

Miles to go ...



Monthly Report February, 2024



Achievements

1. Sambhu Singh lives in Mekhliganj, hardly 10-15 meters from the Indo Bangladesh Border. In 2021, he was kidnapped from his residence by Bangladeshi nationals; thereafter he was apprehended by the BGB, and without any documents on him, he was arrested and interned at Lalmonirhat Jail for three long years. MASUM has been persistently fighting for his repatriation, and, on 13th February, 2024 – he was finally repatriated from Bangladesh and reunited with his family.



2. In villages Kaliyani and Charpara, Indo-Bangladesh Border, North 24 Paraganas, measurements are underway to erect fence and pave the IBBR road along the actual Indo-Bangladesh border on the banks of the Nangbhanga river. Due to consistent movement by MASUM and *Amra Simantabasi* – this fence is not going to pass through the villages inside Indian Territory, and will be erected at the actual border.

Case Briefs

In the night of 16th February, 2024, Border Security Force personnel of the 73rd Battalion, posted at Kaharpara Border Outpost no. 3, committed mischief upon 20 kathas of banana plantation of Mr. Anarul Molla, (son of Late Taher Molla, aged 61 years, by faith Muslim and resident of: Beledanga Khamarpara Village, Katlamari-I GP, P.O.: Katlamari, P.S. Raninagar, Raninagar-II block, district – Murshidabad) at Mouza Katlamari, Khatiyon No. 13986 and Dag No. 121 – where the cultivated banana were of prime quality and ready for harvest, incurring an estimated loss of about 60,000 INR for Anarul Molla (about 100 trees, each yielding a banana produce of approximately 600 INR). This part of his agricultural land lies on the other side of the border fence, but well within the Indian Territory; as the border fence has been erected on both sides of the Indo-Bangladesh border road (IBBR) passing through the village, instead of along the actual border delineated by the International Border Pillars (IBP). This kind of erratic fencing is actually very common along the Indo-Bangladesh border passing through West Bengal, and causes persistent harassment to the villagers and restrictions on their life and livelihood in all villages along the Indo-Bangladesh Border.

This act by BSF personnel of the 73rd Battalion is an act of illegal trespass on private land and damage to agricultural crop, perpetrated by the BSF personnel with complete impunity. The entire village of Beledanga is inhabited by farmers like him, with much of their agricultural lands on the other side of the border – and BSF often imposes arbitrary illegal restrictions on them, which they have no authority to. On 17th February, 2024, Mr. Molla, on receiving news of this massacre, approached the company commander to report the matter, and hoping for redressal – but he was viciously insulted and threatened and driven out. No complaint or report was registered by the BSF with the local police station before destroying said property, nor was the felled banana crop submitted to the government, and banana crop worth 60,000 INR was usurped by the defaulter BSF. Thereafter, on 20th February, 2024, he submitted a written complaint to the Raninagar Police Station, through WhatsApp messaging, from +919647319275 (his son, Sohel Badsha's phone number) to +919147888536 (phone number of the Officer in charge, Raninagar Police Station), requesting redressal, compensation, and protection from harassment by the BSF. The police have taken no initiative to apprehend the accused company commander or other BSF personnel, or to arrange for a compensation for the damaged crop. No FIR has been registered either, despite clear and cognizable offences done by the BSF personnel.

