

Jalil demands trial of cops for attacking party men

Procession of Swechchhasebak League clubbed again

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police yesterday again launched an unprovoked attack on a procession of Awami Swechchhasebak League in the city yesterday.

The procession was brought out after a rally at Bangabandhu Avenue to protest police excess that left injured at least 20 leaders and workers of the league during country-wide hartal on Thursday.

Police charged baton when the procession reached near Nour Hossain Square leaving at least nine leaders and workers injured.

They are Manju Naznin, Probal Roy, Mir Mehedi Hasan Titu, Mofizul Islam, Qamrul Hasan Ripon, Alamgir Hossain, Golam Rabbani, Zakir Hossain and Imran Hossain Sagar.

Earlier addressing the rally,

Awami League (AL) General Secretary Abdul Jalil warned that those police personnel, who launched the attack on Awami Swechchhasebak League leaders, would be brought to trial.

"We will bring those politically appointed police personnel, who brutally attacked Swechchhasebak League leaders including its President AFM Bahauddin Nasim, General Secretary Pankaj Debnath and Organising Secretary Sohail Hazari, under trial and give them stern punishment on this soil," said Jalil, also coordinator of AL-led 14-party opposition combine.

He said the BNP-Jamaat alliance government, being failed to run the country and ostracized by the countrymen, is continuing repression and torture on the opposition leaders and workers by politically

appointed police personnel.

Demanding immediate implementation of the opposition's demand for electoral reforms, the AL general secretary urged the government to create a congenial environment for holding the next election in a free and fair manner.

AL Joint General Secretary Abaidul Quader said the alliance government would find no way to escape public's wrath.

He said opposition's agitation cannot be stopped through repression and torture.

Chaired by Swechchhasebak League Vice-president Mollah Mohammad Abu Kaiser, the rally was also addressed by SM Kamal, Akter Hossain, Moin Uddin, Jahangir Biswas, Jahangir Ahmed, Golam Sarwar Mamun, Gias Uddin Palas and Saidul Karim Mintu.

Cooking oil waste can be turned into fuel

BSS, Dhaka

Waste of cooking oil could be turned into environment-friendly bio-diesel after recycling it with alcohol and glycerin.

The effective reuse of the oil waste is necessary as consumption of the huge amount of oil by homes and restaurants causes bad impact on environment.

This was revealed yesterday at a videoconferencing seminar on 'Recycling project by environment cooperative union -- Case examples of utilising used oil and vegetable oil', organised by Japan International Cooperation Agency (Jica) at its conference room here.

Chief Director of Environmental Cooperation Union Shiga Ms Ayako Fujii gave a lecture from Tokyo through the videoconference while environment experts from Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal and Malaysia joined from their respective country's Jica offices.

The seminar presented a case example of oil waste recycling, oil extraction from rape flower seed and bio-diesel utilisation in a local community in Japan through an initiative called 'Nanohana or Rape Flower Project'.

Fujii said the waste oil could also be used in making good quality of soaps as well as the recycling of waste oil could ensure safe and delicious food by avoiding use of oil repeatedly.

Referring to the environment friendliness and cost-effectiveness of the bio-diesel, she said presently shortage of oil supply and pressure on the government finance due to giving subsidy to stabilise the price of oil demand alternative fuel.

Termed the rape blossoms as a 'yellow revolution', Fujii said the big field of rape flowers of yellow colour would also be a good recreation place for the tourists.

Nearly 20 environmentalists and energy experts of the country from various organisations, including Bangladesh Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (BCSIR), Bangladesh Agriculture Research Institute (BARI), Bangladesh Agriculture Research Council (Barc) and Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (Buet) attended the seminar.

Later, Director of Institute of Fuel Research and Development (IFRD) of the BCSIR Rokeya Akhter told BSS that production of bio-diesel and recycling of waste oil must be encouraged in the country as the country needs an alternative source of fuel.



Bangladesh Paribesh Andolon (Bapa) forms a human chain in the city on the occasion of World Car Free Day demanding formulation of rules and regulations to check the plying of private vehicles.



