

It border survey resumes amid tight security

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

The Indo-Bangla joint survey of the adversely possessed lands (APL) along Meghalaya-Sylhet frontier resumed yesterday amid tight security at Sonarhat border point in Gowainghat upazila.

After the Indian team reached the border, the Bangladesh team led by survey officer Ferdous Hossain went to Sonarhat-Lynkhat borders at 11:30 in the morning to resume the work, officials said.

The survey that started on 7 December last year, stumbled several times till 20 June this year due to protests on borders. The border people launched protests apprehending that their lands would be handed over to the Indians.

Yesterday, no civilian was allowed to visit the survey area. A number of locals alleged that police and BGB contingents barred them from going to the border.

On return from the borders, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Sylhet, Ahmed Shamim Al Razi told this

correspondent yesterday afternoon that the survey work continued till 4:30 pm in a secured arrangement.

"We had to take the measures for doing the survey work safely," he said.

Contacted, Deputy Commissioner of Sylhet Khan Mohammad Belal said most of the areas in Sylhet region had already been surveyed. Only a few points remain for survey now, he said adding that the officials hope to complete the work by the end of this month.

"We could resume survey yesterday as the locals are now convinced after a series of view exchange meetings," said an official.

The joint survey of the APL on the said borders remained suspended since 20 June in the face of protest by border people at different points. Earlier the work was also suspended in January and in April.

In the view exchange meetings in the last few days, the officials assured locals that no such decision was taken to hand over the lands to the Indians.

However, survey of border lands was necessary as the issues remained unsettled for decades. Both India and

Bangladesh want a peaceful solution to the problems, they told the border people.

Local leading people expressed their agony and fear as the Indians including tribesmen as well as the BSF had been causing trouble for the Bangladesh border people for long.

The intruders took away crops, looted forests and fishes from the water bodies regularly, they alleged.

The joint survey must be done in a transparent way, they said.

The frontier people had been opposing the survey work fearing that their lands would be handed over to the Indians in the name of joint survey.

Locals under the banner of 'conscious citizens of border' staged human chains and protest rallies in different bordering upazilas till 30 June. The upazilas are Gowainghat, Jaintapur, Kanaighat, Companiganj and Jakiganj.

The survey work was due to be completed by 15 January. But the time was extended several times with the last one till 30 June.



PHOTO: STAR

Oblivious of life risk, people defy ban on movement over this rail bridge across the Punarbhaba River near Rohonpur station in Gomastapur upazila of Chapainawabganj district.

Trial of Patradut editor murder case begins after 15 years

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

Trial of daily Patradut editor SM Ala Uddin murder case began yesterday, 15 years into the killing.

A court yesterday recorded the statement of Abdur Razzak, a prosecution witness (PW) in the case, in presence of all the accused.

Judge Obaidus Sobhan of Satkhira District and Sessions Judge's court recorded the statement and fixed July 17 for next hearing.

Patradut editor SM Ala Uddin was shot dead by assailants while he was discharging his professional duties at the newspaper office at Pransayer in the town on June 19 in 1996.

Police arrested Awami



SM Ala Uddin

Jubo League activist and alleged member of the killing squad Saiful Islam five days after the incident. The arrestee in his confession disclosed the names of other accused.

The investigation officer (IO) submitted charge-sheet to a magistrate's court here against 10 people on May 5

in 1997 after over 11 months of probe into the case.

The charge-sheeted accused are Abdus Sabur, Khalilullah Jharu, Saifullah Kisl, Momin Ullah Mohon, Abdur Rouf, Abul Kalam, Eskandar Mirza, Atiar Rahman, Saiful Islam and Safiur Rahman.

The trial was delayed as five of the accused submitted a petition to the High Court seeking quashment. The High Court accepted the petitioners' prayer and quashed the case in 1998.

On appeal from the government, the Supreme Court rejected the quashment order of the HC and asked the lower court to resume the trial on March 11 in 1999.

Later accused Khalilullah

Jharu and Abdus Sabur filed an appeal petition before a bench of the High Court Division of the Supreme Court with a prayer to shift the trial court from Satkhira to a court at any other place in the country.

After hearing, the High Court's Division Bench rejected the prayer on November 7 in 2007.