This complaint was on grave and on-going violation of agriculture and livelihood of the villagers of Hemkumari Dangapara village under Hemkumari Gram Panchayat in Haldibari Block, Mekhliganj Sub-division, Cooch Behar district, by BSF personnel of the 40th Battalion posted at Krishna Border Outpost. The barbed wire fence installed by BSF in this village passes through the village; about 150-200 meters away from the actual Indo-Bangladesh border delineated by the international border pillars. The village has around 1100 inhabitants, 60% Muslim, 40% Hindu (Scheduled Castes), mostly poor peasants. There is no government provided facility for irrigation or drinking water in the entire village. 35-40 families of peasants in this village have their agricultural lands, amounting to 280 Bighas, on the other side of the fence, near Gate no. 1, Krishna BOP, still well within the Indian Territory; and they have to pass through the aforementioned gate every day with agricultural equipment, livestock to irrigate and cultivate their own agricultural land. Most of these families are Muslim by faith. Starting from 18th January, 2024, BSF Company Commander Rabindra Khare has been prohibiting the peasants from going to their own agricultural lands. On the same day, he instructed BSF personnel under his command to destroy 10 kathas of Maize plantation (ready for harvest) on the private agricultural land of Abedul Haque, incurring an estimated damage of 10,000 INR. Peasants have already cultivated potatoes, tomatoes, chillies and other crops on these lands which they are unable to harvest right now, and these laboriously cultivated crops are going to waste. They are also unable to start cultivating Boro paddy on their fields. Peasants are incurring a loss of at least 15,000-20,000 INR per Bigha. Said poor peasants are entirely dependent on agriculture on their lands for sustenance, and this loss is massive, seeing as their annual income is hardly 35,000 INR on an average. Nonetheless, even after the Pradhan, Hemkumari G.P., along with members of the Panchayat went to the B.O.P and requested the Company Commander to allow passage of the affected peasants to their agricultural lands, BSF Company Commander declined the request, in direct contrivance of the constitutional jurisdiction of the Gram Panchayat.

This complaint was on trespassing and destruction of a fertile banana plantation by BSF personnel on the lands of two marginalized farmers in the Kaliyani village on the Indo-Bangladesh border, under the jurisdiction of Petrapole Police Station, Bangaon Block, North 24 Paraganas. On the 2 Acre of agricultural lands of Mr. Nabakumar Sarkar (S/o Late Radhapada Sarkar, 35 years, Scheduled Caste, Hindu) at Mouza: Chhaygharia, J.L no.: 115, Khatiyon no.: 5946, Dag no.: 3888 and Mr. Pran Krishna Sarkar (S/o Shanti Ranjan Sarkar, 44 years, Scheduled Caste, Hindu) Mouza: Chhaygharia, J.L. no.: 115, Khatiyon no.: 5991, Dag no.: 3889 in the village of Kaliyani, located near Indo-Bangladesh Border Road, near gate no. 7 of Kaliyani Border Outpost, In the night of 5th January, 2024, BSF personnel of the 'F' Company of the 5th Battalion, at the behest of company commander Mr. Tarun Das, committed mischief upon their entire banana plantations which were fertile and ready for harvest, incurring an estimated loss of about 50,000 INR for each of the aforementioned farmers. This is an act of illegal trespass on private land and damage to agricultural crop, perpetrated by the BSF personnel with complete impunity. The said farmers also depend on the produce of their land to sustain their families; and their entire banana harvest thus damaged, they have been dealt an irreparable blow to their livelihood, and they have no alternate means to sustain their families. The entire village of Kaliyani is inhabited by farmers like them – and BSF often imposes arbitrary illegal restrictions on them, which they have no authority to. BSF has also unlawfully issued a decree prohibiting the cultivation of any crop that grows higher than 3 feet, which is in violation of the fundamental right of the villagers to pursue any livelihood for their subsistence. On 6 January 2024, villagers visited local member of gram panchayat and Pradhan (Head of local - self-government and informed them about the loss. Both Pradhan and member informed them that those BSF personnel of Kaliyani BOP under Mr. Das are not hearing villagers' problem, they are impertinent, so it is useless to approach before them.

