

SNAPS

Dr Mukharjee Murder protested at RU

A RU CORRESPONDENT Rajshahi University (RU) unit of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) on Sunday brought out a procession on the campus protesting the killing of Dr Shudur Kumar Mukharjee at Chuadanga.

The processionists chanted various anti-government slogans and urged the government to take steps to stop killing of Awami League leaders in different areas of the country. Dr. Mukharjee was a former leader of ChuadangaAL.

Two given life for murdering young girl

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chuadanga. Two persons were given life term and fined Tk 5000 each in for killing a young girl.

District and Sessions Judge A R Masud handed down the punishment to Shahidul Islam and Abdur Rahim of Jalshuka village under Chuadanga Sadar upazila for killing Shantonu Majeda, 26, of the same village in November 2000.

They were chargesheeted following investigation after the victim's father Jamat Ali filed a case.

One gets 10 yrs RI for keeping illegal arm

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gaibandha One person has been given ten years' imprisonment for possessing illegal firearms.

Assistant District and Session's Judge AFM Mahbulul Huq on Sunday gave the punishment to Mukul, son of late Mojibar Rahman of Tajpur village under Sadullapur upazila.

Police caught Mukul with an illegal pistol at Gaibandha town on September 17, 2001.

Jubo Dal, Jubo League form new bodies in Satkhira

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

A 51-member committee of Debhata thana Jubo Dal, youth front of ruling BNP, was formed at its biennial conference on Saturday.

Golam Farooq and Abdul Habib were made president and general secretary respectively of the new committee.

The conference was addressed by, among others, Prof Modasserul Haq Huda, Abul Hasam Hadi, Nasim Khan Mithu, Mahiuddin Siddique, Abu Taleb Mollah and Sk Sirajul Islam.

On the same day, opposition Awami League's youth front Jubo League also formed its 25-member Satkhira Sadar thana convening committee at a convention.

Safiuddin Sati was made convener. Prof Humayun Kabir and Prof Bidhanjit Roy became joint convenors.

Mahmud Ali Suman, convener, Satkhira district Jubo League presided over the convention.

10 villagers injured by gamblers

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sirajganj

At least 10 persons were injured when a gang of gamblers attacked some people as they resisted gambling at Kuchiamara bazar under Ullapara upazila Monday evening.

Five of the injured were admitted to Ullapara health complex and the rest were released after first aid, police and hospital sources said.

A case has been lodged with Ullapara police station.



A delivery patient lying on the floor at Nilphamari Maternity Hospital. The photo was taken on Saturday.

Naogaon Jubo Dal leader murdered by 'outlaws'

BSS, Naogaon

A Jubo Dal leader was slaughtered at Rasulpur on the Naogaon-Atrai Road on Monday, allegedly by 'outlaws'.

Police and witnesses said a gang of youths wearing masks intercepted Ainul Haque alias Bhuttu, 28, at Rasulpur when he along with his friend was returning home in a motorcycle after appearing before a court in a case.

The youths numbering eight attacked him with sharp weapons and later slaughtered him.

One killed for filing case against acid throwers

BSS, Fulbari (Dinajpur)

A man has been killed allegedly for filing a case against acid throwers.

Khogendranath Singh, 58, was killed at Rangamati village under Fulbari upazila Saturday night when he went out of his home at night to respond to nature's call.

Police recovered the body from a nearby paddy field next day.

According to police, Khogendranath's son-in-law Promoth Singh came to his house on September 1. Some miscreants sprayed acid on Promoth the same day.

Next day, Khogendranath filed a case with Fulbari police accusing 10 persons.

Additional Police Superintendent of Dinajpur Ejaj Ahmed visited the spot on Sunday.

Revenue stuck up as cases pending with High Court

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

The government is being deprived of huge amounts of revenue in Rajshahi region as a number of cases are pending with the High Court for long.

These cases have been filed by importers due to dispute on amount of duties, according to Customs Commissioner Ali Ahmed.

"No case was disposed of in the last financial year due to various reasons," he said.

The amounts payable by companies run up to crores of taka. One company based in Panchagarh is defaulting with Tk 17.50 crore VAT and another company based a Rangpur is defaulting with Tk 31.95 lakh customs duties, he said.

A special team has been formed for quick disposal of the cases.

The Rajshahi Commissionerate earned Tk 570.70 crore in duties in the last fiscal year. The amount is Tk 27.60 crore more than that earned in the previous financial year.

Revenue collection increased last fiscal despite a ban on import of some 80 items through the land customs (LC) stations in the region, customs officials said.

The revenue is collected mainly from three main LC stations and 10 customs corridors.

