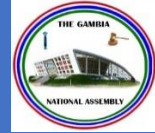




REPUBLIC OF THE GAMBIA



National Assembly, New Assembly Building, Reginald Pye Lane

Banjul, The Gambia

**REPORT OF THE STANDING
COMMITTEE ON DEFENCE AND
SECURITY COUNTRY-WIDE TOUR ON
SECURITY INSTITUTIONS**

1ST – 10TH NOVEMBER 2022

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Standing Committee on Defence and Security (SCDS) sincerely appreciates the magnanimous gesture accorded to it by the Office of the Clerk for facilitating the tour which was completed successfully. The Committee extends its profound gratitude to Security Chiefs and Staff of the Security Installations in the entire country for their cooperation and support throughout the tour.

LIST OF THE COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT DURING THE TOUR

HONOURABLE MEMBERS

1. Hon. Seedy S.K Njie - Chairperson
2. Hon. Samba Jallow - Vice Chairperson
3. Hon. Musa Badjie - Member
4. Hon. Almameh Gibba - Member
5. Hon. Abdou Sowe - Member
6. Hon. Sankung Dampha - Member
7. Hon. Muhammed Kanteh - Member
8. Hon. Sheriff S Sarr - Member

SUPPORT STAFF

1. Mr. Marabi S. Hydera - Director of Committees
2. Ms. Alarie Gillen - Committee Clerk
3. Ms. Mary T Mendy - Research Officer
4. Mr. Alh Omar Cham - ICT/Cameraman
5. Mr. Modou S. Sambou - Orderly to the Deputy Speaker
6. Mr. Fansu Bojang - Driver
7. Mr. Muhammed Sawaneh - Driver to the Deputy Speaker

INTRODUCTION

The Standing Committee on Defence and Security is established by Section 109 (1) (d) of the 1997 Constitution of the Republic of the Gambia and Standing Order 116 (1) (d) of the National Assembly of the Gambia. It is entrusted with the responsibility of exercising the functions of the National Assembly in considering and advising upon all matters connected with Defence and Security of the Nation.

It is against this background the Committee embarked on a tour aimed at familiarizing itself with all security institutions and agencies throughout the country. The tour avails the Committee the opportunity to gather first-hand information relating to the security situation of the country; monitoring for itself the living condition of inmates in Mile II, Jeshwang and Janjangbureh prisons; inspects the living conditions of officials living in Army and Police Barracks; and advises the relevant authorities on effective measures to prevent any security bridge in the country.

This oversight visit covers North Bank Region (NBR), Upper River Region (URR), Central River Region (CRR), Lower River Region (LRR) and West Coast Region (WCR) respectively. The period of the tour covered 1st - 10th November 2022. It enabled the Committee to network and understand the situation and challenges of the security sectors in all the regions and helped in preparing this report with recommendations to plenary for consideration.

Finally, the tour equipped the Committee with information and more understanding of the issues affecting our men and women in uniform in the field.

METHODOLOGY

The methodology used during the entire tour was:

1. Site visits
2. Observations
3. Question and answer sessions
4. Photographs

FINDINGS

DAY ONE

THE GAMBIA POLICE FORCE (GPF)

The Chairperson of the Committee introduced the purpose of the tour and possible outcomes to the Inspector General of Police and his team. The result of this meeting availed the police the opportunity to put forth their constraints and concerns that the security personnel responsible for internal security in the country are faced with.

The IGP during his deliberation reiterated the lack of adequate resources that has hindered the smooth execution of their mandate. He stated that to be able to perform effectively, the police force needs to be efficiently equipped in terms of operational, equipment and sufficient human resources. However, key among the constraints in derailing the efficiency of the police force are:

CHALLENGES

- Limited fuel supply for operations
- Limited vehicles for senior officials
- Limited maintenance items are available to maintain cars that have mechanical problems.
- Accumulated arrears with vendors
- Lack of vehicles for operations
- Owing Jah oil company 9 million dalasis
- 1 1/3 of the budget is concentrated on feeding the PIU.
- Financial constraints
- 75% of vehicles are grounded because of mechanical issues.
- The crime scene recording system is still on manual.
- The road project still stales at the Ministry of Finance (ticketing)

ACHIEVEMENTS

- There is a readily available mechanic garage but there is no operational fund.
- Available tailoring shop

- K9 (security dogs) that can detect drugs or suspected criminals are already in country and on training.