This was a case of sexual assault and ragging on a girl child in the residential school named Front Page Girls' Academy, located in Deganga, North 24 Paraganas, and subsequent hostility faced by the child and her parents from the school authorities, repeated threats delivered on behalf of the accused persons, and persistent inaction by the police. Said girl child has been forced to discontinue her education at the aforementioned school and she currently is unable to continue her education in any manner. Victim girl child and her family is living in constant fear due to repeated and continued threats, whereas the police have yet taken no steps to begin investigation or to provide the family with necessary protection. Jesmin (Name changed) Nahar (13 y/o, D/o Mr. Badruddin Mallik and Mrs. Jhuma Khatun Gazi, currently residing in Gopalpur Hat, Falta, South 24 Paraganas, West Bengal, Muslim by religion) is a brilliant student of Front-Page Girls' Academy, Dewanati, Hadipur, Deganga, under the jurisdiction of Deganga police station, in the Barasat sub-division of the district of North 24 Paraganas, West Bengal. Jesmin (Name changed) Nahar was physically accosted, verbally abused and sexually assaulted brutally by her classmates and roommates in her hostel on 30th November, 2023. She narrated the incident to her mother, Jhuma Khatun Gazi, on the next day, 1st October, 2023, Sunday, when she came to visit her daughter at the hostel. Jhuma Khatun Gazi immediately informed the Headmistress, M/s. Fatematuz Zohra of this incident, but the headmistress refused to take any steps in this matter – on the contrary, she threatened the victim and instructed her to not report this matter or talk about this to anyone. Jhuma Khatun Gazi was forced to remove her daughter from said school, and on the very next day, 2nd October, 2023, arranged for her medical examination and treatment at Government health facilities in Biswanathpur and in Madhyamgram, and reported the matter in full detail to the police, and an FIR was lodged at the Deganga Police Station vide FIR no. 512/2023 under section 506 of the IPC and section 12 of POCSO (2012) by Mr. Syamprasad Saha, IC, Deganga Police Station, and Mr. Tushar Kanti Ghosh, SI, was assigned as the investigating officer. However, no initiative was taken by the police to initiate investigation or apprehend the accused, and Jhuma Khatun Gazi received repeated threats telephonically, making her extremely scared for her daughter's, her own, and her family's safety. She was also unable to retrieve her daughter's belongings from the school and has till date not been able to recover said items. She submitted complaints in this regard to the Superintendent of Police, Barasat Police district, and the District Magistrate, North 24 Paraganas on 10th October, 2023, with the details of the origin of the threatening calls, and appealed again to begin investigation, apprehend the accused persons, and keep her family safe.

MASUM in Media

<https://businesspostbd.com/national/bnp-wants-un-led-probe-into-raisuddins-killing-by-bsf>

https://www.counterview.net/2024/02/security-men-trespass-destroy-west.html?fbclid=IwAR0IV_Wz2xD9SAT8V-RH-eyBAxb1LkQ_f6ecm3TX4apEaF3dTU7r9fGNJc

https://www.counterview.net/2024/02/bsf-should-take-full-responsibility-for.html?fbclid=IwAR0ew7i24IEeVabbjbl_gzYicml1cdrZ5I3D5-I39Ed7JwH1UAdR3wPd1qA

<https://www.counterview.net/2024/02/railway-cops-torture-youth-on.html?fbclid=IwAR2P0fZAKi3KqIG7hBL89bEsoaG0WKcwsFFjySTPE26JxBVOva8mSpcVaOI>

STATEMENTS

CONDOLENCE AND CONDEMNATION STATEMENT ON THE UNFORTUNATE DEATH OF FOUR CHILDREN IN CHOPRA, NORTH DINAJPUR

We at MASUM are deeply disturbed and appalled by the callous trench-digging by BSF in Chetnagachh Village under Daspara Gram Panchayat, Chopra, North Dinajpur District, West Bengal – that has yesterday claimed the lives of four children. Along the entire stretch of Indo-Bangladesh border of West Bengal – instead of guarding the actual border delineated by the International Border Pillars, BSF builds fences and digs trenches well inside the Indian Territory, passing through villages and encroaching on private lands, often without due clearance or consent. They are also posted therefore inside villages, and the actual border remains unguarded. This disrupts gravely, along the entire stretch of the Indo-Bangladesh border, the villagers' agriculture and livelihood as well as their regular lives. BSF personnel also subject villagers to regular harassment and de-humanization; often torturing them brutally on the roads, or on their own agricultural lands, or even inside their own homes where BSF trespass.

