

From Dr. Ramendu S. Dewan,
C/o Dr. H.D. Locksley, Dept. of Chemistry,
Salford University, Salford M5 4WT, England.

Date: 18th May 1986

Sub: An appeal to save the Chakma and other tribes of the
Chittagong Hill Tracts from the total annihilation by
the Bangladesh Government.

Dear Brother,

May I present to you the following reports regarding the flight
of the tribal refugees from the Chittagong Hill Tracts to the neighbouring
Tripura State of India:

1. A report under the heading, "Alert in Tripura to check infiltration
from the Times of India of April 30, 1986.
2. A news under the title, "Tribal influx in Tripura", carried in the
Times of India of May 1, 1986.
3. An article under the caption, "Bangla tribals flee army's vengeance
from the Times of India of May 5, 1986.
4. A piece entitled, "Exodus as army hunts guerrillas", and published
in the Times (London) of May 14, 1986.

Over 20,000 members of the Bangladesh army and police are carrying
out a genocidal military campaign against the indigenous people living in
the Mahalchari-Feni sector of the Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT). They set
fire to 20 tribal villages in the Khagrachari District of the CHT, massacred
60 tribals mostly women and children, and destroyed several Buddhist and
Hindu temples. As a result of this government-directed reign of terror,
more than 3,000 tribal people have sought refuge at Korbuk and Silachari
in the Indian State of Tripura, and many thousand tribals have fled to the
surrounding forests. Their villages and farmlands have already been taken
over by the Bengali settlers.

The Bangladesh Government has adopted all inhuman and illegal
tactics to rob the indigenous inhabitants of their villages and farmlands
for its co-religionists. One of these tactics is to regroup the tribal
villagers and then to relocate them in concentration camps which the
government calls "model villages" or "co-operative farming projects" in
order to mislead the international community. The first aim of this method
is to depopulate the tribal villages. Secondly, these shifts are intended
to remove food and other sources of support to the resistance. Thirdly,
this is designed to settle the land with the outsider Bengali settlers.
Intimidation, physical abuse and wholesale burning of village homes are
employed to force the tribal people to leave their ancestral villages and
farmlands. Rape, beating, starvation, lack of medical care and systematic
harassment are commonplace in concentration camps. Life in the concentra-
tion camps is so horrifying that when the Government has intensified its
campaign to set up more such camps in the Khagrachari District the local
communities have deserted their homes and farmlands and fled to the Tripura
State of India. Those tribal people who could not flee to India have taken
shelter in the upland forests. They have no means to live and they have
lost everything. They have very little chance to survive.

The brutal regime of Bangladesh is exterminating the indigenous
nationalities of the CHT systematically. So their survival is totally
dependent on the help of the international community. I appeal earnestly
to you to protect the threatened people of the CHT by removing the cruel
invaders from the traditional tribal homeland. I shall be most grateful to
you if you would kindly take all necessary measures to save the lives of
the tribal refugees in the Tripura State of India.

To

Mr. Rudolph C. Ryser,
Chairman of the Center for World Indigenous Studies,
P.O. Box 911, Snoqualmie, Washington 98065,
U.S.A.

Yours sincerely

Ramendu

Alert in Tripura to check infiltration

AGARTALA, April 29 (PTI): AN alert has been sounded on Tripura's eastern border with Bangladesh in the wake of reports that a large number of tribal refugees may cross over into the state to escape severe combing and regrouping operations by the Bangladesh Army.

Official sources here said today that the Bangladesh army and para-military units had started massive regrouping operations in the Feni-Mahalcherri sector. Over 1,500 tribals fled the villages around Mahalcherri and were heading for India.

Bangladesh Rifles units were trying to seal the border to prevent the tribals from crossing over to India, but some villagers had already reportedly crossed over.

Madhya Pradesh

the municipal corporation meeting in Belgaum on Monday when pro-Karnataka youths shouted slogans from the visitors' gallery.

They also threw pamphlets condemning Marathi-speaking corporators for "insulting" Mr. Patil Putappa, the chairman of the Kannada watch dog committee during his visit to the corporation last week to inspect the implementation of Kannada in government offices.

The youths' conduct irked some Marathi corporators who immediately rushed to the gallery with signboards in hand and beat up the demonstrators.

Five persons were injured in the fracas, requiring hospitalisation. The

of his commendable services and social work rendered for the past 20 years.

The award was given by Dr. Luis Proto Barbosa, Goa's minister for urban development, protocol and tourism, while laying the foundation stone of the multipurpose building at Majorda.