Chittagong city Mayor ABM Mohiuddin Chowdhury speaks at a public meeting of the 14-party opposition combine at Laldighi Maidan in the port city yesterday.

POWER, WATER CRISIS AND PRICE HIKE OF ESSENTIALS.

Ctg mayor to form 'People's Court'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Chittagong City Mayor ABM Mohiuddin Chowdhury yesterday announced formation of 'People's Court' (Janatar Adalat) from October 6 protesting power and water crisis and price hike of essentials.

He also announced to enforce a one-hour blockade on Dhaka Trunk Road on September 27 demanding reopening of the closed mills and payment of arrears of the workers.

He said they would enforce another 6-hour blockade with the same demand on October 10 if the demands are not met by then.

Mohiuddin, also divisional coordinator of 14-party opposition combine, announced the agitation programme at a rally organised by the 14-party combine, Chittagong division, at Laldighi Maidan yesterday afternoon.

The People's Court will be held on Shaheed Minar premises for three hours from 3:00am everyday from October 6 to October 8.

Police action on Sechchhasebak leaders protested

RU CORRESPONDENT

Sechchhasebak League of Rajshahi unit yesterday evening staged a demonstration at Shaheb Bazar protesting police action on Awami League and Sechchhasebak League leaders and activists during hartal hours on Thursday.

They took out a protest procession and chanted slogans against alliance government and police administration.

At a rally at Shaheb Bazar zero point, the leaders strongly condemned police action on Sechchhasebak League President Jahangir Kabir Nanok and General Secretary Pankaj Devnath during hartal.

They alleged that the government unleashed the BNP-Jamaat cadres trained in the police to cripple the opposition.

The assault on Mohammad Nasim MP, Saber Hossain Chowdhury and Asaduzzaman Noor MP was a planned move as part of its heinous design, they said.

They demanded immediate and unconditional release of those arrested and withdrawal of 'false cases' against AL leaders and activists.

They asked the government to accept the reform proposals and create an atmosphere for holding the upcoming election in a free and fair manner.

He also called upon party men to form a committee of 2000 activists at each ward and get them prepared with sticks to respond to any repression during this time.

The mayor also announced to extend all out support to the 14-party combine called 6-hour strike on September 24 to press 24-point demand of the dockworkers of Chittagong port.

Former minister MA Mannan, Chittagong south district AL president Akhteruzzaman Chowdhury Babu, General Secretary

Moslemuddin Ahmed, AL Chittagong city unit General Secretary Enamul Haq Danu, Chittagong north district AL General Secretary MA Salam, JSD Executive Committee President Moinuddin Khan Badal, Gono Forum Chittagong city unit President M Kafil Uddin and Workers Party central leader ATM Nizam Uddin also addressed the rally where several hundred people gathered defying rain and inclement weather.

Jute worth Tk three crore gutted in Khulna

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Thirty thousand maunds of jute worth Tk three crore were gutted as one of the three godowns of NK Jute Fibre at Daulatpur caught fire due to lightning at 9:30am yesterday.

Fire services of Boyra, Daulatpur and Khalishpur brought the fire under control after an hour of frantic efforts.

According to fire services and eyewitnesses, firemen reached the spot at 1:30pm, three hours after one of the three godowns of NK Fibre caught fire.

New underground party emerges in greater Khulna

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

A new underground party has emerged in greater Khulna.

H K Sadek, who identified himself as regional operation commander of the new party styled as Jatiya Sarbahara Janamukhi Andolon, has mailed four separate letters to four managers of Morelgaon upazila branches of Sonali Bank, Krishi Bank, Agrani Bank and Islami Bank threatening to blow up their offices in bomb attacks.

The bank managers received the letters on Wednesday.

They filed general diaries on Thursday with Morelgaon Police Station in Bagerhat district seeking security of their lives.

When contacted, Officer-in-Charge Anwar Hossain said a vigorous investigation is going on in this connection.

Half-day hartal at Phultala today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Khulna Pani and Paribesh Committee has given a call to observe half-day hartal at Phultala upazila today.