RECOMENDATIONS

- The Committee should support the Police during budget bilateral for more allocation.
- A minimum of 117 vehicles is needed for all the police stations in the country to at least give each station 3 operational vehicles.
- The allowances and incentives for staff should be revisited to motivate them.
- Working on a parking system to curb unlawful parking on the streets.
- The Committee should help increase the budget to support intelligence operations of the police.

THE GAMBIA FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE (GFRS)

CHALLENGES

- No sufficient uniforms for the officers.
- No vehicle for senior officials especially the Director General of the Department
- Dilapidated building and not enough office, warranting for the staff quarters to be turned into office spaces.
- No office furniture
- Lack of working gadgets for fire fighters

ACHIEVEMENTS

- There is ongoing capacity building for the staff.
- Available tailoring shop where staff uniforms are sewn.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- The legal framework for the service is obsolete and should be reviewed.

- New fire tenders should be provided for all the stations across the country.
- Every community should have a water hydrant to reduce the risk of fire accidents.

GAMBIA IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT (GID)

CHALLENGES

- No available funds to construct new office complex.
- No recruitment training since the new dispensation and it has affected the institution in the execution of its duties because of limited manpower.
- Machine readable passport printing machines are having issues and requires new ones.
- Mobility is a problem.
- Fuel allocation is not sufficient for operations.
- Requires more motorbikes for internal or border patrol areas.
- The Expatriate quota should be increased to help the country and boost the performance of officers.
- There is need for more printers.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- The Drafting committee has commenced work on new Gambia Immigration Service Bill (GIS) and the repealing of the Immigration Act
- There has been ongoing capacity building.
- The Department has introduced fourteen ID Card issuing centres across the country, 7 fixed and 7 mobiles.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Criminalise the smuggling of Migrants to help curb the illegal activity.
- Fastrack the legal reform process

NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY (NIA)

The institution run on two turbans (internal and external) as part of its institutional mandate and that is not a public institution for security reasons.

CHALLENGES

- From national security issues, economic, political, and social are drivers of threats.
- Delay in funding for the past month

ACHIEVEMENTS

- The institution is totally reformed and focuses on its key mandate
- The operation of the institution is measured in the activities it performs and the level of capacity building within the staff.
- The Cyber security unit in operation
- Creation of directorate of reforms
- There is also an office clinic for staff.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Create a national security belt initiative.
- Strengthen the ongoing security sector reform.

DAY TWO

THE GAMBIA NAVY

The Naval command is the operational base of the Gambia Army.

CHALLENGES

- There is no radar for the three boats at the Banjul port.
- Lack of communication equipment at all
- Inadequate fuel for sea patrol
- The boats are old, not fast and not safe for patrolling or chasing intruders.
- Lack of dinghies and small boats for river patrols
- There are only a few beds in the admission room for soldiers.
- The office and room conditions are very poor.
- The medical storage room is leaking, warm and very dark, inappropriate to store drugs.
- Ceiling conditions in the whole premises are in deplorable condition.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Provide new boats for water patrols.
- Standardization of the office complex to accommodate all.
- Better living conditions for the officers
- Increase fuel allocation.

GAMBIA PRISON SERVICES (GPS)

CHALLENGES

- Mobility is an issue for both staff and prisoners.
- There are only two programmes operating now in the whole prison centre.
- The prison cells are congested for both male and female wings and the ventilation is very poor.
- The toilet facilities are not very conducive making them sting.

