Phone: +91-33-2622-0843/45 Tele Fax: +91-33-2622-0843 E-mail: masumindia@gmail.com Web: www.masum.org.in

### 16.04.2020

The Chairman,
National Human Rights Commission,
Manav Adhikar Bhawan,
Block-C, GPO Complex, INA,
New Delhi- 110023

## Respected Sir,

I would like to draw your kind attention to another case of arbitrary action and restriction imposed by the BSF on the poor marginalized villagers of Jhaudanga, Barnaberia and Noradaha village. The Villagers live in great penury and the only source of income is derived from their respective share of cultivable lands. The villagers already live their lives in great difficulties with respect to their cultivation as the BSF authorities have their own rules regarding the timing of the gates, obstruction of water etc. These problems already affect the income of the farmers as their lands and crops are all controlled by the irrational rules of BSF and on top of that, new fences will be constructed in these abovementioned villages. The farmers and other authorities have come together and devised a plan that might work best for all the villagers but the BSF and the Central government have refused to work according to the plan devised and wishes to construct fences arbitrarily that may incur massive losses for the villagers.

On 06.08.2018 a complaint was submitted before the District Magistrate, North 24 Parganas reminding the District Magistrate, North 24 Parganas of a request that was made through the memo no. S/L/1030/DL/1/2/18/ADM/LR from the Villagers and farmers of Jhaudanga, Noradaha and Barnaberia claiming the issues that may arise if the fences are not constructed along the zero point. It was verbally informed to them that their request through the complaint has been considered and accepted. Following that a meeting was held with the BSF authority, Block Development Officer, Gaighata and Jhaudanga Gram Panchayat members at Block Development Officer's chamber on 13.07.2018. It was again verbally informed that the fencing will be constructed along the zero point and not elsewhere. Later, the NOC retrieved from Block Land & Land Revenue Officer, Gaighata which had the details of the Dag no. of the land of farmers showed a few discrepancy. It was found out that the land for new fencing will not be constructed at the zero point rather the new fencing will be joining the old fencing construction which is situated within the villages. A discussion regarding this issue was

carried on by Block Development Officer, Gaighata, Panchayat Pradhan, Jharudanga, BSF Personnel, Bahufasali Krishijomi Rokkha Committee, Central Public Works Department officials, Block Land and Land Revenue Officer and many others at the Gaighata BDO Office on 3.08.2018 and 09.09.2019. On 24.01.2020 a complaint has been filed before the District Magistrtae, North 24 Pargana; Sub Divisional Officer, Bongaon; Block Development Officer, Gaighata and Gram Panchayat Pradhan, Jharudanga, but no action has been taken on that front yet.

Due to this arbitrary attitude of Border Security Force and concerned Central Government authority imposed upon the villagers of Jharudanga, Noradaha and Barnaberia is not only challenging their life and livelihood but also violating the Article 21 and Article 19 of the Constitution of India which reads as "No person shall be deprived of his life and liberty except according to procedure established by law" and "All citizens shall have the rights to move freely throughout the territory of India" respectively and Article 12 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the goal number 16 of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, which Government of India has taken pledge to adhere with.

I request your urgent intervention in this case by fulfilling these demands of the villagers:

- BSF personnel should be stationed at the zero point and not within the territory of the villages.
- The BSF should keep the gates at the border fence open from 6 am to 6 pm.
- The new fencing should be constructed along the Ichamati river as agreed by all the authorities in line with the farmers.
- The commission must initiate an investigation by its independent wing to look into the authenticity of the plans devised and the difficulties that might be faced by the villagers if the BSF authorities construct fences arbitrarily.
- The commission should take appropriate measure immediately since innumerable cultivable lands will be at irreparable loss if the construction of the fences within the villages begins.
- The various meetings reflect that the authorities had full knowledge about the impediments that might be faced by the villagers so the commission should take measures to stop them from constructing these fences and work as planned.
- The Commission must also look into the arbitrary implementation of the plan by the central government and the BSF, disregarding the poor villagers and all the decisions made regarding this.

Your Faithfully

Dipyaman Adhikary

**Assistant Secretary** 



Banglar Manabadhikar Suraksha Mancha (MASUM)

. . . . . . . . . . . . . .

**Victim details:** Villagers of Jhaudanga and Barnoberia village, Jhaudanga Gram Panchayat under Gaighata Block. Mouja- 73 Jhaudanga, 72 Noradah, 71 Barnaberia.