The hartal call has been given to protest lifting of water from Phultala to Khulna through pipeline by Khulna City Corporation.

Six killed in road accidents

STAR REPORT

Six people, including two women, were killed in different road accidents across the country yesterday.

Our Correspondent from Chittagong reports: A motorbike rider was killed in a road accident at Hathazari upazila in the district here yesterday.

The victim was identified as Titu Kumar Dey, 40, son of late Dipak Kumar Dey of Enayetpur under Hathazari upazila.

According to sources, Titu was injured critically when his motorbike collided head-on with an autorickshaw at Muhuripara under the upazila at around 2:00pm.

He was rushed to Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH) where he succumbed to his injuries at around 3:00pm, sources said.

Meanwhile, UNB adds: Five people, including two women, were killed in separate road accidents at Habiganj and Bogra yesterday.

Three people, including a woman, were killed and 11 others injured as a microbus hit a truck from behind at Fultoli bazar under Nabiganj upazila on Dhaka-Sylhet highway yesterday.

The dead were identified as Ambia Khatun, 55, of Khalur Bari village under Bhuapur upazila of Tangail, her son Ajhar, 38 and microbus driver Shamim Ahmed, 26, of Koira village of the same upazila.

Police said the accident occurred when the Sylhet-bound microbus hit a truck that was standing on the road after being out of order at about 4:30am. The microbus driver and two passengers died on the spot.

The injured, including four children, were rushed to Sadar hospital in critical condition.

The microbus passengers were going to visit the shrine of Hazrat Shahjalal from Tangail.

In another incident, two people, a man and a woman, were killed and two others injured in a road accident in Banani area under Sahjahanpur upazila of Bogra yesterday morning.

The woman was identified as Rozina, 30, daughter of Abdul Gafur of Badalgachhi upazila in Naogaon district, while the identity of the man, about 40, could not be known immediately.

Police and witnesses said the accident took place at around 6:15am when a Bogra-bound truck from Dhaka tumbled into a road-side ditch.

The injured were rushed to Bogra Mohammed Ali Hospital.

POWER CRISIS WORSENS IN RAJSHAHI Resentment mounts among people

RU CORRESPONDENT

Power crisis has worsened in Rajshahi city and its outskirts in the last week, resulting in immense sufferings of people.

Despite the government holiday yesterday and inclement weather for some days, the power outage situation did not improve.

Resentment has been mounting among the people for want of power in different places in Rajshahi.

Official activities, industrial production, household works, online banking operation and medicare function at Rajshahi Medical College Hospital and other private hospitals are being hampered heavily.

Students on Rajshahi University (RU) campus and general people in Bagha upazila staged demonstrations last week for power.

On Tuesday, hundreds of people vandalised office of Bagha upazila Rural Electrification Board (REB) demanding relief from loadshedding.

Following a massive demonstration, they also formed an action committee that gave a five-day ultimatum to the power authorities for uninterrupted power supply.

The action committee convener Mafidul Islam said if the authorities fail to supply uninterrupted power in Bagha and Charghat areas by Sunday, they will enforce a daylong strike on Monday.

Additional police forces have been deployed on Bagha and Charghat REB offices premises to avoid any untoward incidence, local REB sources said.

The people of other upazilas of the district including Bagmara, Godagari, Mohonpur, Puthia and Charghat are also experiencing similar sufferings and planning to launch movement.

Meanwhile, Rajshahi PDB control room offices sources said they had a demand of 57 MW electricity on Friday but got only 17 MW.

Earlier, on September 18, several hundred residential students of RU halls went on ram-

page at the residence of university vice chancellor, Agrani Bank RU branch, university administrative building 2 and power regulatory office demanding uninterrupted power supply to the 15 residential dormitories.

The loadshedding situation remained unchanged on the campus despite agitation. The agitators told reporters that they would again lay a siege to VC office tomorrow.

DHAKA TODAY

Seminar
World Food Programme (WFP) and Food Security Journalists' Association (FSJA) jointly organise a seminar on 'Child hunger and malnutrition: What role media can play'. Venue: Meeting room, IDB Bhaban. Time: 10:00am.

