Tripura scribe killing: Commandant held, sent to PC

AGARTALA, NOV 22 /--/ The commandant of the 2nd battalion of the Tripura State Rifles(TSR), Tapan Debbarma was today arrested in connection with the killing of a journalist inside the battalion headquarters near here and remanded in Police Custody (PC) for ten days by a local court. Superintendent of Police (Police Control), Harkumar Debbarna said the commandant of the counter-insurgency paramilitary force was arrested for conspiring to kill the scribe, Sudip Datta Bhaumick inside the battalion headquarters at Radhakishore Nagar on Tuesday. TSR constable Nandalal Reang, who allegedly shot dead the journalist and was arrested last night, was also sent to police custody for ten days.

He and Debbarma were produced this morning before chief judicial magistrate Sharmishtha Mukherjee who passed the order. Datta Bhaumick, a reporter of the local Bengali daily 'Syandan Patrika', was gunned down around 2 pm, west Tripura superintendent of police Abhijit Saptarshi said. He was the second scribe to be killed in the north eastern state in two months. His body was taken in a procession today by journalists and newspaper employees of the state after postmortem at the G B Hospital.

The body was taken to the Agartala Press Club and the office of 'Syandan Patrika'. Editors, journalists and senior politicians like Tripura BJP president Biplab Deb, BJP MLA Sudip Barman and CPI-M M P, Shankar Prasad Datta offered floral tribute to the slain scribe. The procession stopped near the official residence of chief minister Manik Sarkar and held a protest there alleging that the Left Front ministry has failed to provide safety and security to the journalists. The protesting journalists also burnt jackets which had been provided to them by the police for the purpose of identification.

"We have burnt the jackets in protest against the government's failure to provide security to us. Within two months, two journalists were killed. The chief minister is also the home minister of the state and he cannot evade the responsibility," Pranab Sarkar, secretary of the Tripura Journalists Union told reporters. Editor of 'Syandan Patrika', Subal Kumar Dey alleged that Datta Bhaumick was killed because he had exposed the many misdeeds and corruption by the commandant. "It was a cold-blooded murder and Sudip was killed because he had written 11 news items exposing the commandant," he added. Killing of the scribe has evoked strong protest from different journalist organizations. The All Manipur Working Journalist Union (AMWJU) today condemned the killing of Sudip Datta Bhaumik and urged the state government to ensure safety of scribes in the state. The AMWJU staged a sit-in protest here to condemn the killing. a journalist working with a Bengali newspaper in Tripura. Secretary General of AMWJU, Sukham Nanda told PTI over phone that the media fraternity of Manipur mourns the loss of one of their colleagues. Nanda urged the Tripura government to ensure safety of scribes in the state. The Editors Guild of Manipur in a statement also condemned the killing of Bhaumik. The killing comes just two months after a TV journalist was killed in West Tripura district. On September 20, the journalist of a local television channel, Santanu Bhowmick, was killed at Mandai in West Tripura district when he went to cover an agitation by the Indigeneous Peoples Front of Tripura (PTI).

Members of the media fraternity and political leaders paying tributes to journalist Sudip Dutta Bhowmik at Agartala Press Club.

Saswati Bal president of KIIT and KISS and Prof. Achyuta Samanta, founder of the two institutions are jointly handing over the Humanitarian Award 2017 to the Dalai Lama at a well-attended function in Bhunaneswar on Tuesday.

Dalai Lama presented KISS Humanitarian Award

BHUBANESWAR, NOV 22 /--/ The Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences presented its Humanitarian Award 2017 to the Dalai Lama at here on Tuesday. Saswati Bal, President, KIIT and KISS and Prof. Achyuta Samanta, founder of the two institutions jointly handed over the award to the Dalai Lama at a well-attended function.

The recognises his "concern for the oppressed human beings" who need compassion. He is a beacon of hope, aspiration and inspiration for the millions of people across the world and is known for his struggles and sacrifices for people's causes, the citation noted.