Tamil Nadu

PITCHAI MOURNED (PTI): Both houses of the Tamil Nadu legislature on Tuesday mourned the death of the ruling AIADMK MLA, Mr. M. Pitchai, who died in a road accident on Monday, and as a mark of respect adjourned for the day.

In the assembly, the leader of the house, Mr. V. R. Nedunchezian.

of all parties joined. Members of both houses observed two minutes' silence before adjourning.

Himachal Pradesh

EXTENSIVE DAMAGE (TOINS): The agriculture minister, Mr. Sant Ram, who visited the areas affected by the earthquake in Kangra district, told the TOINS that there had been extensive damage to houses. He said the loss of property in and around Dharmsala would be roughly Rs. 10 crores.

Alternative accommodation and temporary shelters had been provided to those rendered homeless, the minister said.

Kangra Valley was rocked by an earthquake on Saturday.

States News

that apart from lack of resources, the Centre's delay in clearing many projects held up the development of Andhra Pradesh.

The chief minister, according to reports from New Delhi, failed to get an appointment with the Prime Minister, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi.

Tribal influx into Tripura

AGARTALA, April 30 (PTI): Over a thousand tribal refugees from Bangladesh's Chittagong Hill tracts have crossed over to south Tripura through the 25 km densely forested Silacheri area last night, official sources said today.

The sources said that more tribals, predominantly "Chakmas", were heading towards the Indian border to escape the "combing and regrouping operations" by the Bangladesh security forces in the Chittagong Hill tracts.

This followed reports that the management intended to sell the premises.

The report of the committee identified four specific areas of irregularities, namely, college accounts, conduct of examinations, maintenance of a 'reserve fund' and building plans.

The committee has said many of these were of "criminal irregularities," and recommended to the government and the University Grants Commission (UGC) to institute proceedings against all persons concerned.

It was noticed that the construction of two single rooms of 1,496 square feet had been completed before February 1984, when the UGC approved a sum of Rs. 1.4 lakhs for its construction. Yet, successive "progress reports" were sent to the UGC, which then gave the grant in instalments.

Towards the 'building fund,' employees (both teaching and non-teaching) were made to compulsorily pay a

Since 1961, 8,938 books from the college library were either lost or "destroyed by white ants", the in-charge principal, Mr. S. S. Salunke, told the committee in a written statement. The total cost of these books was Rs. 79,510.

The teaching staff of the college told the committee at an in camera session that the former principal, Mr. M. H. Kadam, who had set up a printing press, Vikram Mudranalaya, had directed them to "financially contribute and support his venture". "Principal Kadam thus collected Rs. 50,000, sans any receipts, and never repaid them", the report said.

The committee noted "criminal irregularities" in the conduct of first year and second year examinations, which were conducted by the college on behalf of the university. Random checks detected that marks assigned in the answer books were different from

Gokhale Col Shikshan Pras appropriation amounts as salaries."

Bachchan 'reli

NEW DELHI Justice U. N. the wage board non-journalist interim report cent of basic pay categories of from May 1, 1

The board, stipulated that not be lower than Mr. Bachchan report to the late Sangma.

Picasso work to be sold in pie

Bangla tribals flee army's vengeance

JALEYA (South Tripura),
 May 4 (PTI).

A MASSIVE influx of tribal refugees from Bangladesh's Chittagong hill tracts into south Tripura is feared in the next few days, according to intelligence sources here.

The sources told a PTI correspondent, touring the Chittagong hill tracts, that over 10,000 tribals have been rendered homeless in various parts of the tracts after irate Bangladesh securitymen set fire to 20 tribal-predomi-

nant villages and destroyed several Buddhist and Hindu temples.

This followed large-scale raids by the underground Shanti Bahini guerrillas on April 29.

Already, over 3,000 tribals have entered south Tripura since April 30.

Altogether, 2,282 tribals have reported in the four refugee camps set up by the Tripura government at Korbuk and Silacherri areas near here.

But others were staying in jungles or were lodged with fellow ethnic kinsmen in the border villages after news spread that the refugees would be pushed back to Bangladesh.

JUNGLE REFUGE

Over 2,000 tribals were reported to have slipped into dense jungle in the Feni Maaicherri area after Bangladesh army and para-military units, closely supported by the resettler-dominated Village Defence Parties (VDP), set fire to four tribal hamlets in the Jagapara-Taransa areas on Friday.

Earlier, some 5,000 tribals had left their villages in the Khagrachherri area after Bangladesh troops, massacred nearly 60 tribals.

These villages are still staying in dense jungles to avoid Bangladesh security patrols on the hunt for Shanti Bahini guerrillas and reportedly heading for India by circuitous jungle tracks.

