



Banglar

Manabdhikar Suraksha Mancha (masum)

40A, Barabagan Lane, Serempore,
Hooghly - 712 203 West Bengal, India

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

11.11.2020

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

Respected Sir,

Here I want to draw your kind attention upon illegitimate restriction by the Border Security Force personnel upon the populace of Indo-Bangladesh bordering areas and snatching of their Constitutional rights and guarantees. A whimsical restriction in movement and livelihood activities of the bordering villagers is caused by the Border Security Force personnel posted throughout the bordering areas. In my present complaint I want to narrate the situation of the bordering village namely 77 Nichtaraf Bhotbari, situated under Block & Police Station - Mekhliganj, P.O. - Bhotbari, District- Cooch Behar.

Total population of this village is about 2000, out of this about 1030 are male and 970 are female and 152 are minor. More than half of the population i.e., about 60% belongs to religious minority Muslim and rest 40% are Hindus. The villagers are mostly depending upon their agricultural land. More than 500 bigha of land is fit for agriculture. They do not have proper irrigation and drinking water facilities. Even the roads condition of the village are very much poor.

77 Nichtorof Bhotbri village is placed beside the Changrabanda border area. where in the village IBBR road was made by Central Public works Department. The distance from the International Border Pillar and the fencing are somewhere 300 meter and somewhere 200 meter. BSF jawans guarded the border placing them more than 300 meters inside the actual International Border.

In that area Central Public Works Department made fencing 200-300 meter inside from the International Border Pillar but the Border Security Force authority placed open fencing wire beside the IBBR road and towards the village side to restrict the movement of the villagers. Due to whimsical fencing by the Border Security Force, villagers are not allowed to move freely within their own country and they have to go long distance to enter their agricultural field.

Border Security Force personnel of Changrabanda Border Out Post under 148 Battalion are posted there. The restriction upon the agricultural activities of the villagers by the posted BSF

personnel is tremendous at this area. Not only movement but every aspects of daily life and related activities of villagers are being forcibly influenced and being restricted by posted Border Security Force personnel.

On 10.11.2020 at about 7 am when all farmers of the village reached at 24 number gate to enter their agricultural land, the on duty Border Security Force constable Mr. Dale Sing told them that he could not open the gate. When the farmers asked the reason, he informed if the villagers will provide one register book and some bamboo poles, then he would open the gate. Farmers refused to provide the same. They told that as they are very poor, they are unable to buy those items for BSF. On duty BSF jawan told it is the order of their superior officer, if the farmers will provide the register book and some bamboo poles only then they would open the gate. From 7 to 11 am the farmers sat in front of the gate number 24 but the gate was not opened and all farmers returned from there helplessly.

There are several farmers in the village who are completely dependent upon agriculture and the restriction by BSF upon their agricultural activities strike upon their financial base. I provide a list of victimize farmers for placing this illegal restriction by BSF.

Farmer's name	Age	Dag number	Khatian number	Mouza
Satyanath Burman	35	1111/1110	3365	77 Nichtorof
Rabiyul Haque	47	78	3366	77 Nichtorof
Rashidul Islam	36	1020	1311	77 Nichtorof
Amina Khatun	55	1298	335	77 Nichtorof
Rejaul Islam	40	1318	3685	77 Nichtorof

They all have 7/8 bigha agricultural land in that area and now Border Security Force personnel restricted their movement to the agricultural field. Not only five but also there more than 40 farmers who are treated in the same manner by the BSF.

Some villagers told to our District Human Rights Monitor that BSF always placed these types of illegal demand from them. Few days ago they demanded Bamboo poles from one villager. If the villagers cannot provide them their demandable stuffs, BSF use abusive language towards them and place illegal restriction upon their agricultural activities.

On 10.11.2020 the villagers jointly submitted one written complaint to the Block Development Officer of Mekhliganj Block regarding this illegal restriction placed by BSF upon their agricultural activities. The letter was received with the official seal and signature of the receiving department of the Block development Office, Mekhliganj but till date not a single step has been taken.

The arbitrary actions and whimsical restrictions imposed by the Border Security Force attached with Changrabanda Border Out Post of 148 Battalion upon the villagers of 77 Nichtorof Bhotbari are 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 or personal 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 6 of International

Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Goal numbers 2,6 and 16 of United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, which Government of India has taken pledge to adhere with.