- Burning of waste around the prison areas affects the prisoners especially those with health issues.
- Inmates can sometimes get hostile.
- The remand wing for the male is the most congested and untidy.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Establishment of an office for Justice Defenders using prisoners to boost their capacity before they leave.
- There is a counselling room for prisoners.
- Introduction of new trades to train inmates

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Make the prison more rehabilitative than punitive
- Improve the prison structures to meet international best practices and standards.
- Build the capacity inmates to boost the livelihood skills after serving their prison term.
- Provide special bus for transportation of prisoners to court.

DAY THREE

FAJARA BARRACKS

The barracks is the oldest military establishment of the army since 1984 and was established under section 98 (6) (4) of the Act.

CHALLENGES

- Budget, welfare (food and food services) allocation is limited and cannot suffice for all personnel.
- Fuel allocation is not sufficient for operations.
- Getting firewood for cooking is becoming very difficult because communities are protecting their forests.
- Soldiers' accommodation is very bad and roofed with asbestos corrugates.
- Medical cards for military personnel are usually disregarded in the public hospitals.
- More than half of the trucks are beyond repair.
- The septic tanks in the Barracks are floating and open exposing them to disease.
- The school classrooms are not enough to accommodate all the students and the conditions are very bad.

ACHIEVEMENT

- They built their own bakery.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Logistics for peacekeeping missions should be prioritized
- Fasttrack the reviewing of the TACOS
- Identify a permanent training ground for the GAF.

DRUG LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY GAMBIA (DLEAG)

CHALLENGE

- Limited office space and the location is at a residential area on rent, therefore not ideal for office and the type of work they are doing.
- Insufficient budgetary allocation

RECOMMENDATION

- Provide permanent office space for the department.

POLICE INTERVENTION UNIT (PIU)

CHALLENGES

- A lot of arrears because of inadequate funding
- Mobility challenges
- There is only one patrol vehicle for the whole of KMC and Banjul
- The imprests are not sufficient for daily use.
- The PIU is using GAF weapons
- Not enough uniforms and combats boots
- Lack of sufficient troop carrier vehicles
- Lack of standard training ground
- Insufficient allowances
- The only arm unit in charge of internal security and they are without operational logistics.
- Firewood has become a problem making it difficult to cook and complete meals.
- Insufficient office space for personnel on duty
- Dilapidated structures
- Insufficient food and food service supply.
- The gym center is in a bad state.
- There is no standby generator in the camp.
- More than half of the new intakes do not have uniforms.

- Lack of classrooms for practical lessons, usually they sit on the open ground for classes.
- The armory is exposed to heat which is risky.
- Insufficient working gadgets like laptops and printers
- Insufficient mattresses
- Lack of officers mess

ACHEIVEMENTS

- The institution has been able to provide security to the public and services to VIP escort.
- They also help in traffic regulation.
- Trained the prison service on rioting management skills.
- Increase patrol with a view to curb crime

ANTI-CRIME UNIT (OLD YUNDUM)

MANDATE

The Unit has the mandate to investigate crimes, conduct security patrols, make arrest, and press charges before onward submission to prosecution. Also, their main task is to go on proactive policing, render tactical support in hostage cases. They can carry out arrest everywhere (total jurisdiction).

CHALLENGES

- Lack of mobility for operations
- Lack of medical unit
- Charges from medical officers before having access to victims' medical reports.
- Lack of enough detention space to allow separation of minors from adults.
- Exhibits are still saved on manual
- Lack of store to keep riot gears.

ACHIEVEMENT

- Have been able to combat crime in society with the help of community members and community policing.

1st INFANTRY BATTALION (OLD YUNDUM)

CHALLENGES

- TACOS should be finalized
- Guard post is in deplorable condition.
- Poor accommodation, which is the biggest challenge they are facing.
- More than half of their vehicles are off road.
- There is no supply of uniforms and boots for men.
- Water and electricity are a big problem.
- There is no recreational centre for men.
- Firewood fetching is a big concern.
- Insufficient food allocation.
- Insufficient accommodation.
- Troop vehicles are inadequate.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Provide standard armory.
- Capacity building required for soldiers to boost their moral
- Increase allowances, pay, risk allowance and fasttrack the review of the Terms and Conditions of Services (TACOS) to be tabled before the National Assembly
- Skill centre required for soldiers.
- The training school should be provided with a vehicle.
- Review of the gender policy to include all.
- Standard gym for regular exercise.

