

The Assam Tribune, 2 December 2004

BSF-BDR move to curb border crimes

AGARTALA, Dec 1 - A high-level meeting between Border Security Force (BSF) and Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) held at Bangladesh Rifles Akhaura check post yesterday stressed on the need of more coordination between the two forces to curb the border crimes like infiltration, problems related to erection of Indo-Bangla border fencing, etc. The meeting aimed at discussing several points of mutual interests of both the countries. It was held to establish better coordination between the sentinels of two countries to check trans-border crimes, arms and narcotic smuggling and movement of militants.

The Hindu, 3 December 2004

DRI seizes smuggled drugs

KOZHIKODE, DEC. 2. Officials at the Kozhikode office of the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) have seized eight cartons of medicines estimated to cost Rs.40 lakhs in local market camouflaged as 'personal effects' from the Karipur air cargo complex near here. The officials suspect the hands of some big drug lobby based in Mumbai and their agents in Kozhikode behind the smuggling. Some of the medicines seized are ineffectual and past their expiry dates. It is suspected that the lobby is involved in repacking the medicines and selling them in local market.

The Hindu, 4 December 2004

Portuguese Supreme Court clears Monica Bedi's extradition

NEW DELHI, DEC. 3. Clearing the decks for her extradition to India, the Portuguese Supreme Court has rejected a petition of Monica Bedi, companion of underworld don Abu Salem, who had challenged the High Court order allowing her extradition. Ms. Bedi had appealed in the Portuguese Supreme Court after the High Court in Lisbon gave a reasoned order in July this year, approving her extradition and face trial in a case of securing a fake passport.

The Hindu, 5 December 2004

Auto-lifters' gang busted

NEW DELHI, DEC. 4. Four persons, including three Nepalese nationals, who allegedly stole vehicles from Delhi and Punjab and disposed them of in Nepal in connivance with the police there, were arrested by the Anti-Auto Theft Squad of South Delhi police this Friday. While two of the stolen vehicles were recovered from their possession, the police said the accused were involved in at least 100 auto-theft cases. During interrogation, the accused revealed that they were taking the vehicles to Nepal. The police efforts were on to recover other stolen vehicles and arrest other gang members.

The Hindu, 5 December 2004

Mining contracts illegal: Orissa Congress leader

NEW DELHI, DEC. 4. Mayadhar Nayak, senior Congress leader from Orissa, has complained to the Union Government about an alleged scandal in granting mining contracts by the Biju Janata Dal-Bharatiya Janata Party ruling alliance. Mr. Nayak submitted a 100-page memorandum to the President, Abdul Kalam; met the Prime Minister, Manmohan Singh, the United Progressive Alliance chairperson, Sonia Gandhi, the Communist Party of India (Marxist) general secretary, Harkishan Singh Surjeet, and the CPI general secretary, A. B. Bardhan, and sought the dismissal of the Naveen Patnaik Government and imposition of President's rule in the State.

The New Indian Express, 6 December 2004

India, Pak team up against drugs, to talk next week

NEW DELHI: This delegation from Pakistan is visiting India as an ally - to fight a common war against drugs. The second round of talks, led by director-generals of anti-drugs wings of both governments, will be held shortly, in what drug sleuths describe as a cordial atmosphere. The previous round of talks between delegations from the Indian Narcotics Control Bureau and the Pakistani Anti Narcotics Force (ANF) were held in June. The discussions had first been proposed as a part of the CBMs suggested during bilateral talks on February 18.

The Hindu, 6 December 2004

Fake certificates seized, two held

HYDERABAD, DEC. 5. The Sultan Bazar police on Friday arrested two persons of a five-member gang allegedly involved in preparing fake certificates and selling the same to the physically challenged. Bogus rubber stamps and certificates of Telecom, Medical, Registration, Vocational Rehabilitation Centre and various other departments was seized at their instance. Investigations revealed that both the accused were preparing fake certificates and supplying the same to the physically challenged to get concession from various departments. They were selling the bogus certificates by charging amounts ranging from Rs. 500 to Rs. 1,000.

The Hindu, 8 December 2004

Wanted criminal arrested

NEW DELHI, DEC. 7. An alleged member of the dreaded Kishan Pehalwan gang, carrying a reward of Rs. 65,000 on his head, has been arrested by the Crime Branch of the Delhi police. He was wanted in over a dozen cases of murder. The Inter-State Cell of the Crime Branch had received a tip-off that Rajesh alias "Mogli", a sharp-shooter working for Kishan Pehalwan, who is presently lodged in jail, would come to meet his contact near Hotel The Grand at Vasant Kunj on Sunday. A team under the supervision of Assistant Commissioner of Police, Ravi Shankar, laid a trap near the hotel.

