

Adivasi parishad starts long march from C'nawabganj

Demand for separate land commission for plain land indigenous people

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Chapainawabganj

Jatiya Adivasi Parishad, a platform of indigenous communities, started a two-day long march from Nachole upazila in Chapainawabganj towards Rajshahi yesterday to press home their demand to form an independent land commission for the indigenous people living in plain lands.

Several hundred people including women of Chapainawabganj, Naogaon and Rajshahi participated at the programme.

The long march started from Nachole bus stand in the municipality area at

12:30pm. It was scheduled to proceed through Amnura of Sadar upazila in Chapainawabganj and Godagari upazila in Rajshahi district and halt for the night at Rajbari in Rajshahi district.

Today the procession will march through Kashiadanga square and Rajshahi court Shaheed Minar and end on the premises of the divisional commissioner's office where they will submit a memorandum of their demands.

Earlier, the organisers of the long march held a rally at Nachole bus stand.

Pankaj Bhattacharya, president of Oikya Nap, attended there as chief guest

while Rabindra Nath Saren, president of Jatiya Adivasi Parishad, Anil Kumar Marandi, its president member, Bimal Chandra Rajoar, organising secretary, Bichitra Tirk, president of its Chapainawabganj district unit, and leaders of different political parties spoke among others.

Over 20 lakh people of 38 communities of indigenous people live in the north-western region of the country, speakers said.

Once upon a time these indigenous people had much resources including landed property but during the Pakistan period, many indigenous people had to leave the country amid

insecurity of life and property, they said.

They also incurred huge losses during the 1971 Liberation War.

Speakers alleged that indigenous people are still being victim to repression, killing, rape and eviction while criminals have continued grabbing their cultivable lands, houses, ponds, graveyards, cremation grounds and temple lands in collaboration with a section of unscrupulous land officials.

They demanded that the government meet its 'pre-election pledge' to form an independent land commission for the indigenous peoples of plain lands.



Jatiya Adivasi Parishad starts a road march from Nachole upazila in Chapainawabganj district yesterday to press home their long time demand for formation of a separate land commission for the indigenous people living in plain lands. The two-day march will end in Rajshahi city today.

KILLING OF 2 STUDENTS, MOTHER & BABY Wave of protests sweeps thru three districts

STAR COUNTRY DESK

People of different upazilas in Mymensingh, Pabna and Moulvibazar districts yesterday brought out protest processions and formed human chains demanding arrest and punishment of those who killed two students and a mother and her kid recently.

Our Mymensingh Correspondent reported that fellow students, teachers and local people brought out a procession in the district town yesterday, demanding exemplary punishment of the killer of Nadira Akhtar, 10.

Later they formed a human chain along in Mashkanda area along Dhaka-Mymensingh highway to press their demand.

Speakers at the human chain demanded capital punishment for Shahjahan Habib Munna, 22, for murdering Nadira, daughter of van puller Yunus Ali, also a Class III student of Mymensingh Zila Parishad High School in the town.

On Thursday, Nadira was brutally killed by her cousin Munna, a private car driver. Police arrested Munna hours after she was found dead with the throat slit in Mymensingh town.

Victims' relatives want

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However, if Nur Hossain was not put on remand, it would not be possible to unearth who were the mastermind and financer of the killings, she added.

The human chain was organised in Mouchak area on Dhaka-Chittagong highway in presence of a significant number of law enforcers.

Nazrul, his driver and three associates and senior lawyer Chandan Sarkar and his driver were abducted separately but around the same time by some members of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) from Dhaka-Narayanganj Link Road on April 27 last year. Their bodies were recovered from the Shitalakkhya river a couple of days later.

Meanwhile, in Pabna, people of Dogachhi Kulunia village brought out a protest procession before forming a human chain in front of Pabna Press Club yesterday, demanding arrest and punishment of the killer of Poly Khutun and her baby boy.

The speakers at the human chain alleged that Poly's husband Jalal Uddin of the village killed his wife and 10-month-old boy Jubayer on November 9, spread the incident as a suicide and fled the area.

Contacted, Officer-in-Charge Abdullah-Al-Hassan of Sadar Police Station said following a case filed by the victim's family, police arrested Poly's mother-in-law and trying to nab the main accused Jalal.

Away in Moulvibazar, local people, fellow students and teachers yesterday formed a human chain in front of Sylhet Central Shaheed Minar, protesting the killing of college boy Shamim Ahmed Suton.

They also demanded immediate arrest and punishment of the killers.