DAY FOUR

KARTONG MILITARY POST

CHALLENGES

- Boundaries identification issues which sometimes caused cross border tensions with Senegalese counterparts.
- The security sector is not updated on any border issues and developments.
- Food and food services allocation is not sufficient.
- Insufficient fuel supply and usually delay for about a month.
- Poor accommodation and not enough beds and rooms are depilated
- The perimeter of the camp is insecure exposing them to threat or attack.
- The borderline around Kartong and Cocotown is very fragile and requires immediate action.
- The guard room is in deplorable condition.
- The bathrooms are un-useable and the suck-aways are all dilapidated and leaking.
- Some minor fixable vehicles are left to waste away.
- The signal room is not up to date because the communication gadgets are all worn out.
- Uniforms and boots are all worn out.

KARTONG NAVY POST

CHALLENGES

- The bedroom is annexed to the kitchen with a small hole causing smoke and heat to enter the room.
- Lack of boats or standard dinghies
- Lack of communication gadgets
- Lack of uniform supply

DARSILAMI MILITARY POST

CHALLENGES

- No perimeter fence for the camp exposing them to serious security threats.
- There is no electricity in the whole camp.
- The bakery's condition is not up to standard.
- Food and food service allocations are a problem.
- There is no mess in the facility.
- Insufficient weapons considering usual unlawful entry of Senegalese soldiers into Gambian territory.
- No retirement package for soldiers after life in the military
- The border is not in a strategic location, people become the first point of contact with any alien before reaching the border post which is wrong.
- Lack of standard weapons/equipment to withstand any aggression.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Build standard accommodation
- Relocate the border post to a strategic location to make it fit for purpose.
- Fence the garrison immediately.

DARSILAMI IMMIGRATION POST

CHALLENGES

- Porous borders
- Mobility challenges

BRIKAMA FIRE AND RESCUE STATION

CHALLENGES

- Lack of office furniture
- Lack of office space
- Usually face threats from the community
- Flooding during the rainy season as a result of poor drainage
- Only one fire tender for the entire West Coast Region
- Inadequate fire hydrants to reduce the overwhelming damage caused by fire.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Increase the risk allowance of fire fighters.
- Build a better station to accommodate all the officers.
- Provide Life protective gears.
- Immediately backfill and renovate the station

GIBORO BORDER POST (JOINT MEETING WITH SISTER FORCES)

CHALLENGES

- The garage in front of the border is a major obstruction for department.
- Not enough office space to accommodate all the sister forces sharing the space.
- The water supply is not healthy.
- No security lightening system
- Mobility is a major challenge for all the sister institutions.
- Border issues with neighbouring country is creating tension.

ACHIEVEMENT

- Migration Information Data System is operational at the post and help processing of aliens into the country and data storage.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Erect road bumpers/hops to reduce over-speeding.
- Provide more vehicles for patrol.
- Provide Border security lights.
- Expand the facility to standard.

KAFUTA TUMBU BORDER POST

CHALLENGES

- Lack of electricity.
- There is no perimeter fence exposing them to insecurity and attack.
- The community is claiming land that the military barracks are occupying.
- The bakery is dilapidated.
- No access to water
- Fuel supply is insufficient causing limited patrol.
- No storage for food
- No medic and for more than six months' supply of drugs have not been received.
- Lack of armory.
- No military hospital cards for soldiers.
- Insufficient operational vehicles
- Lack of generator for the camp

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Fence the Barracks
- GAF work with NAWEC to provide electricity to the Barracks.
- Provide uniforms and combat boots.
- Provide sufficient fuel for routine patrol.
- Organize Capacity building for the soldiers.
- Immediately fence the garrison.

