

RJC asked how long Parliament is likely to sit. PM advised it could go on until next week.

PM - Parliament had formally endorsed the State of Emergency and a motion will be put to extend the State of Emergency for another two months.

PM - Our main question is when is BCL likely to start maintenance to enable the mine to re-open as soon as possible. The Site Commander of the Forces says they have cleared in and around the PMAR. Helicopters will be used to monitor possible militant activities or mobility.

RJC - We have regular discussions with Col. Lima Datoana and his staff and monitor the events that are occurring.

PM - In fact Cabinet had met and wanted to know when the mine can re-open.

P. Bengo - asked if there is now a company of soldiers based at Pakia Gap.

RJC - There does not appear to be any such group permanently based at the Gap.

RJC - The problem is that if we hop in too early with any maintenance work at this stage and if further incidents occur involving employees they will all leave in droves and it will be more difficult then to re-open the mine.

Our other main area of concern is the fact that there are some ex-Army people involved with the militants. These people have to be apprehended to make a real breakthrough. It is also of great concern that the Militants are starting to just hit anyone.

RJC - Described the incident at Guava Village which led to the discovery of a extensive tunnel system. RJC also advised PM of a diary left behind at Guava by a Sam Kauna in which he kept a very accurate account of events that occurred to the end of May. It is most important that the ex-Army people and Damien Damen, the charismatic Cult Leader must be apprehended.

RJC - The other point of major concern is that the Militants are quite freely doubling back when Security Forces go out on offensive which means more defensive cover is immediately required.

As an example of what can happen if BCL starts maintenance work at this stage RJC told the PM that on 7 July 1989, when BCL personnel wanted to do some work on a fallen pylon near Sideronsi to make it safe for motor traffic, the Police escort disturbed some militants who fled leaving behind a spear gun and a dozen spears. BCL therefore cannot see its way clear to start repair work under the current situation. If we do, the militants will come right back with more attacks. They will pick something else to destroy.

An incident involving the shooting of a vehicle carrying helicopter pilots was given as an example of ongoing militant activities.

RJC - Told PM that Security Forces Offensive activities OK and should continue however, at present Defensive is lacking.

RJC - Col. Lima Datoana believes militants have strong bases at Mt. Kupara area and near Boromai Village.

PM - We are really being stretched to our limits and may be we should now go out and get them.

RJC - I don't know how long it will take to resolve the situation as the key players are still at large. We are a bit thin on the defensive.

P. Lowa - As PM has indicated we want to re-open the Mine as soon as possible. May be your workers should not worry about incidents that happen outside the Mine.

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