produced only through Video Conferencing; and UTPs undergoing trial are being produced, physically, before the Ld Courts.

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**Item Agenda No 7: Steps taken for and progress of counselling of UTPs and Convicts by Psychologists and Psychiatrists at the State Central Prison, Rongyek, East Sikkim and District Prison, Boomtar, Namchi, South Sikkim (UTPs, Convicts under SADA and UTPs, Convicts with mental illness, other UTPs and Convicts in need of counselling)**

As informed by the State Central Prison, Rongyek vide letter bearing No 579/SCP/JAIL/2026 dated 07.02.2026, Psychiatrist is visiting the State Central Prison, Rongyek on a fortnightly basis, and, the Clinical Psychologist is visiting the prison, once in a week.

Also, UTPs and Convict(s) under SADA and NDPS are given counseling for 2 (two) days in a week (one day through virtual mode and the next day physically) by Freedom Facility, Tathangchen. The counseling session is being conducted by the Rehabilitation Centres namely Freedom Facility, Tathangchen and Serenity Home, Lower Burtuk, on rotation basis, every three months.

Mental Health Camp: Quarterly mental health camps are conducted. The last one was organized by Sikkim SLISA on 12th December, 2025.

As informed by the Superintendent of Police (Prison), District Prison, Boomtar 13/DPN/S dated 09.02.2026, Serenity Home, Burtuk is conducting weekly virtual counseling sessions for the UTPs arrested under SADA, 2006

and NDPS, 1985. Also, physical counseling sessions are being conducted by Sanjeevani Rehabilitation Centre for the UTPs arrested under SADA, 2006 and NDPS, 1985, every Tuesday. Dr Tsepel Eden Bhutia, Psychiatrist visits the prison twice a month.

Mental Health Camp: Quarterly mental health camps are conducted. The last one was organized by Sikkim SLSA along with DLSA, Namchi on 12th December, 2025.

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**Item Agenda No 7: Any other item(s) with the permission of the Chair**

**The present capacity of UTPs and Convicts at the State Central Prison, Rongyek:**  
**State Central Prison, Rongyek**

<b>Convicts</b>			
	Male	Female	Total Number of Convicts lodged
Actual Capacity	152	07	
Currently lodged	155	--	155 male
<b>Under Trial Prisoners</b>			
	Male	Female	Total Number of UTPs lodged
Actual Capacity	162	14	
Currently lodged	141	05	146 (141 male and 05 female)

**The present capacity of UTPs at the District Prison, Boomtar :**  
**District Prison, Boomtar, Namchi**

	Male	Female	Total Number of UTPs lodged
Actual Capacity	69	05	
Currently lodged	151	04	155 (151 male and 04 female)

**RESOLVED:**

The High-Powered Committee suggests that the Sikkim SLSA may request the concerned Department *ie* Buildings & Housing Department, Government of Sikkim, to expedite the construction of the pre-fabricated structure (*male barrack*) at the District Prison, Boomtar for the reason that they are currently at 100% extra capacity.

The date for next meeting of the High-Powered Committee will be intimated in due course of time.

Sd/-  
( Mrs Justice Meenakshi Madan Rai )  
Judge, High Court of Sikkim  
and Executive Chairperson,  
Sikkim State Legal Services Authority,  
Chairperson, High Powered Committee

Sd/-  
( Mr Tenzing T Kaleon, IAS )  
Secretary,  
Home Department, Government of Sikkim,  
Member, High Powered Committee

Sd/-  
( Mr Avichal )  
Additional Director General of Police (Prison),  
State Central Prison, Rongyek

Sd/-  
( Mr Khemraj Bhattarai )  
Special Secretary, Home (Confidential),  
Home Department, Government of Sikkim  
Member Secretary, High Powered Committee

Sd/-  
( Mr Sharab Tonyot )  
Deputy Inspector General of Police (Prison),  
State Central Prison, Rongyek

Sd/-  
( Mr Passang Tshering Lepcha )  
Superintendent of Police (Prison),  
District Prison, Boomtar,  
Member, High Powered Committee