

EU team should not be allowed to visit Kandhamal : VHP

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Bhubaneswar, Jan 31 (PTI) Demanding immediate withdrawal of permission given to a diplomatic delegation from European Union to visit Orissa's Kandhamal, VHP today said the tour could trigger fresh tension in the district.

"The proposed visit of the EU delegation should be cancelled forthwith and Orissa government must withdraw the permission granted for the purpose," VHP state Secretary Gouri Kumar Rath told reporters here.

Maintaining that peace had returned to the tribal dominated district after prolonged violence following the killing of VHP leader Laxmanananda Swaraswati, he said the visit would only spark off fresh tension in the region.

"Outside elements have no business to study the situation in any part of the country as it is the responsibility of our government to deal with the problem," Rath said.

The VHP leader's demand came as a EU diplomatic delegation is slated to visit Kandhamal between February 2 and 5.