In his acceptance speech, the Dalai Lama called for making this century a century of compassion and peace. "Previous century was marred by violence - There were world wars in which atom bombs were also used. Brains of brilliant scientists were utilised for destruction. Let the 21st century be the century of compassion and peace. World peace can be achieved only by inner peace", the 1989 Nobel Peace Prize winner said. (EOIC)

Union minister faces wrath of passengers for flight delay

NEW DELHI, NOV 22 /--/ Union minister K J Alphons said today he was not responsible for delay of a flight after a purported video of a passenger arguing with him at the Imphal airport went viral. A video on Tuesday shows a passenger who had to attend a funeral in Patna, complaining to Alphons about the flight being delayed due to VIP movement. President Ram Nath Kovind was scheduled to arrive at the Manipur capital to inaugurate the Northeast Development Summit and several Union ministers too were participating in it.

"Three flights were delayed because of VVIP movement as the President's flight was scheduled to arrive. Air traffic was affected for nearly two hours," an official at Imphal airport said. "I have to reach Patna. The body is waiting, otherwise the body will decay. I am a doctor, I know that. The body is still at home," a woman can be heard pleading with Alphons, who maintains his calm.

According to Alphons, he approached a woman crying at the airport and could be seen in the video losing her cool. "She was crying and I wanted to know what happened. She started saying that she had to go to Patna to attend a relative's funeral which was scheduled in the afternoon. She was distraught because her flight was delayed and she feared the body will decay. "As a representative of government of India, she wanted me to intervene," Alphons told PTI, amid allegations that he was the cause of the delay of the flight. The Union tourism minister was accompanied by commerce minister Suresh Prabhu, Aviation Minister Jayant Sinha and senior BJP leader Ram Madhav. "I can understand her anguish but as I told her, the President's flight was landing and as per protocol no other flight can land or take off at that time. "This protocol is in place for the past 70 years and not made by this government. I tried to tell her that her flight will leave as soon as the President's flight lands, but she was really in distress," Alphons said. (PTI)

Jharkhand govt gears up to fight malnutrition

RANCHI, NOV 22 /--/ Jharkhand Chief Minister (CM) Raghubar Das has vowed to intensify fight against malnourishment and declared 2018 as "Nirog Bal Varsh".

Chairing a meeting on Tuesday to review the progress of the state's nourishment mission, the chief minister said malnourishment was a big problem for Jharkhand and the government's priority was to make the state free from the menace in the next three to four years.

"The year 2018 will be observed as 'Nirog Bal Varsh'. This will be a major step in our fight against malnourishment in Jharkhand," an official release issued by the government said.

Long term schemes have to be initiated to deal with the problem, he said. "Everyday milk would be made available for two lakh children in government schools," the CM assured, adding that support would be sought from MLAs, businessmen and entrepreneurs for the programme.

Das also urged the social welfare department and the health department to work in tandem with the best interests of the people in mind.

"The aim is to bring Jharkhand among the top ten nourished states in the country in the next three to four years," the chief minister added. (PTI)

Arrested members were on peace mission: Art of Living

SHILLONG, NOV 22 /--/ The Art of Living (AoL) Foundation, whose members were arrested on charges of conspiracy and having links with a banned insurgent group in Meghalaya's West Jaintia Hills district, today said that they were on a peace mission. The foundation issued a statement here following the arrest of two of its members at Dawki near the Meghalaya-Bangladesh border on November 20.

It said they were on a peace mission to convince members of the outlawed Hynniewtrep National Liberation Council (HNLC) members to eschew violence and join the mainstream. "Senior Faculty Samir Jolly accompanied by Khroo Lamsalanki Pariat were on a peace mission to establish contact with the misguided youths who are operating in the area and convince them to eschew violence and join the mainstream," the Art of Living Foundation said in a statement here.