However, according to the West Bengal Panchayet Act, 1973's sections 19 (2) (a), (d), and (f), the gram panchayat is the only designated authority for any construction for public purposes or utility and if any department/ body/ authority tries to perform the same, it is illegal and punishable in law. BSF in different districts of West Bengal are being arbitrarily and illegally involved in such civil construction activities. In the current case also, we observe that BSF personnel had dangerously undertaken to dig a trench through the Chetnagachh Village with heavy earthmovers. No precautions were taken even to dispose of or store the displaced loose soil safely. Four local children, Golam Mustafa (5 years), Yusuf Ali (6 years), Mohammad Islam (5 years) and Taleb Ali (12 years), were present in the work-site on the morning of Monday, 12th February, 2024, and a mound of loose soil caved in, burying all four of them. They were immediately rescued and sent to the Chopra Dalui hospital by villagers, where they were all declared dead. It is proved that the spot is not under scanner of posted BSF. Similar trench- digging activities is in progress in Jhaukuthi and Dhadial in Toofangunj block and Haridas in Dinhatra block of Cooch Behar district, where 62 and 90 Battalion of BSF is posted respectively. Several complaints against digging trenches by the BSF in the villages of North Bengal are lying pending before the Union Government, State Government, BSF and local administration for years together

It is also not true that E Coy of 32 BN BSF was digging a drain, as they claimed before media. It is the plan now carried out by Northern Bengal Frontier to dig 10'-15' deep trench at every village bordering Bangladesh. Police, BDO, local Panchayets are powerless before armed BSF.

We would like to note that the responsibility for these unfortunate and entirely avoidable deaths of four children lie squarely on the shoulders of BSF personnel of the 'E' Company of the 132nd Battalion, who undertook a dangerous project of trench-digging inside the village illegally, and furthermore took no precautions to ensure the safety of the villagers and children during this undertaking.

Hence, we demand, 1) Digging trench in the villages by BSF should be stopped; 2) BSF should be posted through the IBP; 3) The Commander of E Coy of 32 BN BSF should be apprehended and be presented in open court of law for killing 4 minors; and 4) The four victim families should be adequately compensated.

Statement on BSF - Bangladesh border and remarks of Chief Minister, West Bengal

Banglar Manabadhikar Suraksha Mancha (MASUM) welcomes the recent remark of West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee while she alleged, the Border Security Force (BSF) was issuing separate identity cards to people living along the Bangladesh border while urging them to reject these documents as their names would be deleted from the National Register of Citizens (NRC). She also urged the residents of Indo- Bangladesh bordering area to lodge complaints to police in case of issuance of separate identity cards by the BSF. MASUM is convivial about these remarks

but with a critical note. MASUM has frequently brought this issue before the police and civil authorities of West Bengal Government but no appropriate actions have been taken. In bordering areas of Coochbehar, Maldah, 24 Parganas (North) and Murshidabad, BSF frequently issue their own identity cards to the citizenry for movement and occupational engagement in agriculture and fishing. The posted BSF personnel are not ready to accept the UID, EPIC issued by the legitimate authorities. This illegal act has been brought before the Block Development Officers, Sub Divisional Officers, District Magistrates and respective local police stations.

Making a statement before the population of the Indo Bangladesh border for electoral benefit is a political stance but will not serve the purpose of running the governance in right way. In usual course, the civil and police authorities of Indo Bangladesh bordering areas of West Bengal are keeping their eyes shut while BSF personnel commit crimes like intense torture, extra judicial killings, enforced disappearance, rape, molestation, attack on modesty of women, restricting movements, infringing occupational rights and freedom of conscience and free profession, practice, and propagation of religion. MASUM through its complaint mechanism always brought these violations before the West Bengal provincial government along with Union government, but in most of the cases, no appropriate action has been taken by provincial or national authorities. In this mentioned area, police in normal course, even refuse to register complain in case of BSF involvement in crime. Further, the BSF having nexus with some local political leaders of different hues and some elected panchayet members are always out of the dragnet of law.

