

NONE PUNISHED FOR ALFRED SOREN MURDER IN 9 YEARS

Sense of insecurity still haunts Bhimpur indigenous families

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Indigenous communities and different NGOs yesterday observed ninth death anniversary of indigenous leader Alfred Soren who was killed in a land dispute on August 18, 2000. They demanded security of the indigenous people and land rights through formation of a separate land commission for them. A deep sense of insecurity still haunts the indigenous families at Bhimpur village in Naogaon where Soren was murdered. Nearly 200 musclemen of local landlords killed Soren with a blueprint to evict

22 indigenous families from the village. Soren's family members claimed at least seven families including those of Shreemonto Hembrom, Komol Soren and Anil Soren have left the village in the face of 'death threats' by local landlords. Soren's wife Jyotsna Soren now lives in Dinajpur while her daughter Jhorna studies at a missionary school in Jyotpurhat. Alfred Soren's brother Komol Soren said he fled to Tanore in Rajshahi following death threats by his brother's killers. The threats were issued immediately after Bhimpur police outpost was withdrawn in April, 2003, under pressure.

Jatiya Adibashi Parishad and different other NGOs visited Bhimpur to place wreaths at Soren's grave and Jatiya Adibashi Chhatra Parishad formed a human chain in Rajshahi city to mark the day with protests. Soren's killing sparked countrywide protests, forcing the then government to declare that the disputed lands belonged to the local indigenous people. Now, nine years have passed but Alfred Soren murder case is still under trial. Jatiya Adibashi Parishad general secretary Rabindranath Soren told The Daily Star that the government should immediately take steps to return 250

bighas of indigenous people's lands captured over the years by the local landlords. Our RU Correspondent adds: The indigenous students in Rajshahi yesterday formed a human chain demanding speedy trial of Alfred Soren killing case. Under the banner of Adivasi Chhatra Parishad, they also held a rally at Shaheb Bazar Zero Point demanding immediate arrest of the killers and speedy trial of the case. Parishad president Harendranath Singh, general secretary Manik Soren, organising secretary Nabadeep Lakra and other leaders addressed the rally.



Adivasi Chhatra Parishad forms a human chain at Shaheb Bazar Zero Point in Rajshahi city yesterday demanding punishment to the killers of indigenous leader Alfred Soren. Soren was murdered on August 18, 2000.

HEAVY DOWNPOUR IN FOUR NORTHERN DISTRICTS

Low-lying areas flooded

STAR NATIONAL DESK

The low-lying areas in Rangpur, Thakurgaon, Gaibandha and Kurigram have been inundated following heavy downpour in the last two days. The Teesta in Ranpur and the Tangon in Thakurgaon have overflowed their banks and flooded the low-lying areas of the districts, leaving at least 30,000 people marooned. In Rangpur, flash flood yesterday hit the low-lying areas of Sadar upazila and chars of the Teesta under Kounia, Pirgachha and Gangachara upazilas, marooning about 25,000 families, reports our correspondent. The worst affected upazila is Gangachara where at least

10,000 families have been hit by flood. Rainwater also submerged the low-lying areas of Rangpur Poursava. Acting Mayor Idris Ali said the affected people are in great trouble for want of food and pure drinking water. He further said the district administration is yet to provide food and pure drinking water for them. Our Thakurgaon correspondent reported that about 500 families in three villages under Thakurgaon municipality have been marooned as water from Tangon river entered the villages. People from other submerged areas of the municipality have taken shelter at Thakurgaon Government College and other places in the town. Water level of all rivers,

including Tangon, Kulic and Dhepa, have marked sharp rise due to torrential rain and onrush of water from upstream in India, Water Development Board officials said. The deputy commissioner (DC), sadar upazila chairman and upazila nirbahi officer (UNO) visited the flood-hit areas yesterday and gave 20kg of rice to each of the affected families. Our Staff Correspondent from Bogra reports: The water level of the Jamuna at Sariakandi crossed danger level yesterday. About 50 metres of Jamuna embankment has been eroded at Sowbari Atabari area in Dhunat. Water Development Board (WDB) Executive Engineer Momtaz Uddin said, the

