

Three extortionists involved in RKMS robbery case arrested

[Staff REPORTER]
ITANAGAR, May 5: In a major breakthrough, a team of Tirap police on Saturday last have arrested three extortionists who reportedly trespassed into the RK Mission School, Narottam Nagar in Deomali and robbed cash amount of Rs 40,000, an Apatani sword, mobile handset etc from Secretary Maharaj.

Claiming themselves to be NSCN (IM) cadres, they demanded another Rs 10 lakh from the institution with an "ultimatum" to pay on or before the same day.

A case No 06/2015 of PS Deomali was registered against the accused persons, identified as

Wangchin Wangpan (ex-NSCN cadre), Nokwang Akang and Kokoi Gogoi.

According to an official release, the team consisting of SI AN Singh, SI Duto Bagra, SI Tamer Pabin, SI M Lalying, SI (P) B Pertin, and others led by S Singpho, ASP Khonsa and SDPO Deomali Dusu Kaling, under the supervision of SP Longding Dheeraj Kumar apprehended them from Tinsukia in Assam.

According to report, DGP S Nithianandam constituted a high level team consisting of Apur Bitin, DIG Eastern Range, Namsai and SP Longding, who were then directed to immediately proceed to Deomali keeping in



view the sensitivity of the case.

Informing that a massive man hunt was launched in several districts of Arunachal Pradesh and state of Assam, the help of SP Dibrugarh Rana Bhuyan and SP Tinsukia AP Tiwari was also sought in the tracking and identification of the culprits. The valuable clue of the rob-

bers was obtained in this case after thorough interrogation of a number of suspects.

Mobile handsets used for extending threat and ransom calls, SIM card, cash amount of Rs 2 lakhs, Apatani sword and SIM card of snatched mobile set have been recovered from them.

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Three extortionists involved...

Reportedly, Wangchin Wangpan (23), a resident of Mintong village in Longding district had joined the NSCN (IM) in the year 2002. Soon, thereafter he left the NSCN (IM) as he was "betrayed" by a senior commander of NSCN (IM) and joined as rebel with NSCN (K). He had surrendered before the 19th Assam Rifles in the year 2010. Thereafter, he got involved in a case No 19/2015 U/S 363 IPC R/W sec 11(iv)/17/18 POCSO Act of 2012 but was not arrested and remained absconding.

The other accused Nokwang Wangsu (28) @ Nokwang Akhang of Naiusa village under Longding district, now settled in New Laptang of Tirap district has confessed to his involvement in the heist saying "he had cut the WLL telephone instrument by the Apatani sword to put fear in the minds of workers of the institution."

The third accused Pavitra Gogoi alias Kokoi Gogoi (20) of Lebang Kula, Joypur under Assam's Dibrugarh district has studied up to class IX and due to poverty dropped out of school.

On interrogation, it was revealed that the heist was planned by the three accused as they were badly in need of cash for leading a luxurious life. Further investigation in the case is in progress to recover the stolen mobile and the camouflage outfit worn by the accused persons and all of them have been produced before the Judicial Magistrate and remanded to police custody.

Meanwhile, congratulating the Police team, Home Minister Tanga Byaling exhorted the police personnel to maintain the same tempo and work dedicatedly for the cause of the state. DGP S Nithianandam termed the breakthrough as one of the most successful cases of the Police department and lauded the both the technical and investigation teams for cracking the case. The SP Longding stated the case could not have been successful without the team work and constant support from its Assam counterparts.

The department has rewarded all the members of the operation team with cash amount and certificates today in a formal function organized at PHQ here. They also rewarded the members of Call Monitoring Control Unit (CMCU) of PHQ including SIs B B Gohain, Rajesh Chetri, S N Maharaj, head constables - H Basumutary, S C Narzary, M Teron and constables - Ravi Dutt and I Tekwa.