

NSCN and Govt of India extend ceasefire indefinitely



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Guwahati: Ceasefire with National Socialist Council of Nagaland has been extended for an indefinite period. A meeting was held at Circuit House, Dimapur, the commercial hub of Nagaland on Tuesday between the representative of NSCN (IM) and Govt. of India where it was decided to extend the ceasefire indefinitely. While NSCN President Isaac Chichi Swu and General secretary Th. Muivah led the hostile side, Union Labor Minister Oscar Fernandez and interlocutor K Padmanavaiah represented the Govt. of India.

Intelligence Bureau Chief Ajit Lal and Secretary of Ministry of Home Affairs Naveen Verma were among others in the delegation that assisted the minister. NSCN is a pioneer militant organization of North East India fighting for Greater Nagaland since 31st January 1980. This is the 10th extension of ceasefire between the NSCN (IM) and GOI Since 1997. Both sides had signed a ceasefire agreement on July 25, 1997, which came into effect from 1st August the same year. The last ceasefire was extended for a period of one year on July 31, 2006.

Later a joint press statement signed by Th. Muivah, General Secretary of NSCN and K. Padmanabhaiah, interlocutor appointed by Rep. of the Govt. of India issued. Full text of the statement given below :

Negotiations between the representative of the Government of India and the NSCN were held at Dimapur, Nagaland on July 31, 2007. The meeting was held in a cordial atmosphere with free and frank exchange of views.

NSCN expressed that people were concerned for an early conclusion of talks. After reviewing the status of the talks and the ceasefire, it was decided to extend the ceasefire indefinitely, with effect from August 1, 2007, subject to progress in talks.

Both sides agreed to strengthen the monitoring mechanism to ensure that the ground situation remains conducive for the continuance of the ceasefire.

(Th Muivah) (K Padmanabhaiah)

Gen, Secy. NSCN Rep. Of the Govt. of India

editor

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