In the case of Prakash Burman, who was killed by the BSF personnel, though the incident was strongly condemned by one Minister of West Bengal government but most shockingly Sitai police gave final report on this case facilitating impunity for BSF personnel and we MASUM, are still supporting the bereaved widow of the deceased in the court of law and providing medical and legal assistance to her and her family.

MASUM expects that the situation will change after this recent statement by the head of the province and local and provincial authorities will take serious notes on various forms of BSF atrocities and subsequent corrective measures.

Organisational Meetings

1-3 February:

At MASUM office, Serampore, MASUM's Annual planning meeting was held on 1st February, followed by a three-day workshop on human rights. Addressing the DHRMs and the employees of MASUM, Kirity Roy, secretary, MASUM, taught the history of human rights, the history of the Indian constitution and its inter-relation with the global history of human rights and the UN charters on human rights. He also explained the history of human rights violations at the Indo-Bangladesh border, the unique and complicated nuances of the history of this border, and the terrible state of people living in this border.

In the annual planning meeting, it was decided that MASUM will undertake work only in villages with existing and self-reliant *Amra Simantabasi* committees. The system of appointing volunteers was unanimously discontinued and it was decided that the DHRMs were going to be the point of contact and co-ordination in the districts. Focal issues to be addressed in future activism and organisational work were discussed and agreed upon. It was also decided that DHRMs will take initiative to publicize the work and achievements of MASUM and *Amra Simantabasi* in their respective districts.

The Executive Committee of MASUM came together at MASUM office, Serampore, for a meeting.

19-21 February:

FORUM ASIA is an international forum of Asian Human Rights and Social Work organisations, with 85 member organisations. MASUM is a long-standing member of FORUM ASIA.

A high-level committee from Forum Asia, consisting of, Jerald Joseph, chair of FA, and Omer Daudjee, senior member and Director, came down to MASUM's office in Serampore to discuss a few organisational issues. EC members, friends of MASUM, DHRMs, and survivors of BSF torture who have been supported by MASUM – were all invited.



Our Activities

Cooch Behar

Company commanders and other BSF officials approached members of *Amra Simantabasi* committees in three villages in the Haldibari Block to enquire about why they complain about BSF. They reiterated their demands to facilitate convenient access through the BOP gates, to keep the gates open for 12 hours every day; and it was collectively decided that a meeting will be convened with BSF only if BSF extends a written and formal request. The *Amra Simantabasi* committees of Kalmati Begunbari and Kalmati Bhekrapul took a resolution to cultivate jute on their lands, and they also decided that they will submit deputation and protest at the BDO office if they are faced with BSF restricting their cultivation. The *Amra Simantabasi* committee of Hemkumari Dangapara resolved to complain to the SDO and to the police about the fact that they have to use only ID cards issued by BSF (which they have no authority to issue) to access the BOP gates, and these ID cards have to be renewed annually, causing inconvenience and harassment. The *Amra Simantabasi* committee of Hemkumari Sepoypara resolved to complain to the BDO about having to buy registers for BSF use (BSF personnel use these registers to track entry and exit of villagers; they make the villagers buy the register). There have been cases of villagers being threatened with fake cases by BSF, and it was decided in multiple committees to expedite the



membership drive for *Amra Simantabasi* as well as that all committees shall be financially self-reliant and shall collect voluntary membership donations for their functioning. A total of five village level meetings were conducted in the district in February.

North 24 Paraganas

On 10th February, a meeting was convened by the CBO/NGO's active in the Basirhat sub-division. MASUM, Sanglap, BARD, and other organizations were present. It was resolved in the meeting to prioritize rights-based work in the area; as well as submit a referendum to all political parties active in the region stating the difficulties faced by the people dwelling in the Indo-Bangladesh border region and their corresponding demands, before the 2024 Loksabha elections. To decide and discuss the directive of social work, a core-committee was resolved to be formed, which is to meet for review quarterly.



Postering initiatives were undertaken

- On 24th February, in the Gobra, Gobindapur, and Taranipur Bazaars by the Gobra-Gobindapur *Amra Simantabasi* committee.
- On 25th February, in the Daharkanda village by the Daharkanda *Amra Simantabasi* committee.
- On 27th February, in front of the BDO office, Swarupnagar, and in the Swarupnagar Bus-stand, by survivors of BSF torture.

