

# Processions, rallies at RU for arrest of teachers' killers

## Ruta to demonstrate 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 S Taher Ahmed and Prof Muhammad Yunus.

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

Later, a meeting was held in front of the university main gate with Ruta President Prof Zillur Rahman in the

chair.

At the meeting, Prof Zillur Rahman declared that Ruta would hold human chain on the Rajshahi-Dhaka highway every Saturday till their demands were met.

Students and activists of different student fronts of political parties also and took part in the human chain.

Meanwhile, teachers and students of Geology and Mining department yesterday took out a silent procession on the campus demanding arrest and punishment to killers of Prof S Taher Ahmed, founding teacher of the department, killed on February 2 at his flat.

The processionists, led by the departments chairman Prof Sayed Shamsuddin paraded streets on the campus and joined the Ruta human chain.

Awami League backed Teachers, Officers and Employees Welfare Association also took out a silent procession on the campus to press the demand for arrest and trial of the two senior teachers.

They demanded arrest of RU Islami Chhatra Shibir President Salehi for his alleged involvement in the murder of Prof Taher and his trial in special tribunal.

They held a rally in front of the

Senate building.

RU unit of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) also took out a procession and held a rally in front of Central Library demanding trial of the killers.

BCL leaders alleged at the rally that Jamaat-Shibir leaders are trying to protect Prof Taher's alleged killer Salehi. They threatened 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 rally.

## Star Readers Club workshop ends

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur

A week-long orientation workshop on 'An Approach and Methodology for Skill-Based Learning', organised by the Rangpur unit of The Daily Star Readers Club, concluded here yesterday.

The workshop was inaugurated at the auditorium of Rangpur Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCCI) on March 19 through holding of a discussion meeting, chaired by the club convener Samiul Bashir.

Fifty people took part in the orientation workshop which included lessons on English language and feature writing.

Dr. Shaheen Kabir, Rafi Hossen, Samiul Bashir, Mamun Islam, Rafique Sarker, Sarwarul Alam Duda, and Abdur Rashid Chowdhury were the resource persons.

Principal of Government Begum Rokeya College Prof Fatema Lutfun Nahar, Carmichael College teacher Prof AHMA Islam, Prof Rezaul Karim, Prof Zakir Hossen, Prof Khairul Anam Khokon, lawyer AE Sarwarul Alam Duda and journalist Mamun Islam spoke at the inaugural session.



Participants at a workshop on English language, organised by The Daily Star Readers Club in Rangpur.

PHOTO: STAR

## Labourers in Moulvibazar tea gardens on strike

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

Tension mounted in Srimongal upazila town yesterday as labourers from different tea gardens took to the streets protesting arrest of three leaders including the president and the general secretary of Bangladesh Tea Labourers Union (BTLU).

At least 50 laborers including women were injured as police charged baton on the protesting people.

Meanwhile all activities in tea gardens in the area remained suspended as labourers called an indefinite strike yesterday.

Srimongol police arrested BTLU president Rajendra, general secretary Norendra and member Bhupesh Friday night over a feud in the organisation.

As the news spread, hundreds of tea garden labourers started to pour in Srimongal town yesterday morning and gathered at the central office of BTLU.

The agitated labourers put barricades on the Dhaka-Sylhet

highway in front of the BTLU office and chanted slogans demanding release of the three leaders.

At an impromptu rally there, the labourers announced a strike programme in all tea gardens till release of their leaders.

At about 2 pm police police charged batons on the labourers and cleared the highway.

Some of the injured labourers have been admitted to a hospital in the town.

The barricades created long snarl-ups on both sides of the highway till about 3 pm.

Abdul Majid Bhuiyan, Officer in Charge of Srimongal thana, said the three leaders of BTLU were arrested in a case.



PHOTO: STAR

The memorial plaque built in Barisal city for martyred freedom fighters inaugurated yesterday by City Corporation Mayor Mojibur Rahman Sarwar.