Later they submitted a leave to appeal petition with the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court against the HC order.

On July 26 in 2009, the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court rejected the prayer and the copy of the order reached at Judge's court on September 30 in 2010.

Indigenous man killed

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Khagrachhari

Criminals shot dead an indigenous man at remote Doyalpara in Logang union under Panchhari upazila of Khagrachhari district early yesterday.

The deceased is Gopal Tripura, 35, son of late Dhananjoy Tripura of the same area.

The criminals stormed Gopal's house near the Indian border at around 2:30am when he was asleep with family, police quoted locals as saying.

The intruders shot him dead and left the scene immediately.

Police recovered the body at about 9:30am yesterday and sent it to Khagrachhari Adhunik Sadar Hospital for autopsy, said officer in charge of Panchhari police station Mohammad Alamgir.

The victim's wife Dolika Tripura filed a murder case with Panchhari Police Station yesterday noon but she did not mention anyone's name as suspect or specify any reason behind the incident, said Assistant Superintendent of Police (Khagrachhari Sadar Circle) Al Asad Mohammad Mahfuzul Islam.

A local source requesting anonymity said Gopal was connected with an Indian insurgent group.

Youth murdered

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Narsingdi

Criminals killed a youth in Raipura upazila of the district on Wednesday night.

Victim Asaduzzaman, 18, was son of Saudi expatriate Motiur Rahman of Buburia village under Shibpur upazila.

Sources said criminals several one hand of Asaduzzaman after taking him to a private clinic.

On information, the victim's family members rushed to the spot and rescued him in a critical condition. Later, Asaduzzaman died on his way to Dhaka Medical College hospital.

MORIAM MURMU CASE

Police arrest 4 thieves on charge of murder

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Investigation into the case for murder of indigenous woman Moriam Murmu has taken a new turn as police arrested four more killer-suspects from Shimla Dighipara village in Godagari upazila of Rajshahi district yesterday.

"During primary interrogation, three of the arrestees -- Amar Kisku, 20, Johan Marandi, 30, and Shawkat Iqbal, 30, confessed that they entered the house to steal but later they raped and strangled the woman to death," said Zakirul Islam, officer in charge (OC) of Godagari police station.

Police recovered Tk 4100 from the possession of Amar Kisku who confessed to have stolen Tk 5000 from Moriam's house, he said, adding that the arrestees said local people used to keep money of a cooperative society run by the villagers at Moriam's house as they considered it secure.

The three people were held from different places of the village at around 11:00am and police contin-

Follow-up



Moriam Murmu

ued interrogation and scrutiny of their statements, the OC said.

The other arrestee -- Andrias Murmu, 28, who was held at around 3:00am, was sent to a Rajshahi court with a prayer for his five-day remand.

Earlier, police arrested Moriam's brother-in-law Biswanath Marandi from Chapainawabganj as Moriam's son Wilson Murmu in his case filed with the Godagari police station mentioned Biswanath's name as a suspect behind

the killing. There was a long-standing land dispute between Biswanath and Moriam, Wilson said.

When this correspondent asked Wilson about his opinion about the police investigation and arrest of four more people in connection with the murder, he said yesterday, "Even if my mother's killers committed other crimes on the night of the gruesome murder, there is sufficient reason to believe that they worked in collusion with my uncle Biswanath Marandi, the killer-suspect mentioned in my case."

Moriam Murmu, 48, widow of late Hopna Mardi of Chaitanpur village in Tanore upazila, was tortured to death at her paternal house at Shimla Dighipara village of Godagari upazila on July 10.

Moriam went to bed at around 9:00pm on July 9 and locals saw her stripped body hanging from a tree in the morning.

Informed by locals, police recovered the body and sent it to hospital for autopsy.

SNAPS AND SNIPPETS



COURTESY: MUJIBUR RAHMAN

A purple moorhen, locally known as *Kalim pakhi*, got three young ones hatched out from its eggs at the private wildlife sanctuary of Sitesh Ranjan Dev at Ruposhpur village in Srimongal upazila of Moulvibazar district on Saturday last.

