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Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development & Cooperatives
Local Government Department
Upazila-2 Branch

Memorandum No: 46.045.022.10.04.004.2011-546

Date: 11 March 2012

Subject: Regarding celebration of World Indigenous Day

Reference: Ministry of Home Affairs Memorandum no: xxx-xxx/4-6/2011-881, Date: 11 August 2011

District Commissioners are hereby directed to provide instructions/directives to all of their Upazila Parishad in light of the aforementioned subject and reference regarding report obtained from the Intelligence Agency of the Home Ministry.

Dr Mohammad Sarowar Bari
Deputy Secretary
Phone: 7173058

Attachment: As stated.

1) District Commissioner: (all)
_____ district

Memorandum No: 46.045.022.10.04.004.2011-546

Date: 11 March 2012

Copy:

1) Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, Bangladesh Secretariat

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the District Commissioner, Rangamati Hill Tracts District
(General division)
Post code no: 4500
www.dcrangamati.gov.bd

Memo No: 05.42.84xx.2xx.xx.xxx.xxx-xxx

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the District Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO)
Longodu, Rangamati Hill Tracts District

Memo no: 05.42.8458.000.11.004.12-407

Date: 04 April 2012

(You are) hereby requested to take necessary steps according to the letter above.

Mohammad Johirul Islam
UNO, Rangamati Hill Tracts District

1. Officer in Charge, Longodu Police Station
2. Chairman, Atarokchora, Kalapakuijja, Gulshakhali, Bogachotor, Mainimukh, Longodu, Bhashainnadam Union Parishad

[IMG-2.pdf](#)

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Ministry of Home Affairs
Political Wing

(Confidential)

Memorandum no: xxx-xxx/4-6/2011-881

Date: 11 August 2011

Subject: Regarding celebration of Indigenous day

(You are) hereby directed to take necessary actions in line with the report obtained from one intelligence agency (quoted and attached herewith) on the aforementioned subject.

Dr Shahida Akter
Deputy Secretary
Phone: 7166895

Attachment: 1 page

- 1) Secretary, Local Government Department, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka
- 2) Inspector General of Police, Police Headquarters Dhaka
- 3) Police Commissioner, DMP, Dhaka

Regarding celebration of World Indigenous Day

1) On 23 December 1994, a decision to observe ninth(9th) August as the “World Indigenous Day” every year was taken in a meeting of the General Assembly of the United Nations (UN). Very recently, it has been observed that the practice of celebrating the World Indigenous Day has started in Bangladesh. Fairs, musical programmes, seminars, rallies and other activities are carried out to mark the World Indigenous Day.

2) Earlier in April 2010, the “Small ethnic group cultural institute” bill was passed in the national parliament terming different tribal groups as ethnic groups in order to preserve their interest. Recently, these groups were also stated as small ethnic groups in the constitution. It can be noted that, on 26 July 2011 the Honourable Foreign Minister Dr Dipu Moni briefed the development partners working in the three CHT districts, diplomats, high commissioners of different countries in Dhaka and ambassadors regarding this issue. During that briefing, she informed everyone that the tribal people are not indigenous.

3) It has been informed that the tribal leaders, like previous year, have taken preparations to celebrate 9th August this year. Special supplements in various newspapers might be published marking this day. Sources informed that indigenous people might be organizing fairs, musical programmes, seminars, rallies and other activities at Shahid Minar, different places in the country including Cox’s Bazar, including electronic media.

Comments/recommendations:

a) Necessary instructions may be sent to the concerned persons so that (on Indigenous day) government high officials do not give speech/comments that are conflicting/contradictory to the policies of the government undertaken at different times.

b) It might be monitored so that no government patronization/support is provided during the World Indigenous Day.

c) Steps might be taken to publicize/broadcast (by providing related information) in the print and electronic media that there are no Indigenous people in Bangladesh.

d) The month of August is recognized nationally as the month of Mourning. Hence, such unnecessary celebration programmes in the name of Indigenous Day in this month should be avoided.