**Details of perpetrators**: 64 Batallion BSF Jhaudanga, now 158 Batallion BSF Jhaudanga

# Complaint sent on 23.01.2020 to-

- Sub Divisional Officer, Bongaon
- Block Development Officer, Gaighata
- Jhaudanga Panchayat Pradhan of Jhaudanga Gram Panchayat
- District Magistrate, North 24 Pargana

# Discussion regarding the fencing issues faced by the villagers:

Date & Time: 03.08.2018 and 09.09.2019 at 11 am.

Location: Gaighata BDO's Office Chamber.

Participation in the meeting – Block Development Officer, Gaighata; Panchayat Pradhan, Jhaudanga Gram Panchayat; Border Security Force Personnel, Bahufasali Krishijomi Rokkha Committee; Officials of the Central Public Works Department; Block Land &Land Revenue Officer and many others were present there.

#### Details of the case:

In 1998, the authority Central Public Works Department had constructed fence in Gaighata block which falls under Jhawdanga Gram Panchayat. This block has its border with Bangladesh along the Ichamati river. Central Public Works Department had

constructed a fencing from a stretch of 1.5km from Jhawdanga crossing to Noradaha crossing along the Ramnagar road which also did not acquire any agricultural land hence determined the construction of the old fencing.

This case is regarding the construction of a new fencing which is supposed to be constructed along the lines of Ichamati river which determines the zero point of the international border. The villagers and the farmers of Jhaudanga, Noradoho and Barnaberia fall within the whole border area and hence the fencing at the zero point would save them from a lot of trouble. Currently BSF and CPWD are planning to construct the border fences that go over Jhaudanga and Barnaberia till it connects to the earlier constructed fences on two points along the Ramnagar road. If these fences are built then about 300 farmers of Jhaudanga, Noradaha and Barnaberia will face difficulties in cultivating their lands. Farmers have even informed about this problem in Gaighata.

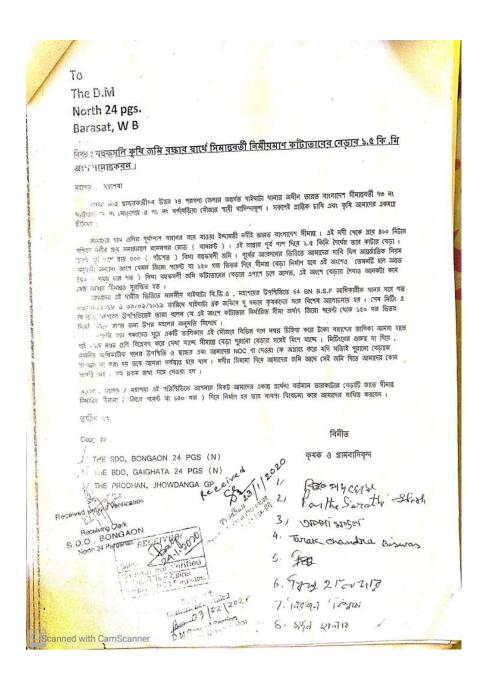
On 06.08.2018 a written complaint was submitted before the District Magistrate, North 24 Parganas where they requested him to take action as Central Public Works Department will try to start fencing work upon the agricultural land of the farmers and therefore, farmers of Jhaudanga, Noradaha and Barnaberia face problem. Previously the villagers and farmers of Jharudanga. Noradaha and Barnaberia submitted a written application being Memo number S/L/1030/DL/1/2/18/ADM/LR and after that a meeting was conducted with the BSF authority and District Magistrate and it was verbally informed to them that their request had been considered and accepted. Following that another meeting was held with the BSF authority, Block Development Officer, Panchayat Pradhan of Jhaudanga Gram Panchayat in the office chamber of Block Development Officer, Gaighata on 13.07.2018. It was again verbally informed that the fencing will be constructed along the zero point and not elsewhere. Later, the NOC retrieved from Block Land & Land Revenue Officer, Gaighata which had the details of the Dag number of the land showed a few discrepancies. On 03.08.2018 and 09.09.2019 a meeting was convened at the office chamber of the Block Development Officer, Gaighata where all government authorities were present.

It was decided that either the fencing may be made through riverside subject to meeting with the authority of Bangladesh and India, or 150 yards from the middle point in between India and Bangladesh Border pillar. This shall not create any hurdles for the farmers in order to cultivate their lands. This was finalized and was informed to all the farmers and Central Public Works Department decided to work according to this decision. Now, the BSF and the Central government decide that fencing will be constructed along the lines that go over 71 Barnaberia Mouja, 72 Noradaha Mouza and 73 Jhawdanga Mouja road and will meet the old constructed fencing. Therefore, about more than hundred acres of Mouja's of Jhaudanga, Noradaha and Barnaberia will be obstructed because of this new decision of Border Security Force authority and central

government. The farmers did not agree to this decision as the BSF will occupy lands exceeding to their plan and vast land of crops will be destroyed because of this .The farmers do not agree to this planning and the authorities have completely disregarded their opinion whereas the parties at loss are these poor agrarian laborers completely dependent on the lands and utilizing the lands for agriculture from where they earn their sole income. On 23/1/2020 the farmers have protested on a signed letter and submitted so that their plea is considered. An immediate step must be taken to stop this as it will save the lives of these poor agrarian laborers.

