



**JANASANYOG, ASSAM
CHIEF MINISTER'S PUBLIC RELATIONS CELL, DISPUR**

PRESS RELEASE

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Sonowal condoles the death of Raben Das who laid down his life to fight against cow smuggler

Announces an ex-gratia of Rs. 5 lakh

Directs Industry and Commerce Minister to rush to victim's native place and empathize with bereaved family

Dispur, October 18: Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal today condoled the death of a constable Roben Das of 26th AP IR B, who died following drowning while he along other police personnel were on an operation to nab the cow smugglers along Indo-Bangla border at Mankachar Police Station area in South Salmara district. He also expressed his empathy with the bereaved family members.

It may be noted that following an information, 17 police personnel laid an ambush at Char Kokurmora under Mankachar Police Station near Indo-Bangladesh international border to apprehend cattle smugglers and at about 1.45 am a group of cattle smugglers were noticed on the bank of a pond. However, when Raben Das, Pranjit Roy, CN Medhi Timung and CN Dildar Hussain followed the smugglers' gang to apprehend them, CN /584 Roben Das slipped into the pond. Immediately a joint search exercise was carried out and body of the constable was recovered from the pond and immediately rushed to Ghajarikandi PHC. However, the doctor on duty declared him brought dead.

Expressing his condolence over the death of the constable, Chief Minister Sonowal asked Industry and commerce Minister Chandra Mohan Patowary to visit the death constable's house at Hatinapur in Barpeta district and empathise with the members of the bereaved family. He also announced an ex-gratia of Rs. 5 lakh to the next of the kin of the deceased. Sonowal also directed the district and police administration to show adequate honour to the deceased.

It may also be noted that the present State government immediately after coming to power, has unleashed an uncompromising tirade against corruption and syndicate. As a part of this, Assam police has been acting uncompromisingly against cattle smuggling and the people associated with the syndicate. Even the security apparatus has been put on a high alert to thwart any subversive activities along the Indo-Bangal Border. The police administration with its men and materials has been apprehending the perpetrators allegedly involved in cattle smuggling to keep the menace at bay.

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