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# ROAD RESTORATION

Villagers of Tingvong GPU, Upper Dzongu on Thursday joined hands to clear the landslides at different road stretches in their area. Seen in the photo are the villagers removing the debris at 6<sup>th</sup> Mile stretch which connects to Mantam lake/river. Heavy rains however hampered the efforts of the villagers.



"It will take a couple of days to clear this stretch if the weather clears. There are many other areas where minor landslides have blocked the road. The Tingvong GPU public have decided to clear these slides on their own and not wait for the authorities since connectivity to Upper Dzongu is snapped at other places," said Nim Tshering Lepcha, former national footballer and a Tingvong GPU resident.

Upper Dzongu is cut-off from rest of the State due to landslides at multiple locations. The major landslide is at Passingdong where the entire village had to be evacuated. Tingvong and Sakyong Pentong GPUs lie above Passingdong and do not have permanent road connectivity since the Mantam slide of 2016. The villagers of these two GPUs take vehicles up to Mantam, cross the bamboo cane bridge and then board vehicles on the other side of the lake.

Tingvong is about 15 km away from Mangan, the North district headquarters. Due to the landslides last week, vehicular movement within these two GPUs are affected at the moment. **(BIJOY GURUNG)**