# **Attached Documents**

Complaint to the District Magistrate of North 24 Parganas by the villagers



by deb Das 41/ 2 mediano in Ora Co sissus 921 431 পর্য ইত্যার মুদ Naryan mondal 44 स्टिशाउं मटरे 2331353M 127 अर्डिश्मी (मरूकि) 45-Tatak chandra Bisway 46 -34 8420 There ergin SION 14> 471 199),1384 WW 我们当2004别 481 黎明 分分 167 **उत्तिम्**ल 491 UKSHARY (308M). 17% Somerresh Monotali 501 2/27Cho अश्वेष्ट्रिक द्विकपृष्ठ Meloud 187 511 52/ to Tula Des निर्धि विषाद MONON 53 107 45502 3. En BOYG WAY Rost Will and 5劉 BENZE SERVE मित्रिक मन्द्रभ 641 १३४५५ ९२ अहर भारत र्त्र ६० ६ यान स्तिस 55 guera recited Gendif pour \$7007 WENT I from taral & <sup>5</sup>म इम्प्रकृतन अङ्ग Portiulo Bas 581 27AB 23MAY? My export 591 Fooders allow - STAT TATS Talan Das Basanti Ghosh 601 Stown remail 611 Print Short The Substant Biswas 62 Browshants Thash. ) ७४ प्रस्तु 631 Amp aux 691 buthon ch- Pay 1222 E212 अहि शिक इं एति है। I china nary an long 651 Aksnoy tikada sino leandle Bowns Scanned with Camscanner

the Harder. artien Pal Boundaria Gus 12 AT M ATE 1208 9081 1000 7041 160C 1 805 ९५८५रपुछ. उम्हेन 501177 21MM 34) Bahu-Bunas 82 3/53 d- ME(5) WALS 86 AUTHERIORIZEMENS 87. DAVIS DENTO 88 Rotam Khor PATA 223-95 Momoscany en Mondal. होट हील अनुस्ट १६ Scaned lay (cords) 285 on

2) 3/ 1/46/2 DH Rishie Pada Rain. Dol Antasaranso 2001 5 (3×3714 3×214) S 1800 Amit wood bear KK298ELEGIS Ator Kund Aclos gardener for 27 (811021my LC १५३७ १८५५० SICITATION ACENTO-2011 Rola/15 S1 Musics 4835 ASMS The Sudipta Biswas . My wasterd music NEG 427 BIRTO NO GRADA SYMAND 7) 8 कार्यिक स्वति SIE lastipo dana 913 Martie Hulder 219 हिन्दी हरी बहु हरे 200 34/24 (are NO THE 24MIN 521 Bhalanath Ale

	The state of the s
	Proceeding of Meeting of mouse Barruberia
	0 - 0 - 0 - 0 - 0 - 0 - 0 - 0 - 0 - 0 -
1	The multing is real ofted to Indo-Bangladesh Bondon
A	Forcing in the orea of Mousa - Barnaboria under Thousanga
	G.P. The meeting is started out II-DO AM in presence of
ļ	B.D.D., Gaighara Development Block, Sampoti Goighara Panchayat.
	Samily , B1 & LRO, gaighata and Officials of 64 BSF
	personnel, Kalyani, Nadla and local people of Mousa-
	Barraberia Under Thoudanga Grem Panchayat.
	After a long discussion in the muting, tollowing
0.00	are the proceeding moted for the furthers action:
ā	1) Fancing may be made at Locality thoough
	river side subject to muling with the authority of
	Bonglardesh and India:
	OR
	2) 150 yard from the middle point in between
	Indo-Bongladezh Bonder Pillara.
	ETTEXO- JOURNAL OF THOSE
	to the level and tables outlander and
	BL & LRO'S Trepresentative with visit the Spot of
	13L K LRO'S TUPPLE CONTINUE WITH VISIT THE SPOT OF
	Mouse - Bornelievia, Thomdonga and Angrail on
	17/09/2019 at moon where fancing is to be constructed.
	Thre one no further discussion in this regard.
	The moting was ended with thanks to all.
	The many state with this to the
-	lely
	9/9/19
	Lieck Development Officer
The same of	GAIGHATA DEV BLOCK Chandpara, North 24 Parganas.
	Nimeral-

