



Banglar

Manabhadhikar Suraksha Mancha (masum)

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02.07.2020

To

The Chairman

National Human Rights Commission

ManavAdhikarBhawan

Block-C, GPO Complex, INA

New Delhi-110023

Respected Sir,

Through this complaint, I seek to draw your attention to the villagers of Khamarpara, Kaharpara, Sarandajpur, Lakhinarayanpur, who have been suffering due to restrictions on their livelihood by the Border Security Forces (BSF) and the lack of basic amenities and welfare schemes. The villages are situated under Majhardiar, Kaltlamari and Sarandajpur Mouja and under Raninagar Police Station and Kaharpara Post Office in the District of Murshidabad. Those villages have population of more than 6000 people. The most population of these villages is of the Muslim community. The chief occupation in the village is farming and daily wage labour with an average income of 3000 rupees per month. Cultivable land is about 200 acres. The village is located near the Indo Bangladesh border. These villagers are gravely affected by the restrictions placed by the BSF of Alfa Company, 117 Battalion under Kaharpara BSF camp. The distance from the International Border Pillar and the border fence is about 7 kilometers. People are depending on agriculture in these villages but the cultivable land available to them is situated on the other side of the fence. In order to cultivate their lands they need to use fencing gates of BSF Border Out Posts to cross to the other side of the fence which opens at about 9.00 am. Several agricultural crops are there which needs to provide water at early morning time, but the Border Security Force personnel never give them permission to go their own field at early morning and therefore, those crops are withered away for lacking of water. More so, those villagers have to come back within 4 pm and unless any villagers come back within fixed time, he was harassed by the Border Security Force personnel. Border Security Force personnel never open the gate after 4 pm and even sometime they torture the villagers for their late returning. It is crystal clear that the concerned villagers are compelled to live a life of slavery where their means of earning income depends on the irrational restrictions imposed by these BSF authorities.

The BSF delay opening the gates but close it at the assigned time, giving people very little time to work on the field, so a lot of them travel to other cities for work. Crops more than 3 feet in height, such as corn and jute, sugarcane are not allowed to be grown. The villagers are not allowed to carry adequate fertilizers inside and their fertilizers are often mixed with soil at the gate in disproportionate quantities. Cows are not allowed to enter the farming lands and tractors and other agricultural equipment are not allowed inside either. More so, Border Security Force authority illegally is cutting the land of the farmers to make deep canal. On 17.02.2020 the farmers and villagers protested this illegal act of the Border Security Force authority but the BSF insulted them and drive them away. BSF people said that they dig the land of the government. When the villagers called one 'Amin' for proper measurement of land, those perpetrators BSF people beat them and chased them with sticks in their hand. Even those BSF people threatened the villagers to implicate them in false cases.

This creates a constant struggle for the villagers to use their lands and cultivate as per their need. They are poor marginalized people and economic obstruction is a massive impediment in sustaining their daily livelihood.

Several times the villagers submitted mass petition before the Panchayat Pradhan of Katlamari I Panchayat and Block Development Officer of Raninagar II Block. But no action has been taken by them.

On 18.02.2020 the villagers showed protest in front of the Block Development Office of Raninagar II Block and submitted deputation before the Block Development Officer, Raninagar II Block. That time Block Development Officer promised to the villagers that he will talk with the Border Security Force authority and take proper steps for sending them at the zero point of the border. But that promise has turned out to be false. On 19.02.2020 a meeting was held between BSF authority, Block Development Officer and Police administration regarding this matter but BSF is still continuing their illegal restriction upon the villagers. On 20.04.2020 again those villagers submitted another mass petition before the Block Development Officer, but till date no action has been taken in this respect.

Moslem Sarkar, one villager said to our District human Rights Monitor, "BSF jawans always placed restriction upon our farming activities. They do not permit us to enter our agricultural land with fertilizer and cattle." Atahar Molla, another villager told that if the BSF will place themselves at the zero point of the border only then this illegal restriction upon the villagers will be stopped. Several times they lodged complaint against this illegal restriction of the BSF, but the administration like a blind man did not take any steps in this respect.

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

- BSF personnel should be posted at zero point.
- The BSF should keep the gates at the border fence open from 6 am to 6 pm.
- The barbed fence should be reconstructed at the zero point instead of in the middle of the village.

- The land which was being digged by the Border Security Force personnel for making canal should have to return as before to the farmers.
- The constructing of canal on the land of the farmers should be immediately stopped
- The villagers should be allowed to go to their farming land with agricultural tools and cattle.
- Farmers should be provided with adequate compensation as for their loss for digging the land by the BSF authority.

Thanking you,

Yours truly

Dipyaman Adhikary

Assistant Secretary

Banglar Manabadhikar Suraksha Mancha (MASUM)

Attached Documents

To
The Prodhan
Katlamari - I G.P
Katlamari, Murshidabad

মহাশয়,

আমাদের (চাষীদের) বিনীত নিবেদন এই যে, আমরা কাতলামারী - ১ গ্রাম পঞ্চায়েত এলাকার স্থায়ী বাসিন্দা। আমাদের চাষীদের মাঠের জমিতে চাষ করতে যেতে গিয়ে এন্ট্রি পয়েন্টে খাতায় এন্ট্রি করে দিচ্ছেনা, ধানের জমিতে চাষ করতে দিচ্ছেনা, পাট বুনতে দিচ্ছেনা, চাষীদের অকারনে বি.এস.এফ. মারখর করছে এবং চাষীদের অনেক রকমের সমস্যা সৃষ্টি করছে। এই সব বিষয় নিয়ে অনেক বার প্রধান সাহেব ও বি.ডি.ও. সাহেব কে চিঠি করে জানানো হয়েছে, এবং বি.এস.এফ. এর সঙ্গে চাষীদের অনেক মিটিং করা হয়েছে। কিন্তু চাষীরা কোনো সুফল পায়নি।

অতএব মহাশয় উক্ত বিষয়টি দেখার জন্য আপনাকে অনুরোধ করছি।

বিনীত -

নিম্ন লিখিত স্বাক্ষরগণ -

Received by

ASm
10/04/2020

Sayahak
7, Katlamari-1 G.P.
Katlamari, Murshidabad

সাহাখ

গ্রাম - কাতলামারী

পোস্ট - কাতলামারী

জিলা - মুর্শিদাবাদ

জেলা - মুর্শিদাবাদ

ফোন - ৭৪২৬০৬

মোবাইল :- ৭৪৭২১৩২৬৩৬