Jamuna was flowing 30cm above the danger mark at Mathurapara Sariakandi at 6:00pm yesterday. Recently transplanted aman on 2850 hectares of land in Dupchachia, one of the main paddy producing area of Bogra, has been submerged by rainwater. Recently transplanted aman in the low-lying areas of four upazilas of Gaibandha district has gone under water following heavy rain, according to our correspondent. Water Development Board sources said all the rivers, including the Teesta and the Brahmaputra, flowing through the district swelled further and may cross the danger mark. Roads under Gaibandha Poursava have gone under

knee-deep water, causing suffering to the town dwellers. The affected areas are DB Road, Circular Road, Munshipara, Bridge Road and Kuthipara. In Kurigram, the low-lying areas of six villages under Rajibpur upazila, 13 villages under Raumari upazila, nine villages under Chilmari upazila, 34 villages Ulipur upazila, 17 villages under Sadar upazila and 11 villages under Nageswari upazila have been inundated, says our correspondent. According to Water Development Board sources, 138 mm rainfall at Kounia point of the Teesta river, 102 mm at Bridge point of the Dharla river and 102.5mm at Chilmari point of the Brahmaputra river were in the last 24 hours.

BITHAR MURDER

Outlaw held on suspicion

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Police have arrested a leader of outlawed Purbo Banglar Communist Party (PBCP) from West Baniakhmar under Khulna Sadar thana suspecting his involvement in the murder of Jubo League central leader Shahid Iqbal Bithar. The arrestee, Ikram Hossain Siam alias Akash, 32, is operations commander of Janajuddho faction of PBCB in charge of Khulna city and district. After police picked him up on Monday morning, he was shown arrested in Bithar murder case and taken on a three-day remand for interrogation. Akash was wanted in a case filed with Sonadanga Police Station of Khulna city for killing two policemen in 1999 at Sheikhpura in the city, said the investigation officer (IO) of the case, Inspector Mamun Khan of Detective Branch of Khulna Metropolitan Police. He is also accused in several criminal cases filed with different police stations in greater Khulna region. During interrogation on Monday night, Akash gave very important information



Shahid Iqbal Bithar

about Bithar's murder, IO Mamun said. Shahid Iqbal Bithar, also a councillor of Khulna City Corporation (KCC) and director of Khulna Chamber of Commerce and Industry, was gunned down near his residence at Musalmanpara under Khulna Sadar thana on the night of July 11. Members of his family pointed their fingers at intra-party squabbles as reason for his murder while several leaders of Khulna Awami League some canal encroachers might be behind the murder as Bithar was convener of the 19-member committee formed by the KCC mayor to conduct eviction drives.

Five arrested Indians sent to jail

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Khagrachhari

Five Indian citizens arrested Monday afternoon from Noyamail area under Dighinala upazila were sent to Khagrachhari district jail yesterday. The court of Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate also fixed September 6 for the next date of hearing. Members of army and police in a joint drive on Monday detained Indian nationals Oadish Nazari, 35, Pabitra Gowari, 25, Dhiren Khakori, 25, Jonatha Basumothari, 35, and Pradeep Nargery, 30, from Noyamail area. The law enforcers suspect them to be members of Indian separatist group National Democratic Front of Bodoland of Assam. The team jointly led by Capt. Al Mamun Suman of Dighinala Army Zone and sub-inspector Rafiqullah of Dighinala police station arrested them on charge of entering Bangladesh territory illegally. Quoting the arrestees, Dighinala police station officer-in-charge Suvash Chandra Paul told The Daily Star that the five Indians crossed into Bangladesh through a border point with Tripura.

BCL ATTACK SPARKS PROTEST

Traders at Parshuram on strike

A CORRESPONDENT, Feni

Shop owners at Parshuram upazila headquarters pulled their shutters down at 5:00pm yesterday and went on strike protesting attack, ransacking and looting of two business firms by Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) activists. Five people were injured during the violent incidents at noon. Locals and traders said as a sequel to the conflict between

two feuding groups at Parshuram, a group of Chhatra League cadres led by Noor Hossain and Yusuf beat up Mirzapur union Jubo League convener Md Masud and Rubel when they were going to Parshuram Bazar in an auto-rickshaw. They also damaged the three-wheeler. In protest, the supporters of Masud and Rubel beat up Chhatra League worker Rajib on the same spot. Besides, they attacked Anwar Poultry at the market and

assaulted its owner Mozammel. The supporters of Masud and Rubel also attacked and ransacked another shop--Fakir Store owned by Fakir Kamal. They broke the cash box of the shop and looted Tk 94,000, the traders alleged. Parshuram Traders' Association immediately closed the shops and called an indefinite strike from 5:00pm. The officer-in-charge (OC) of Fulglazi Police Station Himangshu Chandra Nath was

called in to face the situation as the OC of Parshuram Police Station was on leave. Himangshu discussed the situation with Parshuram Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) Nirmal Kanti Chakma and called a 'compromise meeting'. The OC, the UNO, upazila chairman Kamal Uddin and Parshuram Traders' Association President Abu Taleb were holding a meeting as of filing of this report at 7:30 pm yesterday. Over 50 people were injured.

