

## **EU diplomats to visit Kandhamal on Feb 2**

Press Trust of India (PTI)

STAFF WRITER 0:18 HRS IST

**Bhubaneswar, Jan 30 (PTI)** A diplomatic delegation from European Union is likely to visit Orissa's Kandhamal district between February 2-5, Archbishop Rapheal Cheenath said here today.

"They are likely to come here to know the situation in Kandhamal," Cheenath said, adding that the diplomats would meet state Chief Secretary T K Mishra and Home Secretary A Padhy.

The diplomats would also meet the people in the state capital here and Cuttack to know about the impact of riot on the minority community, he said.

At least 38 people were killed and hundreds of houses were damaged in the riot following VHP leader Swami Laxmananada Saraswati's killing on August 23, 2008.

The state government has, however, put a condition on the visit by stating that the diplomats might interact with the riot-affected people but not on a fact finding mission.