

1875, Not 1933: Mizoram Reasserts Border Claim



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Mizoram has reaffirmed its stand on the **1875 notification** as the only legitimate boundary with Assam, rejecting the 1933 Survey of India map cited by Assam. Home Minister K. Sapdanga told the Assembly that the colonial-era demarcation, drawn after consultation with local chiefs, remains binding.

Talks between the two states have stretched across decades, with the last round held in Guwahati in April. The next meeting is to take place in Aizawl, though no date has been fixed. Mizoram has set up a study team to compile archival records to back its claim.

On the ground, tensions persist. In mid-August, Mizoram villagers accused Assam officials of damaging nearly 300 rubber plants in Saikhawthlir, despite a mutual freeze on activities in disputed areas. Both sides have since promised to maintain status quo.

Meanwhile, student groups such as the **Mizo Zirlai Pawl** and **Neso** staged protests in Aizawl, warning of unchecked immigration and cultural threats.

The dispute, rooted in rival colonial legacies, has slowed development works and unsettled border communities. Until the next talks resume, the hills remain caught between maps of the past and uncertainty of the present.

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