On October 30, Suton, 17, son of Samar Ali of Kolabari village in Companyganj upazila, also a BA first year student of MC College in Sylhet, was killed during a clash between Bhulaganj and Kolabari villagers in the upazila, over a disputed land.

Selina filed a murder case with Fatullah police accusing six people.

Detectives later pressed charges against 35 people including Nur Hossain and three top Rab officials but dropped five names mentioned in the case.

Selina alleged that Nur Hossain's men had reorganised and were trying to extend their influence in the area and also threaten the victims' families.

Mizanur Rahman, younger brother of another victim Moniruzzaman Swapan, demanded that investigators should unmask the people behind the killings. For this, it was necessary to place Nur Hossain on remand, he said.

Victim Tajul's father Abul Chaudanga.

Two kids drown

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Jamalpur

Two kids drowned in a pond at Kathma village in Islampur upazila of the district on Saturday evening.

The deceased were identified as Reetu Akhtar, 7, daughter of Golam Robbani, and Golam Habib, 5, son of Golam Sarowar of the village.

Family sources said the duo were playing on the bank of a pond beside their houses in the afternoon. Suddenly, they fell into the pond and drowned, they added.

Neighbours found the bodies of the kids floating on the pond and informed the victims' family members.

SC upholds

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was based on evidence and documents, Manju's counsel Ahsanul Karim told The Daily Star.

He added that the ACC could not prove the allegations against Manju in court.

ACC's lawyer AKM Fazlul Huq said the anti-graft body would decide whether to seek review of the order after getting the full judgment of the SC.

Earlier, the apex court overturned the HC's acquittal of 20 people, mostly politicians and their family members, in corruption cases and ordered rehearing of their appeals against the convictions in lower courts.

The convicts whose acquittals were scrapped by the SC include Relief and Disaster Management Minister Mofazzal Hossain Chowdhury Maya, former BNP minister Nazmul Huda and his wife Sigma Huda, former BNP state ministers Iqbal Hasan Mahmood Tuku and Mir Mohammad Nasiruddin, Nasir's son Mir Helal Uddin and independent lawmaker and AL leader Haji Mohammad Selim.

2 fish traders held with jatka

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Barisal

A team of the fisheries department arrested two fish traders from Taltali area of Barisal city for catching jatka (hilsa fry less than 10 inches or 26 centimetres in length).

Bimal Chandra Das, district fisheries officer (hilsa), said the fry were seized from five boats coming from different areas on Saturday morning.

Police produced the two arrestees -- Rezaul Karim, 44, and Jasimuddin, 26 -- before a mobile court led by Abdur Rouf Mia, the Sadar upazila nirbahi officer and executive magistrate.

The court sentenced each of the arrestees to one-year imprisonment and sent them to jail the same day.

The court also ordered the administration to distribute the seized jatka to different orphanages, madrasas and slums of the city, court sources said.

The action was taken for violating the eight-month countrywide ban enforced from November 1 to June 30 against netting, transport and marketing of jatka.

Youth jailed for stalking schoolgirl

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Gaibandha

A mobile court here yesterday sentenced a youth to one year's imprisonment for stalking a schoolgirl in Gaibandha Sadar upazila.

The convict, Nayan Kumar, 27, is a resident of Kalibari area in the town.

Quoting witnesses, police said Nayan had been teasing the victim, a Class IX student of Model School and College in the town, on her way and from the school for long.

Around 3:00pm yesterday, locals caught the convict when he waylaid the girl while she was returning home from school. They also gave him a beating and handed him over to the police.

Police later produced the arrestees before the court of Executive Magistrate Ashraful Momin Khan, also Sadar upazila nirbahi officer, and the court sentenced him to one year's imprisonment.