Hence I request your urgent intervention in this matter with the following demands:-

- The Border Security Forces should be posted at zero point, not to be posted in the villages.
- The Border Security Force authority must be directed to protect the interest of the villagers living at the border nearing villages.
- Unrestricted movements for the villagers within Indian Territory must be ensured.
- Villagers should be allowed to cultivate their own agricultural lands freely and without any unreasonable restriction.
- Protect the life and livelihood and freedom of movement of the poor villagers of 77 Nichtorof Bhotbari village under Mekhliganj Police Station, District Cooch Behar, West Bengal from whimsical and outrageous rules framed by Border Security Force.
- Border Security Force should follow the decisions taken in the meeting with Border Security Force and National Human Rights Commission on 16-17 February, 2012.
- Commission must take action against the perpetrator BSF who forced the villagers to buy their regular needs and restrict the agricultural activities of them.
- The Commission must initiate an independent investigation over the continuance of illegal restriction by Border Security Force upon the agricultural activities of the villagers and unplanned whimsical fencing in the village.

Thanking You,

Yours truly

Dipyaman Adhikary

Assistant Secretary

Banglar Manabadhikar Suraksha Mancha (MASUM)

Attached Documents

Picture of the affected villagers



Copy of the complaint to the Block Development officer of Mekhliganj by the affected villagers

To,
The B.D.O
Mekhliganj, Cooch behar.

Date:- 10.11.2020

আমরা নিম্ন বর্ণিত খাস্তার কাজে কারিগর অতি দুঃখের
আইত জমার্তাওটি (৩৪৬ Bm) কালোনিয়ন এর অধীনে
২৪(৮৩৩) এর পোর্ট-টিমে কাজ করে আমরা BSF এর ন্যায়কম
সুস্বাদু বিচার ২৪০-২৫০। ১৫৪ Bm BSF চাড়া বাড়া BSF এর
ইচ্ছাধীন কাজে জাণ আত্মার অধিক জাণ বিনা কাজে এক
মিউনিসিপাল কাজ কর্ম নরত নানা কাম অকস্মাত অসুখিত হু
হু। এককর প্রমাণ প্রাণে টম আত্মার কৃষকদের কাজে ও
বড় রেজিষ্টার খাত কিম্বা প্রমাণে এবং প্রতিনিয়ন সীকা টম
না দিলে নিউন নতম অধিক হু BSF জগায়ন হু, হিদি
দিলে প্রামাণ্যক কাম। কাজে টেমের দিলে BSF জগায়ন
কৃষকের খাড়া আত্মার অসুখ অসুখ হু জা দিলে। পর
জাণ আত্মার খাড়া টেম, জাণ ও অন্যান্য কৃষিকার
দিলে খাড়া আত্মার পুর অসুখিত হু। জা জা
জা জা জা জা জা জা BSF এর company commander বুককি
কম বড় কাজে (১৫০) জা দিলে।

অতএব আমরা খাস্তার নিম্নে বিবরণ প্রার্থনা মে উক্ত-
অসুখিত কৃষিকার কাজে- জা জা হু।

ব্যক্তিগণের খাস্তা :-

- ১/ রফিকুল ইসলাম
- ২/ অসমতন হু
- ৩/ প্রীয়া হু
- ৪/ হু
- ৫/ হিদি হু
- ৬/ Minhajul Ansari

RECEIVED
10 NOV 2020
[Signature]

17/ Muslim Newy Islam

18/ Resident House

19/ ...

20/ ...

21/ ...

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23/ ...

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34/ ...

35/ ...

36/ ...

37/ ...

38/ ...

39/ ...

40/ ...

41/ LTI Basanti Roy

৩৫/ সুফিয়াতুল

৩৬/ আব্দুলবাকুরুল

৩৭/ সুবুলু রাহ

৩৮/ Abdul Aziz

৩৯/ সুবুলু রাহ

৪০/ সুবুলু রাহ

৪১/ Diya

৪২/ আব্দুল মালিক

৪৩/ সুবুলু রাহ

৪৪/ আব্দুল মালিক

৪৫/ সুবুলু রাহ

৪৬/ mostafizul Rahman

৪৭/ Nurjamaal

৪৮/ সুবুলু রাহ