# Meeting with BSF Awhority and interested villagers regarding Indo-Bangladech Bondar Fancing

# Thowdonger Gram Pomchoznat

5	1. No.	Nome of Presence  Name of Presence  With Designation  Labrata Biswar. BDO Gaighta  Despale Matrops DC, 64 BUT  Porveen Lingh, Am Etherk  R. S. CHAGRABOTTS SHOKAKARA Land  Monn Verma DE CPWD  Kantick Ch. Pal Trandomage	st patol estale
	/· 23 4.	Name of Presence  With Designation  Labridge Birman. BDO Graighta  Dechale Matriogar DC, 64 BUT  POSNER Single, AM CHANK  R.S. CHERRANDONIN SHOROLEAGE CONS  Monn Verma DE CPWD  Kantick Ch. Pal Throudongo	leling/9/19 Se Vala la la Se Vala
	/· 23 4.	With Designation  Labinan Birwar. BDO Gaighta  Dechale Matropar DC, 64 BUT  POENCEN Lingh, An Editoria  R.S. CHAGRADON'S EHB Kakafa Land  Monn Verma DE CPWD  Kantick Ch. Pal Thandongo	leling/9/19 Se Vala la la Se Vala
	/· 23 4.	With Designation  Labinan Birwar. BDO Gaighta  Dechale Matropar DC, 64 BUT  POENCEN Lingh, An Editoria  R.S. CHAGRADON'S EHB Kakafa Land  Monn Verma DE CPWD  Kantick Ch. Pal Thandongo	leling/9/19 Se Vala la la Se Vala
	3. 5. 5.	Andrew Sur.  Belorata Birwar. BDO Gaigheta  Dechale Matrojar DC, 64 BUT  POONER Singh, AM Editor D.  R.S. CHAGRABOTT SHOKOKATA LOWN  Monn Verma DE CPWD  Knotick Ch. Pal Thandongo	leling/9/19 Walship Wa
	3. 5. 5.	Dechale Matrojaz DC, 64 BUT POGNEEN Singh, AM CHENTE R.S. CHAMPAROTTIS EHB KOKELE COUNT Monu Verma DE CPUD Kartick Ch. Pal Thandongo	Se Jan entalique
***	3. 5. 5.	Dechale Matrojaz DC, 64 BUT POGNEEN Singh, AM CHENTE R.S. CHAMPAROTTIS EHB KOKELE COUNT Monu Verma DE CPUD Kartick Ch. Pal Thandongo	Se Jan entalique
	y. 5. 7	RISIEHAGRABONIA EHB KOKAGA LOUN  Monn Verma DE CRUD  KANTIEK Ch. Pal Thandongo	w/ Francis
	5. 5.	Moun Verma DE CPUD  KARTIEK Ch. Pal Shandongo	Daniel Bridge
***	5 7	Kantiek Ch. Pal Thousdongs	100
	5 7	Kantiek Ch. Pal Thousdongs	TPO )
	7		91911
	0	mangal chandra Chosh Amyrail	Who 9-9-19
	8.	Goutam mondal Angrain	\$ 0.0.19 -
	9.	Gopal charden Biowas (JRAN Janga.)	ang.
	10,	Ashok Ghesh - (auxorabarea)	Q 9-19
	11.	Ashox Kinos Charl (Thousday)	Althor 19 19
	12.	Brashanta - Thesh (Thowdanga)	- Bull . 9-9-19.
	13	Manaray and sh.	April 9.9.19
	14	Ram Barad short Angrail	Lew 09.09.19.
74	18.	Summian Cohosh	19.09.19
	16.	Samir Kumar Pairvas (Prodhon)	Saga (9/201).
	171	Kamed Das 1 Novadana	( gold 616 and b)
	181	Moule w. Gaufforin F. LELRO. Gai	Mong 1919
	la	And Some. BLAZA	for agrange
	20-	Promote to della Br. EL. R. o deize	Q to Mila
	21 _	Lakehman in punt Thow dings.	- 19-9-13
	22/	saturapale Maniet Thow Longa	9.9.19
	23.	Suboada Sha le D. lekedye	209/19
	ca.	Dhyanoh Mooyer John KD J.s.	· Dr 099.18
	25.		- Acol 09.0919
-	26.	Bholanouth abosh	
	27,	अर्थन पार (प्राइग्प)	9.9.19 sastan on
	28.	- SUNT SIMM CHONST.	9 19.19.8
	29,	(मिका कर्मिका भाउँ छ।१२)	9.9.19-