



Gananatrik Biplobi Jote stages a demonstration in the city yesterday to protest price hike of essentials.

PHOTO: STAR

Irregularities in pry teachers' exam BNP faction enforces road blockade in Bandarban today

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bandarban

A faction of the Bandarban BNP will enforce a daylong road blockade today protesting alleged irregularities in the primary teachers' recruitment examination.

The action programme was announced at a meeting of the faction held at the local press club with Prof. Md Osman Goni, vice-president of the BNP unit, in the chair.

Tense has been running high among two factions of the BNP here following allegation of irregularities in the recruitment examination on October 31.

Speakers at the meeting alleged that corruption, nepotism and leakage of questions have turned the examination

into a farce.

They also blamed the chairman and the officials of the Bandarban Hill District Parishad for all irregularities.

The agitating BNP leaders said they were going to enforce the action programme as their demand for cancellation of the examination went unheeded.

There are allegations that some candidates have given as much as Tk 80,000 in bribe to secure the job.

Like every year, the Bandarban Hill District Parishad arranged the examination for the recruitment of 160 primary teachers this year. And a total of 2054 candidates sat for the examination.

Prize giving ceremony of Nido-Shaptahik 2000 contest

The prize giving ceremony of 'Nido-Shaptahik 2000 Golpo Lekho Golpo Jeto' competition was held at the Russian Cultural Centre in the city recently, says a press release.

The Nestle Nido and the weekly Shaptahik 2000 have been jointly organising the contest for three years.

Tasnim Chowdhury, a student of class four of Holy Cross Girls' High School, won the first prize in group 'A' and Zoairia Yamin Bushra became first in group 'B'.

Twenty other junior writers from both the groups have also been awarded.

Writers Abu Kaiser, Moinul Ahsan Saber and Amirul Islam, Shahadat Chowdhury, editor of the Shaptahik 2000, Carlo Cifello, managing director of Nestle Bangladesh Limited, Aftabzaman Khan, nutrition director, Nakib Khan, supply chain director, and Ruhana Rahman, brand executive, were present at the ceremony.

A cultural programme and a magic show was also held after the distribution of prizes.

Remove misunderstanding, mistrust among South Asian countries

FM tells Saarc editors and journalists confce

UNB, Dhaka

Foreign Minister M Morshed Khan yesterday called for removing "misunderstanding and mistrust" among the countries in South Asia for fostering meaningful cooperation to ensure welfare of people in the region.

"Otherwise, we may be marginalised from the international mainstream," he said this at the concluding session of the first conference of editors and working journalists of Saarc countries at Hotel Sheraton in the afternoon.

He said, "Our objective is to plug-in more comprehensively with the mainstream of regional and global political, economic, social and technological life."

Morshed Khan said Saarc is seen as a structural forum to forge a regional identity, dispel mistrust, create interest for every member country in every other member country of the forum and launch a programme of meaningful regional cooperation.

The FM said while Saarc's focus was

anchored in socio-economic objective and improvement in the quality of life, it is hoped that this would be a vehicle that could ultimately lead to the attainment of political ends through broad-based confidence-building measures.

Referring to the planned 12th Saarc Summit scheduled to be held in Islamabad in January, he hoped that the Summit would be able to generate fresh dynamism and give momentum

to Saarc process.

On recent India-Pakistan move to normalise their relations, he said, "We are pleased that there are indications that tension in the region is likely to reduce in the coming months."

About role of media, he said, media indeed has become the vanguard of the inexorable process of globalisation that touch upon every society, in its every segment, in some form or the other. "We have seen how the media can

scrutinise policies, empower people and connect communities", he said.

Information Secretary Nazmul Alam Siddique, PIO Khandakar Manirul Alam, Director of Saarc Secretariat P.V. Shah also addressed with New Age Editor Enayetullah Khan in the chair.

The 2-day meeting also came up with a recommendation.

3 new DCs appointed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government yesterday appointed three new deputy commissioners in Sherpur, Brahmanbaria and Shariatpur districts.

Executive Director of the Jatiya Mohila Sangstha Mohsina Ferdous has been appointed DC of Sherpur.

Yunusur Rahman and Hasan Imam, directors of the Bangladesh Public Administration Training Centre, have been appointed DCs of Brahmanbaria and Shariatpur.

Meanwhile, Mominul Haq Bhuiyan, a member of Power Development Board, and Lokman Hakim, director of Bangladesh Small and Cottage Industries Corporation, have been appointed joint secretary at the Ministry of Establishment.

FM leaves for Germany today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Foreign Minister M Morshed Khan leaves Dhaka today on a two-day visit to Germany.

During the visit, he will have talks with his German counterpart and other high officials in Bonn on bilateral issues and matters of mutual interests.

Discussion
Bangladesh Awami League organises a discussion on the occasion of the Jail Killing Day with Leader of the Opposition in parliament and party President Sheikh Hasina as chief guest. Venue: Auditorium of the Institute of Engineers, Bangladesh. Time: 2.30pm.

Memorial lecture
Bangladesh Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (BCSIR) will hold a memorial discussion to mark the 26th death anniversary of Dr Muhammad Qudrat-e-Khuda, eminent scientist and educationist. Venue: BCSIR auditorium. Time: 3.30pm.

Film show
Academy Film Society will screen a film titled 'The Duplicate'. Venue: 21/C, Jigatola. Time: 7.00pm.



Carlo Cifello, managing director of Nestle Bangladesh Ltd., gives away a prize to a winner of 'Nido-Shaptahik 2000 Golpo Lekho Golpo Jeto' competition in the city recently. On the right is Shahadat Chowdhury, editor of the Shaptahik 2000.

Dry weather likely

UNB, Dhaka

Weather is likely to remain mainly dry with partly cloudy sky over the country till 6pm today.

Night temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country, Met Office said.

Highest temperature 34.0 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Chittagong and Cox's Bazar and the lowest 19.7 degree Celsius at Srimongal. The sun sets in the capital at 5:18pm today and rises at 6:06am tomorrow.

Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	31.4	21.7	53	62
Chittagong	34.0	22.7	74	65
Rajshahi	30.8	20.5	79	82
Khulna	32.5	23.2	74	75
Barisal	32.0	21.6	78	87
Sylhet	30.2	21.0	81	76
Cox's Bazar	34.0	23.0	73	65