

## Massive Seizure of Illegal Fishing Nets in Patkelghata Bazar, Tala: 20,000 Meters of Current Nets and 9 China Duari Nets Destroyed

Tala (Satkhira), July 31, 2025:

A special operation was carried out this morning in Patkelghata Bazar under Tala Upazila, based on a tip-off, by the Office of the Senior Upazila Fisheries Officer, Tala, Satkhira. During the operation, authorities seized approximately 20,000 meters of illegal current nets and 9 illegal China Duari nets from three different shops.



The seized nets were burnt and destroyed on the spot in the presence of local residents to ensure complete disposal and to send a strong message against illegal fishing practices.

The drive was led by **Senior Upazila Fisheries Officer Md. Tarik Emam**, who said, “These illegal nets pose a serious threat to our aquatic biodiversity and fish production. Their use not only violates the law but also damages the natural reproductive cycle of fish.”

### Why Are These Nets Harmful?

Illegal current nets and China Duari nets are made from ultra-fine monofilament threads that are nearly invisible underwater. Because of their fine mesh, they indiscriminately catch fish fry, hatchlings, and juvenile fish, many of which haven't yet reached breeding maturity.

As a result, these nets disrupt the natural life cycle of fish. When large numbers of fish fry are destroyed before they grow and reproduce, it leads to a sharp decline in fish populations. Experts warn that such damage can take years to recover and may cause severe ecological imbalance in aquatic ecosystems.

### **⚖️ Legal Action and Public Awareness**

The use, sale, transport, or possession of these types of nets is prohibited under the Fish Protection and Conservation Act, 1950, and violators are subject to legal penalties. During the operation, local citizens were sensitized about the destructive impact of illegal nets and urged to avoid engaging in such harmful practices.

Fisheries authorities have announced that such anti-illegal gear drives will continue in the future to protect fish stocks and promote sustainable aquaculture.