Truck load of rubber seized

UNB, Tangail

A truck load of smuggled rubber was recovered in Rabna bypass area of the district town on Wednesday morning. Acting on a tip-off, a team of Rab-12 raided the area early in the morning and seized the truck along with three tons of rubber worth over Tk 3 lakh. Sensing the presence of the elite force the smugglers, truck driver and helper managed to flee the scene.

Man held for rape attempt

UNB, Lalmonirhat

A man was arrested on charge of attempting to rape a woman of Paschim Velabari village in Aditmari upazila Tuesday night. The arrestee was identified as Abdus Sobhan, son of Nasar Ali of the village. Police said Sobhan tried to rape Rabin Chandra's wife of the same village while she was asleep alone in her house. Sobhan was caught red-handed by locals and handed over to police.

Three held with arms

UNB, Meherpur

Three alleged criminals were arrested along with a pistol by a joint team of Rab and police from Chandpur village in Gangni upazila Wednesday morning. The arrestees were identified as Ripon, 19, son of Yusuf Ali, Rubel, 20, son of Khokon and Alamgir, 21, son of Abed Ali of the village. Acting on secret information, the joint team in a drive arrested Ripon and Rubel from the village at about 11:00am and on their confessional statement arrested Alamgir from local degree college area. Later, they recovered one foreign made pistol from their possession.

Criminals destroy 2,000 banana plants in Dinajpur

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

Criminals destroyed more than 2,000 banana plants of an orchard in Nawabganj upazila on Tuesday night.

The incident took place at Bhotarpara village of the upazila pauperising the farmer who invested all his capital including borrowed money in the orchard.

According to locals, landless farmer Azizul Haque of Haripur village leased about three acres from Rahima Begum of Bhotarpara village about eight years ago to cultivate various crops.

This season he planted at least 4,000 banana plants on the leased land spending Tk 40,000.

"The plants became fruit-

bearing in the last two months. Even on Monday I visited the orchard and took care of the plants," said Azizul.

On Wednesday morning, some villagers informed Azizul about the incident. Azizul rushed to his orchard and found all the plants cut down, lying on the ground.

Azizul said, at least 2,000 full grown banana plants were axed.

However, he stopped short of accusing anybody of felling the plants.

Nawabganj police suspect that the plants were damaged due to personal enmity.

Contacted, Md Farhat Imrul Kayes, officer-in-charge of Nawabganj PS said nobody filed any complaint in this regard.



PHOTO: STAR

Criminals on Tuesday destroyed over 2000 productive banana plants at an orchard created on a leased land by Azizul Haque, a landless farmer at Bhotarpara village in Nawabganj upazila of Dinajpur district.

Undergraduate Engineering

AIT is a profoundly international institute. At its campus located 42 kilometers north of downtown Bangkok, Thailand, students live and learn together with distinguished faculty and researchers arriving from all around the world. English is the medium of all course work, and is the lingua franca for all campus activities.

AIT is your Passport to the World

Whatever your ambition in life, a B.S.E or B.Sc degree from the Asian Institute of Technology is your authorized passport to explore a world full of opportunities.

Undergraduate Programs

- B.S.E. in Information and Communication Technology
- B.S.E. in Mechatronics
- B.S.E. in Electronics
- B.S.E. in Telecommunications
- B.S.E. in Civil and Infrastructure Engineering
- B.S.E. in Industrial Engineering
- B.Sc. in Computer Science/Information Technology

AIT Undergraduate degree programs in science and engineering allow talented students to obtain worldclass engineering and science degrees of exceptional quality. The program offers international, career-focused curricula taught by AIT faculty, all of whom are internationally recognized experts in their fields of study with years of experience in teaching and research at the master and doctoral levels.

Academic Calendar for Undergraduate Degree Programs

| | |
|-------------------------|------------|
| Semester I | Sept - Dec |
| Semester II | Jan - May |
| Summer Break/Internship | June - Aug |

The academic year starts in September. Applicants are encouraged to submit their applications as soon as possible

For more information, Visit our website : www.ug.ait.ac.th

Online Application: http://www.services.ait.ac.th/ug_admissions/
Admission Guidelines: <http://www.ug.ait.ac.th/prospective/apply.php>

Contact Us: Email: admissionug@ait.asia, Tel: +66 2 524 5066

www.ug.ait.asia