

New rebel outfit in Dima Hasao



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About five cadres of disbanded Dimasa militant outfits have floated a [new](#) group and launched a massive extortion drive in [Haflong](#) and Maibang sub divisions of the troubled [Dima Hasao](#) district in [Assam](#). [Dima Hasao police](#) have told the government's home department about the newly floated group and an operation is on to catch the leaders. The outfit — [Dima Hasao](#) National Army — has its own letterheads and other items, including two pistols.

The development came to light just a week after another newly floated militant group [killed](#) Hamren superintendent of [police](#) Nityananda [Goswami](#) in an [ambush](#) in neighbouring [Karbi](#) Anglong district. As alleged, that group too has been formed by disbanded leaders of another militant outfit.

[Dima Hasao police](#) on [Sunday](#) said the fact came to light during the recent [arrest](#) of a Dimasa youth from Topodisa near [Haflong](#), who allegedly attempted to collect [money](#) demanded in the name of the [new](#) outfit. The [police](#) recovered three extortion letters from the arrested youth.

“We have received several complaints from businessmen, government employees and villagers about the fresh extortion drive. Operations are on to catch the leaders behind the [new](#) group,” said [Dima Hasao](#) superintendent of [police](#) B. Rajkhowa. Rajkhowa, however, refused to give details about the present cadre strength of the outfit.

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Reporting from Dima Hasao, Assam

BY MONOSH HOJAI

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