West Jaintia Hills district superintendent of police Vivek Syiem had told PTI on Tuesday that the two had valid visas to travel to Bangladesh but not the legal mandate or the permission of the state government to hold parleys with the HNLC leaders. They were charged under Sections 10 and 13 of UAPA. The statement said, the activities of the members were a part of Sri Sri Ravi Shankar's vision of engaging the misguided youth of the region and facilitating the process of making them come over ground. The Art of Living foundation claimed that similar intervention in Manipur had led to the recent homecoming of 68 militants where it also trained and rehabilitated cadres from United Liberation Front of Assam (ULFA) and those in Manipur.

HNLC sent a statement to the media during the day in which it lauded the NDA ministry at the Centre and the Art of Living Foundation for trying to negotiate peace in the state. "The organisation expressed its gratefulness to the ministry and the AoL for their willingness to bring the HNLC to the negotiating table," HNLC spokesperson Sainkupar Nongtraw said in an e-mail. (PTI)

Odisha cop issues advisory to check spread of obscene videos

BHUBANESWAR, NOV 22 /--/ In an attempt to check circulation of obscene videos on social media, the Odisha Police today issued an advisory, listing out the legal implications of such activities. The police action comes after reports of such videos being spread came to light in Mayurbhanj and Keonjhar districts. "We have issued an advisory for both the police and the public to help check circulation of such obscene videos and pictures," DGP R P Sharma told reporters in sideline of a function here. Some people are found engaging in taking pictures and videos of various physical acts and disseminating them on the Internet with an intention to harass and blackmail the victim leaving him/her in mental trauma, Sharma said.

Mizo govt staff on strike demanding 7th pay panel

AIZAWL, NOV 22 /--/ The two-day pen-down strike called by an organisation of state government employees and workers today affected day-to-day functioning in offices. The strike called by Federation of Mizoram Government Employees and Workers (FMGE and W) demanded implementation of the Centre's seventh pay commission recommendations. The leaders of the organisation claimed that government employees went to their respective offices but did not work. They alleged that the Mizoram government had delayed the implementation of the pay panel recommendations by constituting a pay review committee chaired by state planning board vice-chairman H Liansailova. (PTI)

Winged guests arrive at Odisha's Chilika

BHUBANESWAR, NOV 22 /--/ Migratory birds have started thronging Odisha's Chilika Lake, the country's largest brackish water lagoon. The forest department officials here are expecting the numbers to increase manifold in the next few weeks. "Their arrival started early this month. Approximately around two lakh birds have been sighted so far. The number is going to rise steadily in the coming days," Divisional Forest Officer (DFO), Chilika Wildlife Division, Bikash Ranjan Dash told PTI. The arrival of migratory birds in the lake region was delayed this year due to climatic conditions, the DFO said, adding that they usually flock to the lake during the second half of October.

Heavy rain triggered by low pressure continued till mid-November, making the weather unsuitable for the feathered guests, he said. "Recurrent rainfall led to submergence of high patches and vegetation areas of the lake, which probably prompted the birds to delay their landing," the forest officer said. Dash said the forest department has made elaborate preparations to provide protection to the migratory birds. "We have set up 19 temporary bird protection camps at Nalabana sanctuary and its adjacent areas. Patrolling has been intensified to prevent poaching," said the DFO.

Daily wagers have also been engaged in the camps apart from forest staffers to look after the birds till March, Dash added. The 15.59-sqkm Nalabana was declared a bird sanctuary almost two decades ago as the winged guests were found congregating in that area in large numbers. No boats, except for the ones used by the forest department, are allowed to enter the sanctuary, said a forest department official.

