



North East

# Daily-wage labourer found dead in Goalpara

A police source said the victim has been identified as Gopal Barman, 40, a resident of Balijana in Agia

By [Mohsin Khaiyam](#) and [Sofikul Ahmed](#) in Goalpara and Guwahati

Published 6.04.20, 1:12 AM • Updated 6.04.20, 1:12 AM

2 mins read •

A-

A+



The source said it was yet to be ascertained if he had committed suicide owing to starvation but some locals told the police that almost everybody in the area had run out of rations and were yet to receive any government relief.

Representational image from Shutterstock

**A** daily wage labourer allegedly committed suicide in Upper Assam's Goalpara district, with sources claiming he and his family had run out of rations owing to the ongoing lockdown.

A police source said the victim has been identified as Gopal Barman, 40, a resident of Balijana in Agia. He had committed suicide on Saturday and the incident came to light on Sunday morning.

The source said it was yet to be ascertained if he had committed suicide owing to starvation but some locals told the police that almost everybody in the area had run out of rations and were yet to receive any government relief.

Barman had left home on Friday after a quarrel with his wife and he was later found hanging from a tree near a field in Balijana. The source said he might have taken the extreme step owing to a possible family dispute but it could not be denied that it was owing to the lack of food. Barman was a daily wage-earner and had already run out of money, the source added.

The source said mostly daily wagers and labourers lived in the area who have no jobs and money after the lockdown was imposed. Some of them used to sell fish for a living but since the imposition of the lockdown, they are not being able to earn a livelihood owing to the restrictions.

Goalpara deputy commissioner Varnali Deka said Varnali Deka said, "Balijana circle officer, who went to investigate the incident, said family conflict was behind Barman's death. The family had also collected the ration for April."

Balijana has a population of around 500 and is around 140km from the state capital. An investigation is on.

Leader of the Opposition Debabrata Saikia, in a video released on Sunday, said Assam had not received any financial package as promised by the Centre.

“Various state governments have announced their own packages but no such package has been announced by the Assam government. According to the Centre’s directives, the stranded labourers of Assam have not received any essential items or relief fund. It was declared that those without ration cards will receive Rs 1,000 but even after 12 days of lockdown, Assam villagers have not received the amount,” Saikia said.

He requested the Assam government to take adequate steps to help those who hit hard by the lockdown.

*Additional reporting by Rokibuz Zaman in Guwahati*

Tags

Coronavirus

Debabrata Saikia

Lockdown

## Download



1. Quarterly growth slides to 3.1 per cent, more pain feared

2. India looks at 5 lakh daily tests

3. For second day running, Delhi records more than thousand Covid-19 cases

4. Covid-19 cases go up in north Bengal

5. Generator suppliers around Calcutta make hay



**Five break into CM's convoy.**  
North East



**Assam woos MNCs with support**  
States



**8 held for CAA activist's death in East Khasi Hills**  
States



**Erosion threatens villages in Bokakhat**  
India