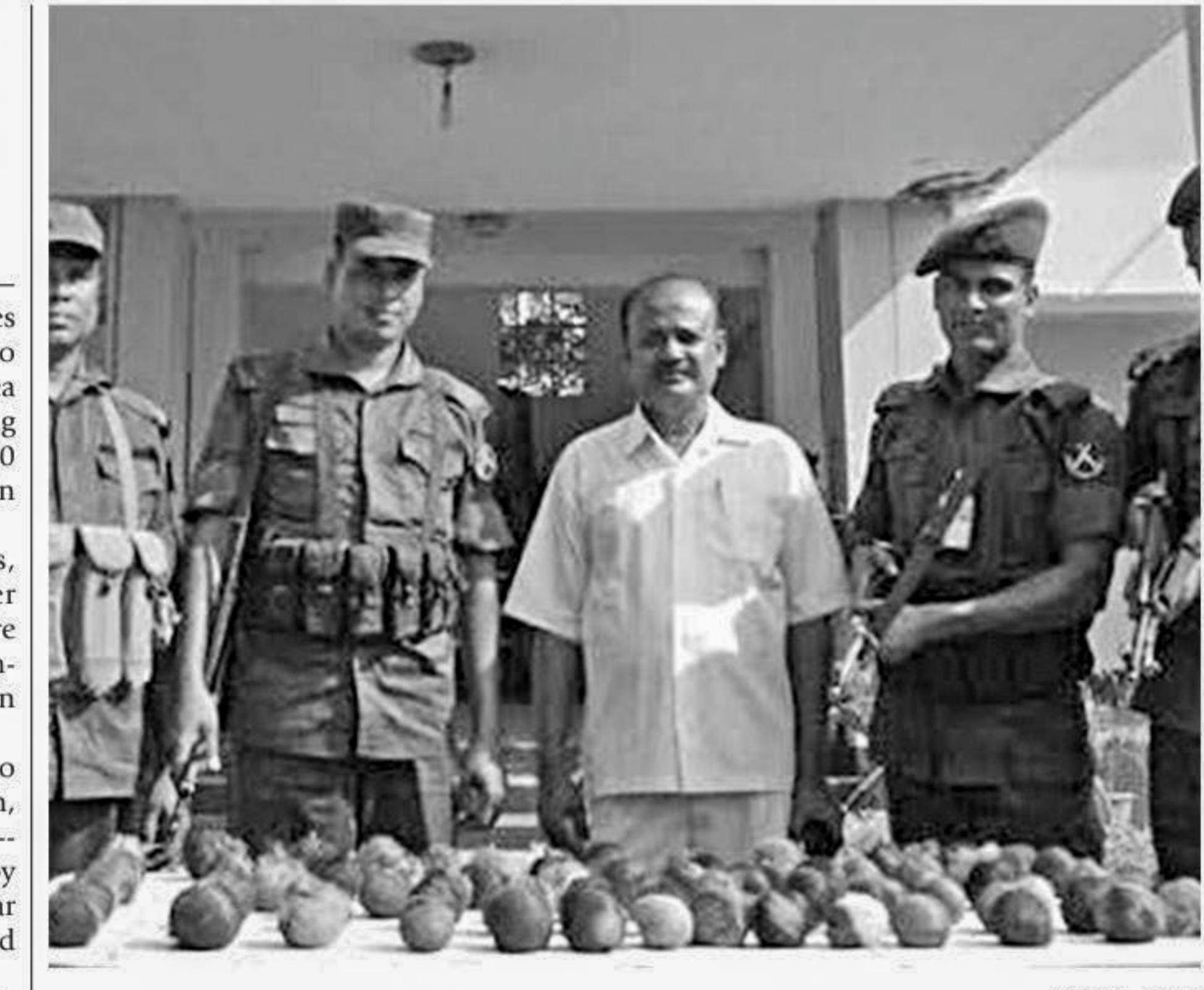


PHOTO: STAR
Border Guard Bangladesh seizes 85 pieces of deer musk worth Tk 1 crore 70 lakh from near Koya check post in Panchbibi upazila under Joypurhat district on November 7.

Deer musk worth Tk 1.7cr seized in Joypurhat

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Dinajpur

Members of Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) have seized 85 deer musk worth about Tk 1.7 crore from Chachra border in Panchbibi upazila of Joypurhat district.

BGB officials later handed over the musk to Customs officials at Hili land port yesterday.

Musk is a substance with

a persistent odour, obtained from the gland of the male musk deer in its back/rectal area.

The substance has been extensively used as a perfume fixative, incense material, and medicine, since ancient times.

It is still one of the most expensive animal products in the world.

1,000 villagers sued for beating 4 'robbers' dead

A CORRESPONDENT, Faridpur

At least 1,000 villagers have been sued on charge of beating four alleged robbers dead at Chowdhuryganj in Sadar upazila of the district

upazila.

The incident took place around 4:30am on Saturday when an alleged gang of 8/10 looted five houses at Char Madhabdia union in Sadar upazila.

Four villagers were also injured when the gang attacked them with sharp weapons. They received treatment at a local hospital.

Kamruzzaman, additional superintendent of police, said the four were killed in a mob beating.

Police also recovered a pistol, three bullets and a mobile phone SIM card from the spots, he said.

All the deceased were members of an organised gang of robbers, said the ASP.

Follow-up

Gopalpur union.

The villagers gave them a good beating, leaving them dead on the spot, said the chairman.

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	Commencement of Class	January 8, 2016

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