

HUMAN CHAIN PROTESTING MURDER OF RU TEACHERS

# Ruta will demonstrate on highway every Saturday

RU CORRESPONDENT

Rajshahi University Teachers' Association (Ruta) yesterday formed a human chain in front of the university main gate demanding immediate arrest and punishment to killers of Prof Muhammad Yunus and Prof S Taher Ahmed.

Several hundred teachers, students and officials took part in the human chain stretching from Binodpur bazaar to Kazla gate. Participants carried placards and banners during the human chain.

Later, a meeting was held in front of the university main gate. The meeting was presided by Ruta president Prof Nazrul Islam.

At the meeting, Prof Nazrul declared that Ruta would hold human chain on the Rajshahi-Dhaka highway every Saturday till

their demands were met.

General students and activists of progressive student bodies expressed their solidarity with the programme and took part in the human chain.

Rajshahi Professionals' Coordinating Council also demonstrated in the city demanding immediate arrest of Shibir leader Salehi and speedy trial of both the killings.

A big procession paraded the main streets of the city.

Afterwards, a meeting was held at Shaheb Bazar with Council convenor and former Rajshahi University vice chancellor (VC) Prof Saidur Rahman Khan in the chair.

Among others, Dr Shafikul Islam, former RU VC Prof Abdul Khalek, RU Bangabandhu Parishad president Prof Mokhlesur Rahman, Lawyers' Bar joint secretary Entajul

Haque, District Teachers' Association secretary Abdul Bari and journalist Hasan Millat addressed the meeting.

University unit of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) also took out a procession and held a meeting in front of the central library. Its vice president Alberuni Faruk led the procession and presided over the meeting.

BCL leaders said Jamaat-Shibir leaders are trying to protect Prof Taher's alleged killer Salehi. They threatened a tougher agitation against the BNP-Jamaat government if Salehi is not arrested and punished.

BCL leaders Obidur Rahman, Alberuni Faruk, Tapas Kumar and Zahid Ali addressed the meeting.

On contact, Motihar Police Station officer-in-charge (OC) Faizur Rahman said police Friday

night attached the movable property of Zafar Babu, prime accused in Prof Yunus Murder Case.

He said Islami Chhatra Shibir activist Babu has been absconding since the incident.

Earlier, a warrant for arrest of Mahbulul Alam Salehi, RU Shibir president, was issued in connection with the murder of Prof Taher.

Rajshahi University Economics Department teacher Prof Yunus was killed near his Binodpur residence in the city on December 24, 2004. Prof Taher of Geology and Mining Department was murdered on February 3 and his body was dumped in a septic tank in front of his residence.

## Susta polls tomorrow

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Election to Shahjalal University of Science and Technology Teachers' Association (Susta) will be held tomorrow.

Twenty-two candidates are vying for 11 posts in two panels.

The candidates of Awami League (AL) backed left leaning panel are Prof Akhtarul Islam-President, Niaz Ahmed-General Secretary, Md Ashrafur Islam Mintu-Vice-President, Zahir Uddin Ahmed-Treasurer and Rezaul Karim Chowdhury-Joint Secretary.

Member candidates are: Dr Sushanta Kumar Das, Dr Md Yunus, Dr Rashed Talukder, Farzana Siddiqua, Zahid Ibne Halim and Chandan Kumar Karmaker.

The candidates of the pro-BNP panel are Dr Mostafa Hassan-President, Dr Muhammad Iqbal-Vice-President, Md Rafiqul Islam-General Secretary, Dr Abu Kamal, Treasurer and Md Mahbubuzzaman-Joint Secretary.

Member candidates are Md Khairul Islam, Asharful Karim, Saiful Islam, AFM Zakaria, Hossain Al-Mamun and Md Jasim Uddin.

Dr Md Ashrafuddin Ahmed will act as the Election Commissioner.

At least 108 out of 368 voters are staying abroad on study leave, SUSTA sources said.



Bangladesh-India joint team conducting land survey at border pillar no.1 near Bhomra land port yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

# Joint border survey in Bhomra area begins

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

Officials of Bangladesh and India continued a joint survey yesterday to settle unresolved border demarcations and erect pillars damaged along the frontier from Bhomra land port to the Sadar upazila. Many border pillars disappeared due to erosion by common rivers in the border.