Regular meetings were held at the village level, and it was resolved to take up the issue of ensuring the disbursal of BADP funds directly to the Gram Panchayats instead of to the BSF. Victims of BSF torture and their families are being regularly threatened by BSF as well as local administration with false persecution. DHRM has, in a steadfast manner supported victims of BSF torture in the Ghonar math area, Bangaon Sub-division, in the Daharkanda village of Swarupnagar Block (Soma Malla, poor shopkeeper – her trade license issued by the Gram Panchayat was disregarded by BSF who forced her to shut down the shop), and Human Rights Defenders in Bornoberia who were attacked by smugglers.



Murshidabad

Since beginning work in Murshidabad in January, the work has continued in full momentum, and 8 new village committees of *Amra Simantabasi* were formed. The movement is regaining momentum in the district and regular meetings were held in the village committees. Resolutions have been taken to build resistance against BSF torture and harassment, and against the initiative of NRC, and to push for the rehabilitation of displaced people in the area, and to push for the direct disbursement of BADP funds to the Gram Panchayat. Postering and campaigning initiatives were undertaken by the village committees. DHRM also re-established contact with survivors of old cases that had earlier been undertaken by MASUM.



Legal Activities Report

Supreme Court of India

Two cases of MASUM are pending before the Supreme Court of India –

1. Md. Nur Islam versus Union of India (WP 141 (criminal) of 2015 (generally known as Felani Khatun case))
2. Banglar Manabadhikar Suraksha Mancha versus Union of India (WP (Civil) 218 of 2012) where we prayed an order declaring section 46 and 47 of BSF Act, 1968 as ultra vires to Article 14 and 21 of the Constitution of India.

Felani Khatun was shot dead on 7th January 2011 by BSF personnel while she was illegally trying to cross the barbed wire from India to Bangladesh. Human Rights organisations of India and Bangladesh made protests to this ghastly murder. BSF's security court acquitted the accused. Later, an appellate court of BSF also made order for acquittal. NHRC taken up the case and observed that the killing was uncalled-for, as at the time of the incident, she was unarmed not even stones have been seized from her by the BSF and in no way she was in position to attack BSF personnel. NHRC recommended for monetary compensation to the family but till Ministry of Home Affairs of India refused to oblige NHRC recommendation. MASUM facilitated the writ petition in Supreme Court of India. It was pending for a long time; now, we have taken initiative to expedite the proceeding at the Supreme Court with new affidavit and we appoint a new lawyer to move the case forward.

In Banglar Manabadhikar Suraksha Mancha versus Union of India (WP (Civil) 218 of 2012) case, all respondent has filled respective affidavit and matter is ready for hearing. Supreme Court ordered for final hearing on next date. In this case we have taken an initiative to expedite the proceedings by appointing a new lawyer.

Calcutta High Court

Mrs. Mamani Das from Deganga, North 24 Parganas district was victimized of sexual harassment and rape by Mr. Sujit Das, Sub inspector of Police, Deganga Police Station. Mrs. Mamani Das filed one complaint case against the accused police officer Mr. Sujit Das before the Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate, Barasat vide CR case number 462/2022 u/s 376/511/341/448/379/506/509/120B/325/326/34 of Indian Penal Code. On 26.08.2023 Magistrate directed the accused to appear in person before the court of law. In the meantime, the accused person filed Criminal Revisional Application before the High Court at Calcutta vide CRR 2980/2023 for quashing the proceedings of the CR case number 462/2022 u/s 376/511/341/448/379/506/509/120B/325/326/34 of Indian Penal Code. On 16.08.2023 the High court directed to stay the proceedings of the lower court till 22.12.2023. On 20.02.2024, Mamoni Das petitioned before the court to revoke the stay through our lawyer, hearing is pending before the court.