# Gazipur suicide bomber identified after 4 months

## Asadul was assigned by JMB chief Abdur Rahman, police say

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gaibandha

The JMB suicide bomber killed in the November 29 bombing on Gazipur Bar Association office premises has been identified by Criminal Investigation Department (CID) as Asadul Islam, 19, of Gaibandha.

Seven persons including lawyers Amjad Hossain and Golam Faruk were killed on the spot 60 people were injured in the bombing.

Gaibandha police confirmed Asadul's identity yesterday, about four months after the carnage.

Asadul who used four nicknames as Zafar, Nasir, Jahid and Ziaur hailed from Tindaha village in Ramchandrapur union in Gaibandha Sadar

Upazila. His identity has been confirmed after interrogating some JMB (Jamaatul Mujahideen Bangladesh) cadres and his parents, police said.

During investigation, Asadul's father bicycle mechanic Abdur Rahim and mother Ayatunessa and relatives identified his photograph.

Police also recovered copies of JMB monthly journal Al-Magazi, other papers and Jihadi (militancy) books from the house of Asadul.

Quoting family sources, police said Asadul read up to class eight at Trimohoni High School and later went to Bogra for studying in a madrasa. Since then, he did not keep any contact with the family.

CID investigation officer Shamol Kumar during investigation quizzed

Adnan alias Abbas, arrested 'regional commander' of JMB for Bogra and Joypurhat districts. Adnan unidentified that the Gazipur suicide bomber was Asadul Islam.

Asadul was assigned to do the suicide bombing by JMB chief Shahikh Abdur Rahman through two 'regional commanders' Adnan and Reaz, both now in custody, police said.

After the incident, Sub-Inspector Alangir of Gazipur police station filed two cases, one for murder and another under the Explosives Act without identifying the perpetrators.

The FIR report said that the unidentified person whose body was found at the spot was a suspected member of JMB suicide squad and that he might have done the bombing.

Based on confession of Adnan, CID investigators further quizzed Ziaur Rahman alias Badal alias Reaz in Gaibandha jail. He was arrested by Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) from Ayub Ansari Jame-Mosque near Gaibandha circuit house in December.

During interrogation Reaz confessed that the JMB cadre who killed himself in Gazipur suicide bombing was Asadul Islam of Tindaha village in Gaibandha Sadar upazila.

## Jamaat is JMB's parent body, says Kader Siddiquee

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

Bangabir Abdul Kader Siddiquee MP, President of Krishak Sramik Janata League (KSJL) yesterday said Jamaat-e-Islami is the 'parent organisation' of Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB).

JMB is trying to create anarchy in the country by bomb attacks to create a situation so that Jamaat can fish in troubled waters, he said at a rally marking opening of his party office at Chotto Bazar road in the district town.

Jamaat, JMB and their supporters have formed a strong network throughout the country under the protection of the government, he said.

They will try to capture power by utilising a chaotic situation, he valiant freedom fighter said and called upon all pro-liberation forces to unite and remain alert.

He also criticised the government for its failure to ensure smooth supply of power and fertiliser and high prices of essentials.

Terming both BNP and Awami League corrupted, Kader Siddiquee said, there has not been any development in greater Mymensingh under their rule.

## Work abstention by RU officers, employees

RU CORRESPONDENT

Officers and Employees of Rajshahi University (RU) yesterday observed a day-long work abstention programme to press their demands which include confirmation of services of 31 employees appointed on January 15, 2002 and extension of retirement age to 65 years.

During the programme held under the banner of RU Officer and Karmachari Oikya Parishad, work in the administrative building and in offices of deans, faculties and departments remained suspended.

Earlier in the morning, officers and employees locked the main gate of the administrative building, stopping entry inside.

However, a group of employees supporting ruling BNP tried to enter the building, which triggered a brief chase and counter-chase.

7.5x3

5.5x2

8.5x3