



HEADQUARTERS SOUTH BENGAL FRONTIER BSF KOLKATA



// PRESS RELEASE //

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**BSF APPREHENDED ONE INDIAN ALONGWITH 02 NOS OF
ENDANGERED SPECIES OF LIZARDS 'TOKAY GECKOS' IN THE AREA
OF PTS MORE, FARAKKA UNDER 24 BN BSF OF SECTOR MALDA**

1. Keeping in view the vulnerability of Border from smuggling point of view, Shri P S R Anjaneyulu, IPS, Inspector General BSF South Bengal Frontier has issued operational guidelines to further strengthen Border domination so as to effectively check the menace of smuggling and other activities of Anti National Elements on South Bengal Border with Bangladesh. Accordingly field Commanders ensure implementation of these instructions to maintain extra vigil on border to thwart the attempts of smugglers / Anti -National Elements. Tactical operations are being mounted to foil the attempts of the smugglers.

2. On 11th Jan 2018, specific information was received by BSF regarding smuggling of endangered species of lizards '**Tokay Gecko**' from the general area PTS More Farakka to Bangladesh. The received information was further developed and a special operation was planned by BSF team Farakka and 24 Battalion BSF. Accordingly special ambushes were laid at two suspected places near 18 Mile, College More and PTS More towards Farakka. At about 1800 hrs, the ambush party which was positioned at PTS More/Township More, observed two suspected persons coming by motorcycle from Kutcha road towards PTS More. Immediately, Ambush party challenged them to stop but they tried to run away from the spot. However, party managed to detain one of them. The detained person was searched thoroughly on the spot and 02 endangered species of lizards 'Tokay Gecko' which were kept in a black bag were recovered. Details of recovered Tokay Geckos are as under:-

- a) 152 Grams and length 1.6 feet and
- b) 125 Gram and length 1.3 feet.

After preliminary questioning, the apprehended person revealed his identity as Md Nasiruddin Sheikh, S/o Fajlur Rahman, Master Para, Sultanganj (P), Sultanganj, Kaliachak, Malda (WB). Seized wildlife lizard and apprehended person have been handed over to DFO Malda for taking further legal action. Geckos are listed in Schedule III of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, as a 'highly endangered animal'.

Note:- BSF Press Release can also be accessed on www.sb.bsf.gov.in

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