The teams are led by officials of the rank of director general of land records and survey of the two countries. The survey began Friday

soon after the Indian team came to Bangladesh through Bhomra land port.

The joint team yesterday conducted survey of areas covered by six border pillars, including four pillars from No. 1 to 4 which were washed away due to river erosion.

Areas in Bangladesh affected by Ichhamati and Kalindi rivers in Kaligonj and Shyamnagar upazilas will be surveyed, sources in the Bangladesh team said.

On completion of the survey in Bangladesh, the joint team will

prepare a report on re-demarcation of the border and reconstruction of damaged pillars and submit it to their respective governments.

The sources said officials of the two countries have agreed to take steps to identify lost pillars and reinstall those.

The Indian team stayed at Satkhira Circuit house last night.

Survey on the Bangladesh side is expected to end today and the joint team will then survey the Indian side of the area tomorrow.

# BDR deployed at Benapole to check diesel smuggling

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

BDR has been deployed at Benapole check post and all adjacent border points since Friday evening to check smuggling of diesel. Owners of filling stations at Benapole have been asked not to sell fuel after dusk.

Huge quantities of diesel are being smuggled out of the country through Benapole border points every day, in which petrol pumps owners are allegedly involved, sources claimed.

BDR personnel have also been deployed at all petrol pumps and at Benapole truck terminal. They are being assisted by Ansars.

BDR sources said sale of petrol from filling stations within eight kilometres of the border have been banned after dusk.

Indian trucks entering Benapole are also under BDR surveillance, the sources said.

Indian trucks are being checked whether they are carrying diesel in excess of their requirement, the sources said.

It is learnt from sources in customs department that at least 300 Indian trucks enter Bangladesh every day through Benapole check post, carrying imported goods. While going back to India, these carry diesel in excess of needs to smuggle those, the sources claimed.

RALLY IN NABIGANJ FOR GAS SUPPLY

# UNO office to be besieged Mar 6

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

The all-party action committee agitating for pipeline gas supply to Nabiganj upazila in Habiganj from Bibiyana gas filed yesterday held a rally at Nabiganj Natun Bazar to press the demand.

The day-long hartal for yesterday in the upazila, announced earlier, was postponed.

At yesterday's rally, leaders of the all-party action committee announced a programme to besiege the Nabiganj Upazila Officers (UNO) office and stage a sit-in on March 6. Tougher agitation programmes will be announced on that day, speakers at the rally said. The committee earlier organised

human chains, sit-in demonstrations, held rallies and handed over memorandums to the administration to press their five-point demand, including pipeline gas supply. The latest rally was held on Friday.

Yesterday's rally was addressed by, among others, lawmaker from the area Dewan Farid Gazi; Prof. Habibur Rahman, former vice-chancellor of Shah Jalal University of Science and Technology, Habiganj district Awami League President Dr. Moshfiq Hossain; BNP leader and president of Nabiganj Development Forum Shafiqur Rahman; and Dr. Abdus Shahid Golap, president of Nabiganj Citizens' Committee. The rally was presided over by Prof Tofazzol Hossain Chowdhury.

Chairmen and members of different Union Parishads also spoke at the rally, attended by a large number of people.

Agitation by local people for gas mounted after US company Unocal started implementing a big project in Bibiyana gas field. The project includes drilling of two new wells and laying of pipeline to supply of gas to the National Grid from the field.

## 7 bombs found in Bagerhat

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Seven live bombs have been recovered at Bahorbunia village of Morrelganj upazila in Bagerhat district on Friday.

Abul Kalam, sub-inspector (SI) of police found the bombs hidden in an abandoned latrine of the house of Jamaat activist Mostafizur Rahman Jibu, the prime suspect of BNP leader Sarwar Hossain Howlader Murder Case.

On receipt of an information of police raid, Mostafizur Rahman Jibu fled away from his house, local people said.

However, none was arrested so far.

## Book fair in Kurigram

A week-long book fair, organised by Friends Fair, will begin at Ulipur in Kurigram today to commemorate Amar Ekushey, says a press release.

The fair, 12th of its kind, will continue till March 4. Awami League central leader Fulu Sarkar will inaugurate the fair as chief guest.

4.5X3

4X3

9X2

6X3

6X3