The Hindu, 8 December 2004

Court raps Bihar on law and order situation

PATNA, DEC. 7. The Patna High Court today said the Bihar Government had failed to control law and order and summoned the State's higher authorities in this regard. While hearing a public interest litigation petition filed by the Indian Medical Association, a Division Bench of the court, comprising the acting Chief Justice, Nagendra Rai and Justice S.N. Hussain, said the law and order situation was in a bad shape. In the presence of the State Chief Secretary and the Inspector General (Prison), the judges criticised the Government for prisoners making extortion calls from jail.

The Hindu, 10 December 2004

Ticket scam: Role of ITPO officials to be probed (Devesh K. Pandey)

NEW DELHI, DEC. 9. An inquiry into the suspected complicity of Indian Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO) officials in the alleged overprinting of entry tickets for the recent India International Trade Fair at Pragati Maidan, has been initiated under an Assistant Commissioner of Police. A few days ago, the New Delhi police had seized trade fair tickets worth Rs. 37 lakhs, which were printed by a firm that had been sub-contracted the job.

The Hindu, 10 December 2004

Snatchers' gang busted

NEW DELHI, DEC. 9. A fortnight after arresting a snatcher who was an expert motorcycle rider, the South Delhi police have arrested another alleged snatcher who is not only an expert at riding but also insisted on meticulously drawing an escape plan before embarking on a chain-snatching spree. His two alleged accomplices and a receiver of stolen property have also been arrested and stolen articles worth Rs. 3 lakhs recovered from them. While working on snatchings cases by motorcycle riders over the past five months, the Special Staff of the South Delhi police zeroed-in on a couple of young suspects. Those arrested were identified as Umesh Kumar (22) and Rinku Joshi (24).

The Hindu, 11 December 2004

Dawood aide brought to Porbandar

AHMEDABAD, DEC. 10. A close aide of Dawood Ibrahim, Umarmiyan Bukhari alias Mammumiyan, who was deported from Dubai and handed over to the Mumbai police, was brought to Porbandar today in connection with the landing of RDX and 14 other cases registered against him. A resident of Porbandar, Mammumiyan had fled to Dubai when the police came to know of his alleged involvement in landing RDX off the Porbandar coast for use in the Mumbai serial blasts and other terrorist activities to take revenge for the demolition of the Babri Masjid. He was also wanted for the alleged killing of a constable in Porbandar and several other attacks on police officials in different parts of the State.

The Assam Tribune, 11 December 2004

Car-lifting racket busted in Manipur

IMPHAL, Dec 10 - Manipur police claimed to have smashed yet another vehicle theft racket with the arrest of two vehicle lifters who have close nexus with their counterparts in New Delhi, Guwahati and Dimapur. With this, thirteen inter-state vehicle lifters have been arrested since the beginning of this month with the recovering of two dozens of stolen vehicles and two-wheelers. The arrest came after the four lifters two from Manipur and the rest from Assam were remanded into police custody by the Chief Judicial Magistrate Imphal till Dec 10.

The Hindu, 12 December 2004

Five held on charge of printing fake currency notes

NALGONDA, DEC.11. The Central Crime Station (CCS) sleuths arrested five persons on the charge of printing and circulating counterfeit hundred rupee notes in the State. About 3,000 fake currency notes were recovered and equipment, worth Rs.7 lakhs used for printing, was seized. Police believe that about Rs.4 lakhs has been circulated by the gang in Hyderabad, Nalgonda, Suryapet, Nellore, Kavali, Tirupathi and other places.

Daily Excelsior, 13 December 2004

Talks on narcotics smuggling today

NEW DELHI, Dec 12: India and Pakistan will hold talks from tomorrow to combat smuggling of narcotic and psychedelic substances and are expected to exchange drafts of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to explore ways to fight the menace. A five-member Pak delegation, led by its anti-Narcotics Force Director General Maj Gen Nadeem Ahmed, arrived here last night for the two-day talks to be held as part of the ongoing composite dialogue process between the two countries.