GUERRILLA RAID

Intelligence sources said that some 40 Bangladesh guards were killed and over 50 injured after Shanti Bahini guerrillas raided an army camp at Golakpatima and three Bangladesh Rifles outposts at Bagapara, Asalong and Taidong in the Chittagong hill tracts on April 29.

Helicopter reinforcement from the army brigade headquarters at Khagrachherri and Eighinaia had to be flown in to prevent the Shanti Bahini from overrunning the security installations.

The sources said the Shanti Bahini also lost about 15 guerrillas in the heavy fighting over a 300 sq. km. area.

The guerrillas also attacked four plainland resettler village of Chantilla, Asalong, Taidong and Tannakyapara in their line of retreat.

Nearly 60 plainland resettlers were reported killed and almost 100 injured in the raids according to the intelligence sources.

Bangladesh security men and resettlers critically injured in the raids, were flown to army hospitals. Massive additional deployment of forces was reported the sources added.

SRP loses Yogam's

campaign led by the eviction of his year of some 100 tribals from Meghalaya of the seven states in the north-east. Native resistance in Meghalaya had feared becoming outnumbered by the immigrants.

Gurkhas invaded the territory in 1780 but their seizing of land brought them into conflict with the British East India Company. The Gurkhas were later forced to concede defeat, but it is this land they now claim as a homeland.

Congress honours president

Michael Binyon
 Washington

An emotional reunion took place on Monday with a Bonner, wife of Yuri Sakharov, Mr. Binyon arrived in Washington for a ceremony from Congress, a with Mr George Bush, Secretary of State, to personally congratulate President Reagan. Mr. Binyon, a peace activist and his wife will receive specially-awarded Congressional gold medals in recognition of his human rights in the Soviet Union.

Mr. Binyon from the Senate and House of Representatives in the Rotunda of the Capitol building, praising his attitude during his visit to the Soviet Union. The use and Senate, in approving the resolution, have already lauded Mr. Binyon.

Mr. Binyon called on the Soviet Union to continue their efforts to bring about a Jewish settlement in the Soviet Union. "I am proud that 400,000 Soviet Jews have been kept as prisoners of conscience standing between the Soviet Union and the West must be based on values common to both sides," he told them.

Mr. Binyon, speaking with President Reagan at the Oval Office of the White House was a private member of the House. In recent years Mr. Binyon has come to believe that human rights issues must be dealt with in conjunction with the Soviet Union.

Mr. Binyon, in the US for a short period, is due to return to his work shortly to join his wife and children in his home in Washington. Mr. Binyon is here to represent the Soviet Union for their

Exodus as army hunts guerrillas

From Ahmed Fazl
 Dhaka

More than 20,000 troops and armed police were on alert yesterday in the Chittagong Hill Tracts region of south-east Bangladesh to flush out secessionist guerrillas as panic-stricken families continued to flee across the border.

Police at Rangamati, about 280 miles from Dhaka, said that a curfew was clamped on a dozen villages bordering the Indian state of Tripura to stop the exodus. Indian border officials said about 3,000 tribal families had sought refuge.

The flight of refugees began after a band of guerrillas belonging to the Marxist-led Shanti Bahini ("peace force") attacked three Bengali settlements in Khagrachari district, killing more than 40 people. Tribal families feared reprisals, officials said.

The Government has appointed Major-General Nuruddin Khan head of a task force to deal with the insurgents, who want independence for the 500,000 Buddhist Chakma and Marma people.

The rebellion flared up in 1976 after the Government began resettling landless Muslim Bengali farmers in the hills which rebel leaders said had threatened their existence. Authorities in Dhaka accused the state Government of Tripura of providing sanctuary to the guerrillas, charges that have been denied.

Tribal guerrillas also attacked several polling stations near Rangamati town and set off a series of fires during last week's general election.

The daily *Dainik Bangla* said yesterday that 23 tribal officials kidnapped by guerrillas last week had been set free unharmed.

Australian Opposition bids Thatcher path

Your sign of the zodiac
TAURUS
 (April 21 - May 21)
 वृषभ
 an attractive
SILVER COIN
 from
JHAVERI BROS.



- * Available in 5, 10, 25, 50 and 100gm. weights.
- * Good to give or get.
- * Facility of engraving or embossing individual name on the coin.
- * Available at actual market rate.
- * Please ask for free colour pamphlet.
- * Also available by V.P.P. post

JHAVERI BROS.
 & CO. PVT. LTD.

- * 345, Abdul Rehman Street, Bombay - 400 003. Tel. 32 61 96/97/98.
- * 5, Metro House, Dhobitalao, Bombay - 400 020. Tel. 29 14 23.
- * 15, Nagindas Master Road, Fort, Bombay - 400 023. Tel. 27 02 02.