

EU diplomats cancel court visit after lawyers protest

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Phulbani (Orissa), Feb 5 (PTI) An European Union delegation today cancelled its proposed visit to the Fast Track courts where Kandhamal riot related cases are being tried after local lawyers felt it would interfere in the judicial process.

"We have cancelled the visit to courts", one of the members of the 11-member delegation comprising members from nine countries told reporters outside the Roman Catholic Church here.

The team's visit to the court was not allowed as it "appeared" to be an interference in the working of the judiciary in Kandhamal, an official said, adding security was another issue due to which the district administration suggested the visiting diplomats cancel their programme.

The local Lawyer's association had strongly opposed the EU delegation's programme of holding discussion with judicial officials as it could amount to interference in the judiciary.