The birds are now perching on areas with comparatively low water level and mud patches. Pintails, gadwals, shovellers, rudy shelducks, pratincoles and waders have been spotted in and around the lake so far, the larger ones are yet to arrive, he said. Unbearable cold during the winter months forces these migrant species to temporarily leave their original habitat. Apart from Chilika, the Bhitarkanika wetland spots in Odisha also happen to be a favoured destination of the migratory birds as it offers ample food and less human interference, officials said. Considered the largest wintering ground for migratory birds on the Indian sub-continent, the Chilika attract avian guests from north, central and east Siberia, China, Mongolia, west Asian countries, and the Himalayan region every year. Last winter, as many as 9.47 lakh birds of 176 different species were spotted at the lake, Dash added. (PTI)

State Notes

Nitish orders for better upkeep of roads

PATNA, NOV 22 /--/ Bihar Chief Minister (CM) Nitish Kumar today stressed on better upkeep of roads in the state to ensure trouble-free journey for commuters. Chairing a meeting of the state road construction department here, the CM issued instructions for bringing state highways and other roads under the output and performance-based road maintenance contract (OPRMC). The meeting which was attended, among others, by deputy chief minister Sushil Kumar Modi and minister for road construction department Nand Kishore Yadav, an official statement said. Briefing the chief minister on the occasion, Principal Secretary, Road Construction department, Amrit Lal Meena said that the centrally-sponsored "Bharatmala" scheme proposes to build 35,000 kms of roads across the country of which 1432 kms would fall in Bihar. He said this would involve construction of roads on important routes like Aurangabad-Darbhanga, Sasaram-Patna, Chhapra-Patna and Patna-Hajipur-Muzaffarpur. A video presentation was also made before the chief minister of the "Ram Manohar Lohia Path Chakra", an integrated movement circuit aimed at decongesting traffic in and around the state capital.

Senior CPM leader passes away

KOLKATA, NOV 22 /--/ Senior CPI(M) leader and the chairman of the party's Central Control Commission, Sukomal Sen, passed away at a city hospital this morning after a massive cardiac arrest. He was 83. Sen, who was one of the main organisers of state government employees' movement in the country, was suffering from age-related ailments. He is survived by his wife and son. The former Rajya Sabha MP had served as the general secretary of All India State Government Employees Federation. He was also the vice-president of the Centre of Indian Trade Unions (CITU), the trade union wing of the CPI-M

Five die in Arunachal fire

ITANAGAR, NOV 22 /--/ At least five persons were charred to death after a fire broke out in a wooden house at Ziro in Lower Subansiri district of Arunachal Pradesh, officials said today. The victims, four men and a woman, were tenants of the 14-room house which was reduced to ashes. The fire broke out on Tuesday evening when only those five persons were present in the house, the officials said. The cause of the fire and the extent of damage were being ascertained. Deputy Commissioner Kemo Lollen said fire tenders stationed at the advanced landing ground of the Indian Air Force were pressed into service to douse the blaze. Chief Minister Pema Khandu expressed grief over the deaths and directed the officials to provide shelter to the tenants of the house who were rendered homeless. Khandu asked people to follow fire safety measures especially during the winter so that such incidents do not recur as the administration can intervene in the aftermath. Unconfirmed reports said the owner of the house was also among the dead.

Aizwal to be on railway map in 3 yrs

AIZAWL, NOV 22 /--/ The Mizoram state capital will be on the railway map in the next three years with the construction of a railroad between Sairang and Bairabi likely to be completed in 2020, a senior Railway official said. The 51-km broad-gauge line between Sairang near here and Bairabi bordering Assam, that will include seven bridges and 23 tunnels, would be completed in December 2020, General Manager (Construction), North East Frontier Railway N K Prasad said. Twenty-two of the 23 tunnels have been drilled, Prasad said. (PTI)

Theft at schools

HOWRAH, NOV 22 /--/ Thieves broke into two schools in Howrah district and took away 27 computers, documents and Rs 3,500 in cash, police said today. The incident happened at Gangadharpur under the jurisdiction of Panchla police station.