Workshop
Engineer's Institution, Bangladesh organises a workshop titled 'Dhaka metropolitan building construction code 2006--The role of the engineers'. Venue: Seminar room, IEB headquarters. Time: 10:00am.

Batexpo 2006
The closing ceremony of Bangladesh Apparel and Textile Exposition (Batexpo) 2006, organised by Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters' Association (BGMEA), will be held. Venue: Dhaka Sheraton Hotel. Time: 4:00pm.

Roundtable
Dhaka Stock Exchange and Centre for Corporate Governance and Finance Studies of Dhaka University will jointly organise a roundtable on 'Corporate governance guidelines of SEC and its implementation practices in Bangladesh'. Venue: Cirdap auditorium. Time: 3:00pm.

Certificate award ceremony
The certificate distribution ceremony of a training course titled 'Partners in learning', jointly organised by Microsoft Bangladesh Limited and Northern University Bangladesh (NUB), will be held. Venue: Biam auditorium. Time: 9:00am.

Meena Day
Bangladesh Shishu Academy organises Meena Day observance programme. Venue: Academy auditorium. Time: 4:00pm.

Musical programme
Surbihar Music and Art School presents a musical performance titled 'In joy of the six seasons'. Venue: Natmandal, Dhaka University. Time: 5:30pm.

View exchange session
Sammita Kriya Paribar organises a view exchange meeting titled 'Save Dhaka League--Save Football'. Venue: Hotel Imperial, Bangabandhu Avenue. Time: 11:00am.

Discussion
Bangladesh Sammita Peshajibi Parishad organises a discussion titled 'Parliamentary democracy- election'. Venue: National Press Club. Time: 11:00am.

Certificate award ceremony
The certificate distribution ceremony of a computer course for 20 orphans, in courtesy of Hamdard, will be held. Venue: Hamdard Bhaban auditorium. Time: 4:00pm.

Asiatic Society
Monthly general meeting of Asiatic Society of Bangladesh will be held. Venue: Society seminar room. Time: 4:30pm.

Rotary Dhaka Central
Regular meeting of Rotary Club of Dhaka Central will be held. Venue: Dhaka Club. Time: 1:30pm.

Brac employee murdered in Tangail

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

Police recovered a body of a Brac employee in Madhupur upazila under the district yesterday.

The victim was identified as Mohammad Fazlul Haque, 35, son of Riaz Uddin of Baruha village under Sadar upazila in Tangail.

Brac sources said Fazlul Haque, a programme organiser (PO) of Madhupur branch of Brac, went to Jangalia village under Aarunkhola union in Madhupur on Thursday to collect money of installments from the clients but did not return on the day.

On Friday morning, locals found a body lying at a banana orchard at Jangalia village.

On information, police recovered the body and sent it to Tangail General Hospital morgue for autopsy.

The body bears several marks of injuries while one of his hands was severed from his body, sources said.

Police suspect that the mugger might have hacked him to death over collected money of installments.

Suspected robber beaten to death in Comilla

UNB, Comilla

A suspected robber was beaten to death during a robbery at Shongkuchail in Burichang upazila early yesterday.

The dead was identified as Zakir, 25, son of Sundar Ali of Anandapur village.

Sources said a gang of robbers stormed into the house of Abdur Razzak on the southern part of Shongkuchail Bazar at about 1:00am.

When a mob chased the robbers, they fired gunshots and tried to flee the scene.

However, local people caught hold of Zakir and beat him up, leaving him critically injured.

Receiving information, police rushed to the scene and rescued Zakir in a critical condition. They sent him to Comilla Medical College Hospital where Zakir died in the morning.

Police said Zakir was wanted in five cases, including murder, arms and women repression cases.

Obituary



Mahmuda Huq, past president of Lionses District 315-A, Bangladesh, passed away due to cancer at Central Hospital in the city yesterday at a press release.

She was also the joint secretary of OISCA, Bangladesh chapter.

She is survived by her husband Advocate AKM Emdadul Haq, two sons and six daughters.

Her quikhwani will be held at her residence at 86/2 New Eskaton on Monday.