Guwahati murder: No remorse for killing wife, says husband

Guwahati, Sep 8 (IANS): A man accused of brutally murdering his wife in Guwahati by severing her head, storing it in a refrigerator and cutting off her fingers, has allegedly confessed to the crime and told police that he had no remorse for the killing.

He also reportedly threatened to murder the man he suspected of having an affair with his wife if he is released from prison in the future.

The accused, identified as Ramanuj Goswami, allegedly made the remarks while being taken by police for interrogation.

He reportedly surrendered after allegedly killing his wife, Riya Talukder Goswami, following a dispute between the couple.

The gruesome incident came to light after the families of the couple, who lived in Basisthapur locality in Guwahati, informed police that they were unable to contact them.

A team from Hatigaon Police Station reached the residence and found Riya dead, with her head severed from her body, DCP (East) Tabu Ram Pegu said on Tuesday.

Police and forensic teams examined the apartment and collected several exhibits. Investigators also recovered a sharp dao, suspected to have been used in the killing. Bloodstains were found inside the apartment and household articles appeared to have been scattered.

Police said Riya's severed head was recovered from inside a refrigerator, allegedly wrapped in a black polythene bag. Some of her fingers had also been severed.

A preliminary forensic assessment suggested that the murder had taken place between 24 and 48 hours before the body was recovered. The remains were subsequently sent to Gauhati Medical College and Hospital for post-mortem examination.

Goswami and Riya had been married for around six months and lived together in the apartment. According to police, the couple frequently fought. Pegu said Goswami allegedly suspected his wife of being involved in an extramarital relationship.

The suspected relationship is being examined as a possible motive for the murder.

"During one such altercation, the husband allegedly lost his temper and killed his wife," Pegu said.

Investigators are also verifying whether Goswami was under the influence of drugs when the murder took place and whether he has any history of drug addiction.

The CID, forensic and fingerprint teams are continuing to examine evidence and reconstruct the sequence of events.

Police are also looking into reports that Goswami allegedly attempted to feed some of the victim's body parts to a dog.

Pegu said he was not aware of the claim and that it would be verified during the investigation.

Goswami, an Uber driver originally from Gauripur, and Riya, who worked at a boutique in Fancy Bazar, had been living together in Guwahati. The investigation is underway.

NE is an integral part of India: V-P Radhakrishnan

Imphal, Sep 8 (IANS): Vice-President C.P. Radhakrishnan on Tuesday while highlighting the importance of national integration, said that India's diversity of languages, traditions and regions is united by a shared national identity.

During his interaction with the cadets of the Sainik School in Imphal, Vice-President Radhakrishnan described the Northeast as an integral and beautiful part of India and praised the hard work and contribution of its people.

The Vice-President, who arrived in Imphal from Assam on Tuesday for a one-day visit to Manipur, visited the INA Museum at Moirang in Bishnupur district and paid homage to the valour and sacrifice of the Indian National Army (INA).

He visited the historic site where the Indian Tricolour was first hoisted on the Indian mainland by the INA on April 14, 1944 and toured the INA War Museum gallery. He also paid floral tribute to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

Later, Vice-President Radhakrishnan visited Sainik School Imphal, where he paid floral tribute at the War Memorial and was accorded a Guard of Honour by the cadets.

Speaking on his visit to Moirang, around 45 km south of state capital Imphal, the Vice-President recalled the historic role of the INA in India's freedom struggle. He noted that several freedom fighters from across the country, including many from Tamil Nadu, had joined the INA and made the supreme sacrifice for the nation.

The Vice President also recalled his recent visit to the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, where Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose had hoisted the Indian Tricolour, and said that these historic sites remind the younger generation of the courage, patriotism and sacrifices of India's freedom fighters.

He emphasised that the true legacy of an institution is reflected not merely in its buildings or records, but in the character of its students and alumni.

He called upon the cadets to particularly develop discipline, courage and leadership. "Even if you are less talented, with discipline you will shine," Vice-President Radhakrishnan noted, stressing that discipline provides the foundation for excellence.

On bravery, he said that true courage also means standing up for others when someone is being unnecessarily harmed.

On leadership, he emphasised that a true leader accepts responsibility, sets an example, listens to others and has the moral courage to take the right decision.

He said that Sainik Schools have a special role in strengthening the spirit of 'Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat', as students from diverse backgrounds learn, train, eat and play together.

Referring to the rapid pace of technological change, he urged the cadets to preserve the timeless values of discipline, integrity and patriotism while also becoming adaptable, innovative and technologically aware.