Maulana Bhasani university reopens Aug 22

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

Maulana Bhasani University of Science and Technology (MBUST) at Santosh will reopen on August 22 and the classes of all seven departments will resume the following day. The authorities declared the university closed for an indefinite period following a clash between the students and locals at Santosh Bazar on July 11 over a trifling matter. Over 50 people were injured.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
Financial Management and Audit Unit
Building No. 9, 4th Floor,
Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka.

Request for Expression of Interest (EOI)

1	Ministry	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare			
2	Agency	Financial Management and Audit Unit			
3	Procuring entity name	Joint Secretary (FMD), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare			
4	Procuring entity code	8500 (IFM-MoHFW)			
5	Procuring entity district	Dhaka			
6	Expression of interest for selection of	Hiring of Private Audit Firm for carrying out yearly Internal Audit of HNPSP of MoHFW			
7	EOI Ref. No.	MOHFW/FMAU/outsourcing/2009-2010			
8	Date	17 August 2009			
9	Procurement method	QCBS (fixed budget)			
10	Budget and source of funds	ADP Allocation (2009-10: RPA (GOB) (IDA Credit No. 4052 BD)			
11	Development Partners	IDA Pool Fund			
12	Project/Program code	8500 (IFM-MoHFW)			
13	Project/Program name	Improved Financial Management, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare			
14	EOI closing date, time and place of submission	09 September 2009, 12:00 Noon. c/o Team Leader, Management Support Agency (MSA), House # 15, Apt-502, Road # 128, Gulshan-1, Dhaka, Bangladesh			
15	Brief description of assignment	Review of adequacy of internal control environment and system and tools, their compliance and effectiveness. This includes identification of specific weaknesses in the system. Assurances that all funds allocated for HNPSP are used for the purposes intended, properly accounted for and provide value for money Assurances that the organization's risks are being adequately managed and that controls are operated as intended Concrete recommendations on ways to improve internal controls. Undertake a training programme to address the skill needs and enhance the capacity of the core audit and spot check team members of the MoHFW.			
16	Experience, resources and delivery capacity required	Minimum 10 (ten) years experience on Internal audit, resources and delivering capacity.			
17	Other details	Interested firm(s) consultants are invited to provide the following information: (a) Background with brochures and areas of expertise (b) Description of similar assignment with documents (c) Experience in similar activities (d) Experience of last five years and professional zeal of applicants staff, adequate and appropriate resources to carry out the assignment (e) Manpower, logistic and financial capability of the firm (f) Financial Management Personnel may associate with other firms to enhance their qualifications. Shortlisted qualified firms will be formally invited to submit proposals. Shortlisting and selection will be subject to the availability of funds. The firm will be selected in accordance with the Public Procurement Regulations-2008 of the GOB. The firms are requested to submit updated certificates of VAT, taxes, trade license and relevant papers only. Request of Expression of Interest for above mentioned assignment to be clearly marked on the top of the cover.			
18	Association with foreign firm is	N.A.			
19	Ref No.	Phasing of services	Location	Indicative start date	Indicative completion date
1	Award of contract	Dhaka	1 st December 2009	15 August 2010	
2	Submission of inception report	Dhaka	Within one month		
3	Submission of interim report	Dhaka	30 April 2010		
4	Submission of final report	Dhaka	15 August 2010		
20	Name of official inviting EOI	Joint Secretary (FMD), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare			
21	Designation of official inviting EOI	Joint Secretary (FMD), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare			
22	Address of official inviting EOI	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka			
23	Contact details of official inviting EOI	Tel: 7161706, Fax: 02-7166669, E-mail: fmauhfw@gmail.com			
24	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all of the EOIs				

Joint Secretary (FMD) & Line Director
Improved Financial Management
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
17-8-09

SNIPPETS

BSF fires at two villages

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Thakurgaon

Indian border Security Force (BSF) members yesterday fired at Bangladeshi villages along Khuniavita border under Tetulia upazila in Panchagarh. Locals and Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) sources said BSF members at Haftiagach camp fired 20-25 rounds of bullets towards Dargipara and Kazipara villages at about 2:00pm without any provocation. However, there was no report of any casualty. But the firing caused panic among the villagers. Acting commanding officer (CO) of 25, Rifles Battalion ATM Mozaffar Hossain said the BDR yesterday sent a letter to BSF protesting the unprovoked firing.