But due to lack of adequate facilities including warehouses at the LC stations, businessmen are losing interest in importing goods through the stations, they said.

A maternity hospital without ECG, X-ray machines!

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Netrokona

The lone maternity hospital at Netrokona district town is manned by only one doctor, who does not stay at the hospital compound after evening.

Delivery patients are often kept on the floor. There are only seven beds whereas at least fifteen patients come to the hospital daily, hospital sources said.

There are only two trained nurses, but they are seldom available at night, when ayas (mid-

wives) look after patients.

There is no ECG and X-ray machine in the hospital, not to speak of medicine. Patients' attendants have to buy medicines from outside.

When contacted, Ferdous-Ara, the lone doctor, said, the authorities were repeatedly informed of the deplorable situation, but to no effect.

If any patient needs caesarian operation, she is sent to Mymensingh, which is very risky, she said.

Lightning kills 4, injures 30 in Rangpur

Another killed in Lalmonirhat

STAR NATIONAL DESK

Lightning killed five persons and injured 32 on a day in Rangpur and Lalmonirhat.

Our Rangpur Correspondent reported that lightning without rain killed four persons and injured 30 on Saturday.

Those killed are Mir Ashraf Ali, 45 and Mashur Rahman, 16, of Khoragach union under Mithapukur Upazila; Abdur Rashid, 50, of Damodarpur union under Badargonj upazila and Rasheedul Islam, 21, of Chandanpat union under Rangpur Sadar Upazila.

Eleven of the 30 injured are undergoing treatment at Rangpur Medical College Hospital. The rest were released after first aid, hospital sources said.

Eyewitnesses said, lightning occurred without rain at different places at the same time in about a four square

kielometre area covering parts of Rangpur Sadar, Mithapukur and Badargonj Upazilas without any rainfall.

Our Lalmonirhat correspondent reported that lightning killed a schoolboy and injured two others critically at Douljore village in Aditmar upazila on Saturday.

The dead has been identified as Sanjoy Kumar Barmon, a student of class eight and son of Dhaniram Barmon.

The injured are Parash Chandro Roy, son of Manindra Nath and Susil Chandra, son late Hariram Chandra of the same village.

Lightning struck them when they were returning home from school. Sanjoy died on the spot.

The two injured are being treated at Lalmonirhat hospital.

Death of Tia Case transferred to CID

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

The case in connection with the death of housewife Tia has been transferred to the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) of police.

The case was transferred on Sunday on orders from Police Superintendent Maniruzzaman as Lalmonirhat Sadar thana police failed to find any clue to the murder in 10 days after filling of the case on 11 September, police sources said yesterday. None could be arrested.

Mystery shrouds the death of Tia. She died on August 27 from burn injuries she suffered at the house of her husband Shahed Rahman Pavel.

Tia's family says she was burnt to death while Pavel's family says she suffered burn injuries as the stove burst when she was boiling milk.

Murder of ethnic woman

Sit-in before UNO office

BSS, Thakurgaon

About one thousand indigenous men and women, joined by local people, staged a sit-in in front of the Ranisankail Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) office on Monday demanding arrest of the killers of Beauty Soren, an indigenous woman.

Different political parties, Jatyo Adebashi Parishad and NGOs organised the programme.

A group of miscreants gangraped and slaughtered Beauty Soren at Sindurpur Banshabaria village under Ranisankail upazila on September 19.

The protesters also laid siege to Ranisankail police station for about half an hour. OC M Farkan Ali assured the protesters of nabbing the killers immediately.

Memo to IU VC

A IU CORRESPONDENT

Samajtantrik Chhatra Front (SCF) unit at the Islamic University (IU) has submitted a memorandum to Vice-chancellor Prof Dr Mustafizur Rahman to fulfill its eight-point demand.

The demands include solution to the accommodation crisis at halls and appointment of more teachers.

Earlier it took out a procession and held a rally on the campus to press their demands.

Nine-point demand

Half-day transport strike observed in Gaibandha

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gaibandha

A half-day transport strike was observed in the district yesterday at the call of Gaibandha Bus-Truck Workers Union to press its nine-point demand.

All kinds of vehicles including long-route coaches were off the roads from six in the morning till noon.

The strike was part of their month-long agitation programme to press the demands.

The demands include ferry service on the Brahmaputra to ease

Gaibandha-Dhaka road communication, relief from alleged police harassment, construction of truck terminal in the town.

On Saturday, transport workers and owners brought out a procession and held a rally in the town to press their demands.

They also handed over a memorandum to the Deputy Commissioner.

At the rally, district transport workers' leaders said they will launch a greater movement including non-stop strike if their demands are not met.

100 held a day but no sign of let-up

Anti-crime drive or eyewash?

