

Bangla denies Paresh Baruah's presence on its soil



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Bangladesh has denied the presence of ULFA commander in chief Paresh Baruah but virtually admitted that the most wanted man was very much there. Addressing press joint conference on Saturday in Delhi, Bangladesh Rifles Director general Major General Sakil Ahmed said the ULFA chief "is no longer" on the soil of Bangladesh indirectly admitted that he was there very much.

On its side, BSF handed over a list of 117 northeast militant camps operating on Bangladesh soil to its Bangladeshi counterpart and also asked them to hand over ULFA chief Paresh Barua.

BSF has claimed Barua is hiding in Bangladesh. But Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) chief Major General Shakil Ahmed emphatically stated that Barua is 'no longer staying' in his country.

India had consistently maintained that Barua, 51, against whom Interpol issued a red corner notice in 1997, has been operating from Bangladesh. He is believed to be spearheading the ULFA fight for a separate homeland in India's northeastern state Assam.

Ahmed further said insurgency in northeast was a 'threat' to Bangladesh

and his country did not harbour terror outfits groups or provide any support to its leaders.

He said insurgency in the northeast is a threat to Bangladesh. We don't want insurgency in the region because it spills over to Bangladesh. There is no question of any camp being set up and run in Bangladesh. " However, BSF chief Mitra said that 117 camps of northeastern militant groups are still operating on the soil Bangladeshi

editor

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