DAY FIVE

BARRA POLICE STATION

CHALLENGES

- Mobility/logistics is one of their biggest challenges. Only one vehicle for the whole of Barra, Berinding and Bakindik
- Limited human resources
- Insufficient staff quarters.
- Insufficient fuel allocation (68 ltrs) per month

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Periodic maintenance of vehicles or buy new to ease mobility.
- Increase fuel supply to ease and allow patrol.
- Provide basic office equipment, materials and furniture.

BARRA FIRE SERVICE

CHALLENGES

- Lack of office equipment, materials, furniture and operational funds.
- Lack of official vehicles
- Lack of sufficient fire tenders/fighters

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Improve the livelihood of staff and capacitated them.
- Improve the structure of the office complex to provide security.
- Increase the fuel allocation to cater for their services.
- Get more fire hydrants in almost every village.
- Get more fire tenders to serve the entire region/district.

KEREWAN POLICE STATION

CHALLENGES

- Mobility- mechanical issues
- There is no detention cell which makes it difficult to detain and transport inmates to the main station.
- Toilets are off the office premises and sometimes notorious criminals tend to escape using that opportunity in the pretext of going to toilet.
- Human resources are scarce, and they are covering 25 satellite villages.
- There is no civil military relation.
- Criminals are usually heavily armed.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- GPF build a new hybrid police station
- Provide mobility with fuel
- Deploy armed personnel to curb the human resource challenge

DAY SIX

FARAFENNI MILITARY BARRACKS (2nd INFANTRY BATTALION)

The Committee witnessed presentation of Certificates of Character to some men in uniform and the Chairperson was given the honor to present them with some Members.

CHALLENGES

- Insufficient patrol vehicles
- Insufficient human resources
- Lack of webbings, body armor and boots
- Dilapidated buildings
- Leaking roofs during rainy season
- There is no functional ambulance.
- Insufficient food and food services.
- All buses are off road.
- Delay in payment of DSA when asked to move to a different part of the country
- No recreational facility for the soldiers
- Insufficient fuel for operations
- Lack of electricity and water supply for Kerr Pateh military garrison
- Insufficient and late delivery of medical supplies.
- One computer for the whole camp to store information.
- Lack of guardroom at the Senegambia bridge
- Delay in promotion of personnel
- Soldiers are not entitled to overseas treatment.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Build military rehabilitation centre and hospital for mentally imbalance soldiers within and outside the military who require immediate treatment.

- Capacity building is required for soldiers.
- The Military Police (MP) should be capacitated in the execution of their duties hence responsible for very sensitive marital issues of men.
- Complete the accommodation building

FARAFENNI POLICE STATION (Joint Meeting with Sister Forces)

CHALLENGES

- Fuel allocated is not enough for operations.
- Insufficient accommodation for the police
- Inadequate human resources for all the Forces on the ground.
- Mobility is a general challenge faced by all the men on ground.
- Insufficient arms to combat crime especially around the porous border areas.
- The office space is too tight
- Detention cell is too small for detainees causing congestion
- Insufficient food and food services

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Provide more motorbikes for patrols in the interior.
- Build a spacious station and offices to accommodate all the forces.
- Increase the number of personnel on ground.
- Provide arms and ammunition to combat crime.
- Increase food and food services for all the sister forces.

KAUR POLICE STATION

CHALLENGES

- No computers to store or type sensitive information they usually use public internet café to print which delays evidence presentation at the courts.
- Insufficient human resources
- Insufficient operational logistics
- No operative gears for men on duty putting their lives at risks.

- Motorbikes of DLEAG are all broken down hindering most of their intelligence operation.
- Community not supportive to the Police and DLEAG in the execution of their duties sometimes resulting to assault of the officers.
- Transfers/promotion within the security force is not encouraging.
- There are only 5 police stations in the entire CRR North and 43 personnel to serve the security purpose which is not enough.
- Uniform supply is not enough.
- Insufficient allowances to cater for their needs
- Officers who sustained injuries in their line of duties are not compensated.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Constitute promotional board.
- Provide more vehicles and increase fuel supply.
- Provide adequate food and food service for officers and inmates.
- Each officer should be given at least two pair of uniforms.

