



Social Mobilization Observing International Day For Victims Of Torture

Banglar Manabdhikar Suraksha Mancha (MASUM) observed International Day for Victims of Torture at three districts of its presence; 24 Parganas (North), Murshidabad and Cooch Behar along with Srerampore in Hooghly district where the central office of MASUM is situated. To commemorate the day MASUM organized tableau processions, speeches, cultural events and leaflet distributions at all the mentioned places. The tableau covered large stretches of Indo- Bangladesh bordering areas of Gaighata, Bongaon and Bagdah blocks of 24 Parganas (North), Akherigunj, Lalgola and Shamshergunj blocks of Murshidabad and Dinhata I, Sitai and Sitalkuch blocks under Cooch Behar districts, while at Serampore, it covered the busy thoroughfares of the city. The tableaus were decorated with printed slogans like; stop torture, end of impunity, immediate

ratification of UN Convention against Torture by India and subsequent domestic law, immediate punitive actions against police and Border Security Force personnel having involvement in acts of torture, end of extra judicial killings, enforced disappearance and illegitimate restrictions on movement and occupation at Indo- Bangladesh bordering areas of West Bengal and so on. The speakers; mainly the activists of MASUM and two conglomerations of erstwhile enclave dwellers and bordering population; Amra Chitmahalbasi and Amra Simantabasi respectively dealt with the issue and elaborated the torture scenario in West Bengal and India and linked the individual torture incidents with legalities and its violation. MASUM reiterated its commitment towards a torture free world and called the broader civil society to speak out against continuance of torture and impunity.