Transport strike called off

A CORRESPONDENT, Gopalganj

Transport owners yesterday called off strike. All types of vehicles have returned to the routes with all obstacles removed early yesterday from Dhaka-Khulna highway point in front of the bus terminal. The decision to withdraw the transport strike followed two rounds of talks by the district and police administration with Gopalganj district bus owners, motor workers union and representatives of Kotalipara bus owners. Earlier, deputy commissioner (DC) Sheikh Yusuf Harun talked with prime minister Sheikh Hasina over telephone on the situation. At the meeting the DC told the two feuding parties that there would be one owners association in the district. The separate owners association in Kotalipara can run 10 buses. But those buses are allowed to run only under Gopalganj owners association. After two rounds of meeting both parties accepted the decision.

Outlaw hurt in gunfight

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jhenidah

A 'regional leader' of outlawed Biplobi Communist Party (BCP-ML) was injured in gunfight with Rab at a village on Monday night. Rab arrested him and recovered two arms, two bombs and bullets from his possession. Outlaw Thandu Mondol, 40, son of Rajab Ali Mondol of village Porabatie under Sadar upazila is being treated at Jhenidah Sadar Hospital under police security. Rab Captain Zobayer Hossain of Jhenidah said a group of armed outlaws were holding a meeting at a field at village Porabatie. When Rab and police cordoned the area they opened fire on the law enforcers. Thandu received bullet injury during the encounter but others fled away. Thandu is BCP regional leader in Jhenidah, Rab said.

PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH
Department of Women Affairs
"Promotion of Gender Equality and Women Empowerment Project"
37/3 Eskaton Garden Road, 5th Floor, Dhaka 1000. Tel: 8332731

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

Promotion of Gender Equality and Women Empowerment Project of Department of Women Affairs (DWA), supported by United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) Bangladesh, seeks proposal from organizations with audio-visual documentation expertise for undertaking a "Project Documentation Activities in audio-visual form". Interested bidders may obtain a complete set of RFP document in English language (free of cost) from the project office of the above mentioned address on or before 14 September 2009 during office hours.

Proposals must be submitted to the project office at the above address on or before 14 September 2009 within 12:00hrs local time. The submitted proposals will be publicly opened at the project Director's office on 14 September 2009 at 13:00 hrs. Please be advised that the advertiser reserves the right to amend the RFP documents at any time.

GD-3811

Pashchimanchal Gas Company Ltd.
(A Company of Petrobangla)
Nalka, Sirajganj

Invitation for Tenders

Ref No: 77.12.89/Riser/626 Date: 17.08.2009

1.	Procuring entity name	: Pashchimanchal Gas Company Ltd.
2.	Invitation for	: Construction of Riser & Service Line for Gas Connection to Domestic & Commercial Customer at Bogra Town & adjoining area with related all other works (Phase-09).
3.	Budget and source of funds	: Company's own financing.
4.	Tender selling date	: From 19.08.2009 to 01.09.2009
5.	Name & address of the office(s) selling the tender document:	
a)	Accounts Department, Pashchimanchal Gas Co. Ltd., Nalka, Sirajganj.	
b)	Pashchimanchal Gas Company Ltd., Dhaka Liaison Office, 13 th Floor, Petrobangla, Petrocentre, 3 Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215.	
c)	Accounts Division, Petrobangla, Petrocentre, 3 Kawran Bazar, Dhaka.	
d)	Accounts Division, Titas Gas T & D System Ltd., 105, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka.	
6.	Name & address of the office(s) receiving and opening tenders:	
	Pashchimanchal Gas Company Ltd., Dhaka Liaison Office, 13 th Floor, Petrobangla, Petrocentre, 3 Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215.	
7.	Last date and time for selling tender document	: Date: 01.09.2009 (office time).
8.	Last date and time for submission of tenders	: Date: 02.09.2009 Time: 12:00 noon.
9.	Date and time for opening of tenders	: Date: 02.09.2009 Time: 12.15pm.
10.	Eligibility of tenderer:	
	1,3/1,4 category gas pipeline contractor enlisted in Gas Marketing Companies and also inclusion with Pashchimanchal Gas Company Ltd. having proven experience for 4 (four) Km low pressure pipeline construction in a single work order within previous five years.	
11.	Price of tender document	: Tk. 2,000.00 non-refundable.
12.	Tender security	: Tk. 75000.00 (seventy five thousand) refundable.
13.	Special instructions	: The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason.

PGPR-002/2009-2010
GD-3799