The Vice-President mentioned emerging fields such as Artificial Intelligence, space technology, biotechnology, cyber-security and robotics as areas offering new opportunities to the younger generation.

He encouraged the students to retain their goodness while adapting themselves to change, observing that change is the only constant in the world.

Responding to a question on his visit to Cellular Jail in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Vice-President Radhakrishnan encouraged the students to visit the historic site to understand the hardships endured by India's freedom fighters.

He said such a visit inspires patriotism and reminds the younger generation of the sacrifices made during the freedom struggle.

On the role of students in building a developed India, the Vice-President said that every student can contribute by performing their duty to the best of their ability every day.

He emphasised that doing one's best each day would collectively contribute to the realisation of Viksit Bharat.

The Vice-President was accompanied by Manipur Governor Ajay Kumar Bhalla, Chief Minister Yumnam Khemchand Singh, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Defence Deepti Mohil Chawla, Major General Shubhankar Basu, Inspecting Officer, Sainik Schools Society, Ministry of Defence, Brigadier Amit Chatterjee, and Principal, Sainik School Imphal, Colonel A. Rajiv, among other dignitaries.

Bhupen Hazarika's voice carried spirit of Northeast to entire nation: PM Modi

New Delhi, Sep 8 (IANS): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday commemorated Dr Bhupen Hazarika's 100th birth anniversary, praising the legendary Assamese singer-composer for voicing Assam and Northeast India's spirit nationwide through his music.

Hazarika, born on September 8, 1926 and known as 'Sudhakantha' (nectar-voiced) and the Bard of the Brahmaputra, left a profound musical legacy that blended Assamese folk traditions with universal themes of humanity, justice, unity, and social conscience.

Taking to X, PM Modi said, "On his 100th birth anniversary, remembering the legendary Dr Bhupen Hazarika Ji. His voice carried the soul of Assam and the spirit of the Northeast to the entire nation."

"Through his music, he beautifully gave expression to the thoughts and spirit of countless people. His songs brought people closer. I warmly recall attending the start of his birth centenary celebrations in Guwahati last year. Bhupen Da's life and work will continue to inspire generations," he added.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah also took to social media and paid homage to the Bard of the Brahmaputra.

"Bhupenda's music carried Assamese culture onto the world stage in all its diversity, and his lyrics mirrored the ethos that has kept society united through the ages. His immortal legacy will continue to inspire our vision of nation-building," he posted on X.

Union Health Minister J.P. Nadda, taking to X, said, "Heartfelt tributes to Bharat Ratna Dr Bhupen Hazarika on his birth anniversary. A legendary musician, poet and cultural icon, he gave the world unforgettable songs while showcasing Assam's rich heritage with pride. His remarkable contribution to art and culture will always be remembered with admiration."

Paying tribute to Hazarika, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh called him a "towering cultural icon" and "visionary" who gave voice to the soul of Assam and enriched India's cultural heritage through his music and profound humanism.

"His timeless compositions reflect the ideals of compassion, harmony and social justice, resonating with generations across the country. His remarkable legacy continues to inspire us and reminds us of the enduring power of art and culture to unite people and transcend boundaries," he added.

Suspected arms dealers arrested in Agartala

Agartala, Sep 8 (IANS): In a joint operation, the Tripura Police and Assam Rifles arrested two suspected arms dealers after they arrived in Agartala from Bihar, officials said on Monday.

An official said that when Tripura Police personnel were conducting special vehicle checks on Sunday night in the Shalbagan area along the Agartala-Khowai road, they received information from the Assam Rifles that two persons were proceeding on foot from Domdomia towards Agartala, allegedly carrying illegal arms and ammunition.

Accordingly, a joint ambush was laid in the Shalbagan area, following which the two suspicious persons were intercepted and detained.

During the search, two pistols, three magazines and eight rounds of 7.65 mm ammunition, along with two mobile phones, were recovered from their possession.

The accused persons disclosed their identities as Suraj Kumar, 29, and Srikant Kumar, 36, residents of Bihar's Lakhisarai and Vaishali districts, respectively. They failed to produce any valid licence or lawful documents authorising them to possess the recovered arms and ammunition, the official said.

The recovered arms and ammunition were subsequently seized at the spot in the presence of an Executive Magistrate and independent witnesses by preparing proper seizure memos, he said.

Tripura has witnessed multiple arrests of suspected arms dealers, mostly from Bihar, over the past few years, with most of the cases involving illegal firearms allegedly smuggled into the northeastern state, often through train routes.

In a joint operation, the Tripura Police and the Railway Protection Force (RPF) had earlier arrested two suspected arms and drug peddlers after they arrived in Agartala on an express train.