PAKALIBA MILITARY POST

CHALLENGES

- There is no perimeter fence.
- Lack of NAWEC electricity generation
- Lack of guard room for the Quick Response Force (QRF)
- Inadequate operational vehicles
- The motorbike is in bad condition.
- Lack of military communication gadgets
- Insufficient human resources compared to their Area of Responsibilities (AOR)

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Provide buffalo truck for operations.
- Supply more uniforms.
- Provide electricity for the Camp.
- Increase provincial allowance.
- Immediately erect/fence the perimeter fence.

JARENG POLICE STATION

CHALLENGES

- Poor office structures and furniture
- Lack of funds to construct the land allocated to them.
- Only one operational vehicle for the entire CRR South
- No motorbikes
- Lack of budgetary allocation to cater for feeding of detainees.
- Insufficient human resources.
- Lack of motorbikes to conduct security surveillance.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Allocate fund to construct a station on the allocated land

- Invest in community policing to reduce crime.
- Deploy more personnel to address the human resource shortage.
- Provide mobility and fuel

KUDANG MILITARY CAMP

CHALLENGES

- There is only one operational vehicle.
- Insufficient fuel supply.
- No officers mess.
- Dilapidated structure.
- Insufficient medical supply
- Insufficient food and food services.
- Insufficient communication gadgets
- Operational map not updated

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Increase fuel supply.
- Provide more patrol vehicles.
- Provide operational map.
- Provide more medical supplies.
- Introduce gas cookers.
- Renovate the abandoned houses.

BRIKAMA-BA POLICE POST (Joint Meeting with Sister Forces)

CHALLENGES

- Insufficient fuel supply.
- Inadequate capacity building for personnel
- Inadequate office equipment
- Insufficient human resources.
- Inadequate mobility

- Inadequate uniform supplies

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Conduct more capacity building for personnel.
- Provide adequate office equipment
- Provide adequate uniform supply.
- Increase fuel supply.

Yoro Biri Kunda (YBK) – PIU Barracks

CHALLENGES

- Inadequate mobility.
- Insufficient fuel supply.
- Inadequate food and food service.
- Lack of funds to build on the allocated land.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Renovate the existing structures.
- Allocate funds to build on the allocate land.
- Increase the food and food services.
- Allocate adequate mobility and fuel

JANJANBUREH PRISON

CHALLENGES

- Late payment of night allowances for officers escorting inmates to court hearings in Basse
- Inadequate food and food services for inmates.

- Late promotion for due personnel.
- Delay in the supply of food for inmates.
- The prisoner's escorting vehicle is not in good condition.
- Inadequate motivation or incentives for officers
- Insufficient human resources

ACHIEVEMENTS

- The Association of Justice Defenders is helping inmates to get their cases progress well in Courts.
- Skills centre (tailoring) for inmates

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Refurbish the prison centre to meet international standards.
- Provide sufficient food and food services
- Provide special vehicle for escorting prisoners
- Pay all arrears of night allowances due to officers escorting inmates
- Moving forward escorts should be paid their allowances before travelling.

DAY SEVEN

BASSE MILITARY BARRACKS (3RD INFANTRY BATTALION)

CHALLENGES

- The accommodation for the QRF is sub-standard.
- Insufficient office space.
- Insufficient office stationery
- Limited communication gadgets
- The staff bus is having mechanical issues.
- No officers mess.
- Inadequate accommodation to cater for all personnel
- No transport allowance for personnel traveling for official duties in the Kombos
- There is no perimeter fence and electricity for the Fatoto camp.
- Insufficient fuel supply
- Limited consultation during the budget preparation to cater for their concerns.
- Inadequate troop carrier vehicles

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Provide an ambulance for the Barracks.
- Provide adequate troop carriers.
- Provide capacity building programmes for the soldiers.
- Provide a standby generator for the Barracks.
- Provide required communication gadgets for the Barracks.
- Increase rent allowance or virtual allowance.
- Supply uniforms frequently

