

Dr PC Rams Killing — Detailed Update



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GUWAHATI: The body of abducted Food Corporation of India Executive Director (North Eastern Regional Office) Dr P.C. Ram was recovered from Anandapur village in Lower Assam's Baksa district on Saturday. Baksa Superintendent of Police Kankanjyoti Saikia has intimated that the decomposed body of Dr Ram was dug up from the village. It was later identified to be that of the FCI official by his former domestic help Junu Murmu who is like his adopted daughter. The body was taken to Nalbari Civil Hospital for post-mortem. Dr. Ram was abducted along with his driver by ULFA from Srinagar area of Guwahati on April 18 while on his way home from office. Police said the body was found buried in the village and a *gamocha* (cloth) was tied around the neck. Villagers informed the police when they noticed a hand at an isolated area. Additional Director-General of Police (Law and Order) D.K. Pathak said that the police have also requested FCI officials to identify the body. The initial inquest indicated that decomposition might have set in three days ago.

The recovery of the body came close to the arrest of five ULFA militants at Murkuchiapara village of the district on Thursday night in a joint operation by the Army's Red Horn Division and the Baksa police. The security forces recovered a huge cache of arms and ammunition that included two foreign-made pistols, one revolver, 32 rounds of ammunition of AK-47 rifles, seven kg of explosives, four detonators, three Chinese grenades and four programmable time devices. The Army and police had been carrying out a massive search operation for the abducted official following information that Dr. Ram was reportedly being held hostage in the district. Preliminary interrogation of the arrested ULFA cadres revealed that they had facilitated in the shifting of Dr. Ram from one place to another.

Police suspects that the militants might have killed Dr Ram on the day the operation was launched by the security forces in the area

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