The schools, Gangadharpur Vidyamandir and Gangadharpur Balika Vidyamandir, are situated close to each other. The thieves have stolen 20 computers from the first school and seven computers from the second school, a police officer said. They have also stolen important documents from both the schools and Rs 3,500 in cash from Gangadharpur Vidyamandir, the police officer said. An investigation has been initiated, the officer added.(PTI)

LOST & FOUND

GORDHAN AGARWAL C/O SHREE SHANKAR TRADING CO P4 NEW HOWRAH BRIDGE APP ROAD,1ST FLOOR,KOLKATA-700007. 50 SHARES OF HCL TECHNOLOGIES LTD HAVING DISTINCTIVE NO: 325668729 TO 325668778 VIDE SHARES CERTIFICATE NO: 290004, FOLIO NO-204665. IF FOUND CONTACT IMMEDIATELY.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, REJAUL HAQUE BISWAS S/O. KITABALI BISWAS R/O. VILL- SOLUA, P.O. PUTIMARI, P.S. TEHATTA, DIST. NADIA, W.B., PIN-741103 DECLAIR THAT MY NAME HAS BEEN WRONGLY RECORDED AS REJUL BISWAS IN MY PASSPORT BEING NO. H 1728974 INSTEAD OF MY ORIGINAL NAME REJAUL HAQUE BISWAS.
SO I DECLAIRE THAT REJAUL HAQUE BISWAS AND REJUL BISWAS IS SAME AND ONE IDENTICAL PERSONAS PER AFFIDAVIT NOTARY PUBLIC KRISHNAGAR, NADIA ON 21.11.2017

CHANGE OF NAME

I, MANAS KUMAR HAIT S/O BHUPATI CHARAN HAIT DO HEREBY DECLARE THAT MY ELDER SON NAME SUBHADIP HAIT & SUBHADEEP HAIT IS THE SAME & ONE IDENTICAL PERSON VIDE AFFIDAVIT NO 11150 DATED 17/10/2017 AND NY YOUNGER SON NAME SANDIP HAIT & SANDEEP HAIT IS THE SAME & ONE IDENTICAL PERSON VIDE AFFIDAVIT NO 11151 DATED 17/10/2017 FROM 1ST CLASS JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE, CONTAI, PURBA MEDINIPUR.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, ASHIS KUMAR DAS S/O ADHIR CHANDRA DAS DOHEREBY DECLARE THAT MY DAUGHTER SRABANI DAS & SARABANI IS THE SAME & ONE IDENTICAL PERSON VIDE AFFIDAVIT NO. 13,374 DATED 03/11/17 FROM 1ST CLASSJUDICIAL MAGISTRATE TAMLUK

CHANGE OF NAME

I RINA KHAN W/O HAFIJUL ALI KHAN D/O EARNABI MIRDEY RESIDING AT MAJHER PARA, UNSANI, HOWRAH-711302 SHALL HENCEFORTH BE KNOWN AS HAMIDA BEGUM BY AFFIDAVIT MADE BEFORE NOTARY PUBLIC BANKSHALL COURT KOLKATA ON 22/11/2017

CHANGE OF NAME

I, SMT KAJAL MONDAL WIFE OF NILKAMAL MONDAL RESIDING AT VILL ANJANGARH P.O. BADKULLA P.S. TAHERPUR SUB DIVISION RANAGHAT DIST NADIA WEST BENGAL PIN-741121 MY HUSBAND'S SERVICE BOOK RECORDED MY NAME IS TARULATA MONDAL BY MISTAKE HENCE KAJAL MONDAL AND TARULATA MONDAL IS SAME ONE IDENTICAL PERSON VIDE AN AFFIDAVIT BY NOTARY AT RANAGHAT COURT NADIA DATED 17/10/2017.

CHANGE OF NAME

I PREVIOUSLY CALLED SUDHA MALOO W/O, ROMY MALOO R/O, 2/2B, JUSTICE CHANDRA MADHAB ROAD 2ND FLOOR, P.S. BHOWANIPORE. KOLKATA-700020. HAVE CHANGED MY NAME AS RAJ KUMARI MALOO VIDE AN AFFIDAVIT SWORN BEFORE THE NOTARY PUBLIC AT KOLKATA ON 22.11.2017

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