

## How Not to Do It

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### [Editorials](#)

AND POLITICAL WEEKLY Vol II No 1 January 7, 1967 How Not to Do It THE DECISION to uproot 60,000 Mizos from the villages where they now live and regroup them in bigger 'villages' cannot lend itself to any interpretation other than that the situation created by the rebellion by a section of the Mizos in support of their demand for a separate State is graver than the Government has cared to admit so far. Only in November last the Home Minister had told the Lok Sabha, in answer to questions, that the problem was not one of "police operations or army operations"; it was "a political question of winning the confidence of the people". But now, it is clear, the compulsions of the military operation have imposed quite a different policy. To force thousands of men, women and children out of their hearths and homes is cruel. It is worse; it is dangerous, particularly if it is the Government's long-term objective to win the confidence of the Mizos.

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