ACJM Court – Dinhata, Coochbehar

Prakash Barman, aged about 35 years was shot in his head from point blank range by BSF personnel attached with West Chamta Border Outpost, Gandarmarka, 75 Battalion, Border Security Force. Prakash Barman is the sole earning member of his family consisting of four members. On 12.11.2021 at about 2 am some BSF personnel attached with West Chamta Border Outpost, 75 Battalion caught Mr. Barman and fired bullet from point blank range which directly hit his head. After being shot by the bullet, the body of Mr. Barman was lying there for more than about 9 hours. The incident was strongly protested by the ruling political dispensation of West Bengal. They also demanded for punishment of involved BSF personnel but MASUM was doubtful on their conviction against BSF atrocities. At the complaint of Mamta Burman; wife of the deceased, a criminal case has been initiated vide Sitai PS case No. 190/2021 dated 13.11.2021 and GR Case No. (I) 700/2021, under section 302 of IPC. Proving our apprehensions correct, the Sitai police recently submitted Final Report on the case vide Sitai PS FRT NO. 125/2023 dated 29.07.2023. We facilitated an objection/protest petition by Mamata Burman, the complainant. Hearing was fixed on 12.02.2024 and the complainant Mamta Burman, the wife of the deceased appeared before the court and court fixed a date on 12.03.2024 for hearing.

ACJM Court – Basirhat, 24 Parganas (North)

We facilitated a criminal case against the BSF personnel, where petitioner Aparna Mondal brought allegation of attack and destruction of livelihood option of her husband Madhai Mondal. Madhai Mondal is a fisherman by profession. BSF personnel ransacked his trap for fishing. MASUM made complaint to the NHRC while commission called for report. The complaint before magistrate vide Misc. Case no. 29 dated 18.01.2024 against BSF personnel has been accepted for proceeding. Basirhat ACJM Court sought for a report from Sub Divisional Police Officer of Barasat over the mater.

In Milan Mondal's enforced disappearance case; Swarupnagar PS Case No. 768/23) the complainant Nokila Mondal, the mother of the victim sought for status report of the case, the court asked the police to furnish the report while police submitted its report on 19.02.2024

ACJM Court – Bongaon, 24 Parganas (North)

In the case of Bhim Mondal's death in judicial custody, where the complainant was his wife, accused Paritosh Haldar was transferred from Deganga Police Station to Bongaon Police Station, it was brought before the ACJM Bongaon, he opined to transfer the case to Barasat CJM court and Barasat

CJM ordered the Bongaon Police Station to furnish Paritosh Haldar Sub Inspector's presence in Bongaon PS, which the Bongaon police station reluctantly denying to furnish.

Medical Camps

4 Medical Camps were organised by MASUM in the districts of Coochbehar and North 24 Paraganas to treat survivors of BSF torture and offer psychiatric assistance to the survivors and their families.

A psychiatric health camp was held at Noor Medical, North 24 Paraganas, on 19th February, 2024, by psychiatrist Dr. Debshankar Mukhopadhyay – treating 18 survivors. All the expenses of medicine, pathological tests, and travel were covered by MASUM; DHRM also held a meeting with survivors after the camp to discuss the progress of their corresponding legal cases.

A health camp was conducted by Dr. Anasuyak Roy at Noor Medical, North 24 Paraganas on 27th February, 2024; treating 35 survivors, and thereafter a meeting was conducted with the survivors to discuss the status of their legal case. All medical, pathological and travel related expenses were also covered by MASUM.

At Wonder Medical, Dinhata, Cooch Behar, a health camp was conducted by Dr. Saukat Ali treating 38 survivors, and a mental health camp was conducted by psychiatrist Dr. Banhiman Sarkar, treating 9 survivors. All the expenses of medicine, pathological tests, and travel were covered by MASUM; DHRM also held a meeting with survivors after the camp to discuss the progress of their corresponding legal cases.



Dr. Debshankar Mukhopadhyay, treating survivors



Dr. Anasuyak Roy, treating survivors



Dr. Banhiman Sarkar, treating survivors



Dr. Saukat Ali, treating survivors