Daily Excelsior, 14 December 2004

Adopt joint strategy to prevent opium smuggling: India to Pak

NEW DELHI, Dec 13: Voicing serious concern over the bumper opium crop in Afghanistan, India today asked Pakistan to adopt a joint strategy to prevent its smuggling into and outside the South Asian region. Observing that the record crop could boost heroin production along the border areas of Pakistan and Afghanistan, the Indian side felt that Islamabad should take immediate steps to check the flow of opium and its products. These views were expressed at a two-day meeting of the chiefs of anti-narcotic divisions of India and Pakistan as part of the ongoing composite dialogue process between the two countries.

The Hindu, 14 December 2004

Drug peddlers nabbed

NEW DELHI, DEC. 13. Three alleged drug peddlers were arrested by the Narcotics Branch of the Delhi police from different parts of the Capital this past week. Two kg of heroin and three kg opium were recovered from their possession. The Narcotics Branch sleuths received a tip-off that some persons would come near Nigambodh Ghat to supply heroin and opium consignments to their client on Saturday. Subsequently, they raided the place and arrested two of the suspects, who identified themselves as Balu Singh and Karan Singh. The police recovered one kg heroin and three kg opium from their possession.

The Hindu, 14 December 2004

Trafficking from Nepal unabated (Devesh K. Pandey)

NEW DELHI, DEC. 13. The alleged trafficking of three girls from Nepal, who are believed to have been brought to the Capital after they went missing from Chitwan on November 20, has once again brought to the fore the serious issue of trafficking of Nepalese women to Delhi and other parts of the country. Most of these victims end up in the flesh trade. It is already an established fact that Nepal and Bangladesh are major sources of trafficking of women to India.

The Hindu, 28 December 2004

Porn film racket busted, four held

KARIMNAGAR, DEC. 27. The Karimnagar Two Town police busted a pornography film-making racket with the arrest of four persons including a woman on Sunday. A video camera and some other equipment were seized from a house in the town. Disclosing this to newsmen here on Monday evening, the Town CI, J Amarendra Reddy, said that on a tip-off, the police raided the premises and arrested two medical representatives, K. Mahender (32) of Garshakurthi village and K. Rajeshwara Reddy (30) of Kanagarthi village in Konaraopeta mandal, a businessman, M. Manohar (29) of Jagtial mandal and a nurse working in a private hospital in Hyderabad. All the four acted in the porn video, the CI said.

The Hindu, 29 December 2004

Fake currency racket busted

NALGONDA, DEC. 28. The Nalgonda district police busted a fake currency racket with the arrest of six persons on Tuesday. Counterfeit currency of Rs.1.5 lakhs with denomination of 100s and a computer, scanner and printer were recovered from the accused, all of them hailing from West Godavari district. The gang, which started printing fake hundred rupee notes in July, allegedly circulated them in Kovur, Veeravaasaram, Bhimavaram and Huzurnagar. Srinivasa Rao, son of a computer mechanic, was the brain behind the project.

The Hindu, 29 December 2004

Twin murders fallout of gang rivalry (Marri Ramu)

HYDERABAD, DEC. 28. The murders of K. Venkat Reddy, a former naxalite, and Ch. Sampath Kumar, a car driver, whose bodies were found at Hayathnagar on the city fringes and Choutuppal of Nalgonda district respectively, were not only connected but were the result of a land dispute between two gangs. Police believe that Venkat Reddy shot dead Kumar before being gunned down by the latter's associates near a lodge at Kachiguda in the State capital on December 11.

Dawn, 29 December 2004

Wanted man arrested in Lahore

KARACHI, Dec 28: The wanted underworld don, Shoaib Khan, was arrested on Tuesday in Lahore, and is likely to be brought to the city by Wednesday morning. DSP Aslam Khan told Dawn over his cell phone from Lahore, that a police party was dispatched to Lahore on a credible information about the presence of Shoaib Khan. The party put a close watch on the suspect, and after it was established that he was the wanted criminal, the police raided his hideout.

The Hindu, 31 December 2004

S-I killed in encounter

NEW DELHI, DEC. 30. Mehtab Singh, a young sub-inspector with the Special Cell of the Delhi police, was killed in an encounter with a sharpshooter of the dreaded gangster, Krishan Pehalwan, at Panipat in Haryana today. The accused was gunned down and two of his suspected accomplices were rounded up in the operation. It all happened around 4-45 p.m. when a Special Cell team under the supervision of the Assistant Commissioner of Police, Rajbir Singh, was hot on the trail of Sundre, a hit-man of the Krishan Pehalwan gang. The police had information that Sundre -- who was wanted in an Arms Act registered by the Special Cell a month ago and an extortion case and was living there under the pseudonym Amit -- would come to Outer Sugar Colony on a motorcycle.