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

At least 100 alleged criminals are being held daily in the six districts of Barisal division but till there has been no let up in crimes.

About 7000 were arrested in the last seventy days, police said.

They claimed that 2000 of them were wanted in different cases and 120 were 'convicted fugitives'.

But other sources said there was no listed top criminal among the arrested and the arms recovery was also negligible. According to sources at the office of Barisal DIG, 1379 persons were arrested in Barisal, 1300 in Patuakhali, 904 in Bhola, 884 in Pirojpur, 794 in Barguna and 833 in Jhalakati districts from July one to September 15 this year.

They included 16 convicted fugitives held in Barisal, 50 in Bhola, 9 in Jhalakati, 10 in Pirojpur, eight in Patuakhali and 27 arrested in Barguna.

During this period, police recovered one Chinese rifle, one country-made gun, two DBL and two SBL guns, seven

pipe guns and 52 bullet in Bhola. Two revolvers, one pistol, one pipe gun and bullets were recovered in Barisal.

One revolver, one SBL gun, two pipe guns were recovered in Pirojpur. No firearm was recovered in Barguna and Patuakhali.

Most of the arms were recovered in abandoned conditions.

But sources claimed that the miscreants who went underground during the Operation Clean Heart, are now moving freely and police are not arresting them because of their political connections.

4 held with Indian currency in Khulna

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Sonadanga police arrested four persons with Indian Rupees 8.40 lakh on Sunday midnight.

The arrested persons are Abdul Mannan, 30, Bacchu Hossain, 26, Abu Saeed, 28, and Saiful Islam, 32.

Acting on a tip-off, police intercepted a car at Pujakhola area of the city and nabbed the four with the money.

Police said they belong to an organised gang of currency racketeers operating in the southwestern region of the country.

ASI Mohiuddin filed a case with Sonadanga police.

JCD rally at RU to press demands

A RU CORRESPONDENT

Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) unit at Rajshahi University (RU) on Sunday brought out a procession on the campus and held a rally in front of the central library to press its 11-point demand.

The demands include immediate declaration of RUCSU election, repair of Sher-e-Bangla and Shaheed Habibur Rahman halls, construction of another female hall, stoppage of inter-city trains near the campus and freeing RU Press Club from alleged occupation of activists of Islamic Chhatra Shibir.

JCD Vice-president Anwar Hossain Ujjal, its RU unit president Motiwar Rahman and general secretary Aslam Reza addressed the rally.



The government with the assistance of UNDP and FAO is organising fishermen in coastal areas into various groups to make them aware that they are the main stakeholder in properly utilising fish resources in the Bay. Groups have been organised even at village level in Cox's Bazar and other coastal areas and fishermen made conscious not to destroy fish fries. But have these made any change, practically? Photo shows fishermen along with their families marching the streets at Cox's Bazar with banners and festoons calling for protecting fish resources (left) and mindless destruction of shrimp fries in the shore waters (right). The photos were taken recently.

Housewife tortured for dowry fighting for life

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

A housewife, tortured allegedly by her husband for dowry, is fighting for life at Shyamnagar hospital.

Police said Taslima Khatun, 23, mother of one child, was severely beaten by her husband Abdur Fakir at Chandipur village on Monday as her father could meet his demand for Tk 20,000 dowry.

She was rushed to the hospital in an unconscious state. Her condition is critical, doctors said.

Seminar on exam debacle in Gaibandha

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gaibandha

A Seminar on 'public examination result debacle' was held at Gaibandha Public Library auditorium recently.

The discussants welcomed the government steps to check cheating in public examinations. This year's result debacle in the SSC examinations was mainly because of low standard of teaching at schools, they said.

Teachers and managements of schools should analyse the causes and take remedial steps.

Alongside, the government should also take steps to remove the disparity in facilities made available to students in urban and rural areas, they said.

The seminar, organised by Samajtantrik Chhatra Front, was addressed by, among others, Prof Khairunessa Sarker, Prof Tarun Kanti Barman, Prof Jaharul Kaiume, Prof Mozharul Manna, Prof, Golam Sadek, Prof Sushanta Kumar Day and Prof Animesh Kumar.

'Top criminal' held in Shahjadpur

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sirajganj

Police on Monday night arrested Abdur Alim, an alleged 'top criminal' of Shahjadpur upazila area.

Acting on a tip-off, police raided a house at a village and arrested him. He was wanted in a number of criminal cases, police said.



A sequence of a drama titled Asiron Bangladesh (Asiron's Bangladesh) staged by Gono Nattya Dal of Transparency International, Bangladesh (TIB) at Muktugacha Municipality auditorium recently.