BASSE POLICE STATION

CHALLENGES

- The office premises is too exposed.
- Inadequate mobility
- Incomplete construction works of the Basse Police Station.
- Insufficient allowance to cater for the high rent.
- Limited manpower and logistics.
- Inadequate office space and furniture
- Robbery is a major problem mostly committed by juveniles.
- No accommodation for police in Diabugu
- The police station in Sare Ngai is dilapidated.
- Insufficient fuel for operations.
- Frequent attacks on officers of fire service by the local community if they delay responding to fire rescue calls.
- Lack of fire tender vehicles and hydrants.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Reduction of crime rate in the area

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Increase the provincial and house rent allowances.
- Build more hydrants and provide new fire tenders.
- Complete the construction of the unfinished station building.
- Refurbish the police station in Sare Ngai.

BANSANG FIRE STATION

CHALLENGES

- Inadequate mobility.
- Insufficient hydrants.
- The electric wiring system is archaic and easily sparks fire.
- Insufficient food and food services.
- Insufficient fuel supply.
- The accommodation needs renovation.
- The toilets are dilapidated.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Provide station wagons to ease movement during fire outbreaks.
- Increase fuel supply.
- Provide risk allowance to firefighters.
- Build more hydrants.
- Sensitise the community on the work of fire and rescue services to avoid unnecessary confrontations.

BANSANG POLICE STATION (JOINT MEETING)

CHALLENGES

- Mobility is a constraint for DLEAG.
- Inconducive office
- Poor sanitation
- Lack of communication gadgets.
- Insufficient fuel for patrol operations
- Lack of office equipment and stationery
- There is a presence of flammable objects risking the lives of men on the ground.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Conduct community policing and sensitization to help the police in the execution of their duties.
- Provide the required communication gadgets.
- Create allowances for provincial officers.
- Build office quarters for officers.
- Provide office furniture and stationery

DAY EIGHT

SENOBA BORDER POST

CHALLENGES

- Inadequate accommodation.
- Lack of clean drinking water.
- Inadequate fuel allocation
- Inadequate office furniture and stationery
- Improper buffer zone in the border area

RECOMMENDATION

- Conduct capacity building for officers on border management
- Allocate adequate fuel
- Provide drinkable water
- Provide office equipment
- Provide standard accommodation for the personnel

SOMA POLICE STATION

CHALLENGES

- Inadequate mobility.
- The border line issue is a challenge.
- Insufficient fuel allocation.
- Inadequate food and food services
- Inadequate and standard accommodation.
- Limited personnel for DLEAG
- Incomplete construction of the station

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Complete the unfinished new police station complex.

- Increase fuel allocation.
- Conduct capacity building programmes for the security officers
- Provide more personnel to conduct joint operations.

KWINELLA POLICE STATION

CHALLENGES

- Lack of perimeter fence for the police station.
- Lack of mobility.
- Lack of accommodation facilities for personnel
- Inadequate fuel supply
- Inadequate personnel on the ground
- Increase in crime rate especially crimes causing grievous bodily harm.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Deploy more personnel of PIU to curb the increase in crime.
- Buy motorbikes and mobility for patrol.
- Increase fuel supply.

KALAGIE POLICE STATION (JOINT MEETING)

CHALLENGES

- The office complex is dilapidating.
- Staff accommodation not conducive and the office ceiling is falling off.
- There is no prisoner's diet.
- Supply of uniforms are limited.
- Lack of patrol vehicle to conduct patrols around border areas.
- Insufficient office furniture and stationery.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Introduce police ambulance to help transport victims especially during accidents.
- Construct a new police station.
- Complete the unfinished immigration station.
- Provide fuel and mobility for joint border patrol.
- Build a new police station.