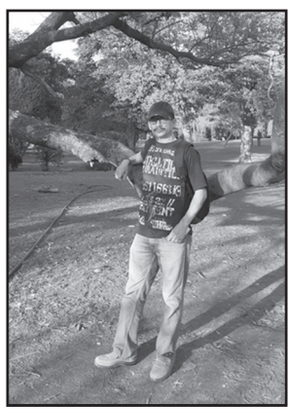
The Tripura Police personnel and RPF troops recovered a loaded pistol and around 100 bottles of banned cough syrup from the possession of two youths from Bihar after detaining them at Agartala railway station.

In November last year, the Tripura Police arrested three persons, including an alleged arms supplier from Bihar, after seizing two country-made firearms and four magazines during a patrol operation in Agartala.

On May 8 last year, eight pistols and 16 empty magazines were recovered from an express train at Agartala railway station. The Government Railway Police (GRP) and RPF, in a joint operation, recovered the arms from the Tripura Sundari Express after the train arrived from Punjab's Firozpur.

Manipuri musician dies after assault outside Delhi home

New Delhi, Sep 8 (IANS): A 54-year-old Manipuri musician died after he was allegedly assaulted by a group of delivery workers and dhaba employees following an altercation over drinking and shouting outside his residence in Kilokari village here, police said, adding the accused, including a juvenile, have been taken into custody.



The Sunlight Colony police station received a PCR call regarding the assault on C. Vikram Singh, a native of Manipur who had been living in Kilokari village for several years.

According to the preliminary inquiry, Singh objected to a group of men allegedly consuming alcohol and creating a disturbance outside his apartment. The situation escalated, following which the accused allegedly assaulted him, showering punches and blows on him.

Singh's son, Yaiphaba, rushed him to Holy Family Hospital after the incident. However, he later succumbed to his injuries, police said.

Following the incident, police launched an investigation to ascertain the circumstances surrounding the assault and Singh's death. Seven men have been arrested, and a juvenile has also been apprehended in connection with the case.

The accused have been identified as Bharat Kumar, 19, Pramod, 26, Ramzan Khan, 22, Deepanshu, 21, Mohan Vishwakarma, 32, Vijay, 36, and Mannu, 26. Police said all the accused work at different dhabas and food stalls.

The North East Students Society, Delhi University (NESSDU), expressed grief over Vikram Singh's death and described him as a respected Manipuri musician.

According to the NESSDU, Singh had gone downstairs after noticing a group of men allegedly drinking and creating a disturbance outside his apartment. The organisation said he asked them to reduce the noise, following which he was allegedly attacked and suffered severe injuries.

The students' body termed the incident a "senseless act of violence" and urged the authorities to conduct a swift, fair, and thorough investigation.

It also called for those found responsible to be held accountable.

Police said further investigation into the case is underway.

Continued From Page 1

Stalemate between tourist taxi associations resolved

Recalling the sequence of events, Assam Minister Atul Bora stated that Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma had asked him to immediately take up the matter with Meghalaya after the August 19 incident.

On August 22, a meeting was held in Guwahati where resolutions were adopted. Bora met the protesters, who immediately withdrew their protest.

The follow-up meeting today was held at the request of the Meghalaya associations, and the situation has returned to normal.

The associations expressed satisfaction with the outcome. Work is currently underway on the resolutions adopted on August 23, and normal operations have resumed.

Youth must oppose forces threatening development: Sarma

Guwahati, Sep 8 (IANS): Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on Monday called upon the state's youth to play a leading role in shaping its future, asserting that natural resources alone cannot transform the state without a strong human resource base and the right ecosystem for innovation and entrepreneurship.

Addressing a programme at Gauhati University, Sarma said Assam was working towards creating an ecosystem where young people could create, innovate and lead industries of the future. "Natural resources can give you an advantage but human resources and the right ecosystem can change the entire game," the Chief Minister said.

He stressed the importance of empowering young people with opportunities in education, innovation, entrepreneurship and emerging industries, saying the state's future would depend significantly on the ability of its youth to seize these opportunities.

Sarma urged the people of Assam, particularly the younger generation, to work towards building a new future for the state and protect the development gains achieved in recent years. He also appealed to the youth to oppose what he described as forces seeking to undermine Assam's hard-earned growth and development.

The Chief Minister said Assam was witnessing progress across several sectors and that creating opportunities for the younger generation was crucial to sustaining the state's development trajectory.

His remarks came during a programme attended by Vice-President C. P. Radhakrishnan at Gauhati University.

The Vice-President had earlier laid the foundation stone for infrastructure projects worth Rs 110 crore at the university.

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