KANILAI MILITARY BARRACKS (4TH INFANTRY BATTALION)

CHALLENGES

- Shells fired into barracks has affected water supply.
- Insufficient fuel for patrol
- Inadequate patrol vehicles.
- Insufficient food and food services.
- Inadequate accommodation for all.
- Limited office equipment
- Inadequate mobility
- Insufficient communication gadgets
- Serious border tensions/arguments around the region
- Delay in promotions.
- Virtual allowance does not commensurate to the market prices today

- The military family medical card is no longer accepted in government hospitals.
- There is no ambulance for the Barracks.
- No gymnasium facility in the Barracks

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Increase basic salary and allowances.
- Provide capacity building programmes for soldiers.
- Provide Risk allowance for soldiers.
- Create land loan scheme for soldiers.
- Provide sportswear and gym centre for soldiers.
- Standardize the medical unit to meet the needs of soldiers and villagers around.
- Provide communication gadgets

KANILAI FIRE SERVICE

CHALLENGES

- No patrol vehicle
- Inadequate accommodation
- Insufficient fire tenders
- Insufficient fire hydrants
- Feeding is a problem.
- Insufficient uniform supply

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Provide fire ambulance to move victims during firefighting and rescue services.
- Provide more uniforms and working tools.
- Build more fire tenders and hydrants.
- Conduct weekly radio programme to sensitise communities on the importance of fire and rescue services.

- Provide accommodation for personnel.

SIBANOR POLICE STATION

CHALLENGES

- Inadequate mobility
- Insufficient fuel allocation.
- The checkpoint is not very functional
- The area is a transit point for drug peddlers.
- Inadequate office equipment and stationery.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Increase fuel allocation.
- Provide mobility and motorbikes to ease movement to remote border areas.
- Revive the police checkpoint.
- Conduct capacity building for personnel.
- Provide adequate office equipment and stationery.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the Committee came across cross-cutting issues affecting all the security sectors visited and these are the key concerns raised:

- Insufficient fuel allocation
- Inadequate mobility
- Inadequate food and food services
- Inadequate accommodation for personnel
- Lack of standard communication infrastructure
- Border demarcation issues
- Inadequate operational logistics
- Delay in promotions
- The need to review personal emoluments
- The need to fasttrack the review of the TACOS.
- The need to fence military and police barracks/stations.

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

In order to mitigate the general cross-cutting issues affecting the security sector across the country, the Committee recommends and resolve the following:

- That Government provide sufficient fuel to the security sector.
- That Government address the perennial mobility challenges in all the security institutions.
- That Government provide feeding and accommodation for officers especially the ones in the provinces.
- That Government work with the relevant stakeholders on the border demarcation to avoid any potential conflicts.
- That Government provide electricity and solar systems to all barracks and security posts across the country.
- That Government provide adequate logistics for the security sector.
- That the security collaborate and conduct frequent joint patrols.

- That Government establish promotional boards to curb promotional stagnation.
- That Government look into the personal emoluments of the security sector.
- That the Ministry of Defence fasttrack the review of the TACOS
- That the Ministry of Defence supervise and ensure that all military barracks/garrison are well secured and fenced.
- That the Government provide standard communication infrastructure for the entire security sector.
- That Government provide additional weaponry – mostly importantly side pistols and AK47 to the PIU.
- That Government provide more patrol vehicles to both Gambia Armed Forces and Gambia Police Force.
- That Government renovate Serekunda and Brikama Fire and Rescue Stations and equip them with furniture and fittings.
- That Government provide the Gambia Prison Services with prisoner vans, renovate and expand the remand wing and detention centres.
- That the National Assembly prioritize defence and security issues to enhance national security.
- That the Gambia Armed Forces engage NAWEC immediately to extend electricity to military Garrison – e.g. Kafuta Tumbung
- That the Gambia Police Force quickly address the issue of basic office materials and equipment to all major police stations
- That Government overhauls and renovate the GFRS Headquarters and renovate their major/divisional stations
- That Government map-out strategies to acquire some fire fighters/tender vehicles to all the regions in the country.
- That Government immediately settle travel (night) allowance to personnel of Gambia Prison Service and instruct that all personnel be paid night allowance due to them in accordance with law/policy.