

Metropolitan

Dateline Khulna

Fewer ships anchor at Mongla port

From Our Correspondent

KHULNA, Jan 25: The outbreak of war in the Gulf...

the six constituencies in the district. Other than the major parties...

sion of US-led multinational forces on Iraq.

In an emergency meeting held Wednesday at the Bar Association auditorium...

The emergency meeting was presided over by newly elected President of the Bar Association...

The meeting also decided to stage a protest procession today against US-led multinational aggression...

At normal times about two dozens of ships on an average anchor at port whereas only nine ships on an average anchor at port...

According to another source of the Customs Department, the crews were found reluctant to land at the port...

In every winter Khulna city used to accommodate many foreign nationals who are conspicuous by their absence this year following the outbreak of war in the Gulf.

Symbols distributed

The Returning Officer of the Khulna distributed election symbols to 57 candidates of

A few independent candidates got peculiar symbols either related to his profession or a total contrast to that. A frozen food exporter and shrimp trader Mr. A U Ahmed got shrimp as his election symbol while Mr. Liaquat Ali, editor of a local daily who is not at all habituated to bottles was awarded beetle leaf as his election symbol.

US aggression condemned

BSS adds: Members of the Khulna District Bar Association condemned the naked aggression

Directive to enhance Talibabad satellite

GAZIPUR, Jan 25: Presidential Adviser in charge of the Ministries of Communications, Post and Telecommunication A B M O Kibria has urged the concerned officials of T and T Board to implement the enhancement programme of capabilities of Talibabad earth satellite station, reports BSS.

He was visiting Wednesday the earth satellite station to see the functions of different sections of the station.

He thanked the officials and employees of Telephone Shilpa Sangstha for holding their union election fairly and peacefully.

Mr. Kibria sought the cooperation of all to maintain law and order for holding the forthcoming national election free, fair and peaceful.

Mr. Enamul Haq, Additional Secretary in charge of Ministry of Post and Telecommunication, Mr. Sirazul Islam Khan, Chairman T and T Board and Mr. Fazle Rahman, Managing Director, Telephone Shilpa Sangstha were present.



Musalis brought out peace processions after Juma prayers wearing banners and posters and also an effigy of US President George Bush.

77 Bangladeshis in Amman

Seventy seven Bangladeshis are now stranded in Amman and efforts are underway to bring them back home by air.

The sources said these people include 75 Bangladeshis who were to be taken to Cairo for their eventual repatriation to home that arrangement did not work out finally.

The group that include women and children are being looked after by the Geneva-based International Organization of Migration.

Efforts are being made to evacuate them by an Aeroflot flight, said the sources.

Demand to end Gulf hostilities

A number of processions were brought out in the city yesterday protesting the armed conflicts in the Gulf region.

A section of people from Hajariabag area staged a demonstration in front of the National Press Club and demanded immediate end of the war. The demonstrators also burnt an effigy of US President Bush and shouted various slogans in favour of Iraqi President Saddam Hossain.

Another demonstration was staged in front of the National Press Club by a group of people from Kalabagan area deploring the US attack on Iraq.

A faction of the National Awami Party held a workers meeting at the party office in protest against the outbreak of the Gulf war.

The meeting with the central leader Nurul Islam in the chair called for the halt of the war jeopardising peace in the region.

Addressing the meeting the party General Secretary Abdul Matin Master urged the world bodies to take all-out efforts to solve Gulf crisis through negotiations.

Muslim League chief Alhaj Jamir Ali in a separate statement condemned the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and said Iraqi pull out from Kuwait was the only solution to Gulf conflict. He also deplored the US-led attack on Iraq. The ML leader felt that the Gulf war would lead to the destruction of Third World economy.



A colourful meena bazar was held at Gulshan Park recently for foreign missions in Dhaka. Seen in the Thai stall are Busba Chindawongse, a veteran social worker and Bangladeshi participants. The meena bazar was organised by the Women's Voluntary Association.

10 lakhs to cast votes in Rajshahi

RAJSHAH, Jan 25: A total of 10,01,298 voters are likely to exercise their franchise in the coming parliamentary election on February 27 to elect five members of parliament from Rajshahi District, according to a PID handout, reports BSS.

Out of the total voters 5,04,870 are men and 4,96,428 women. Polling will be held through 1,965 booths of 406 polling centers.

All Bangladeshis in the Gulf including the troops in Saudi Arabia are safe and sound, according to latest reports that poured in.

The Foreign Office got in touch with Bangladesh Missions in Riyadh and other Gulf countries. All Bangladeshis in the troubled region are safe, the sources said.

Concern over harassment of foreigners

Mr. S.M. Azizul Huq Shahjahan, President of the Krishak-Sramik Party, Wednesday expressed his deep concern at the attacks on foreigners in Bangladesh in the wake of the Gulf war and said this design was part of a conspiracy not only to be little Bangladesh abroad but also to hit national interests, reports BSS.

In a statement, he said many foreigners including the Europeans were leaving the country and this development would affect World Bank-aided and other projects here.

Mr. Shahjahan alleged that religious sentiments were being exploited, truck processions arranged and photographs distributed in favour of a warring country. He urged the authorities to take steps to restore confidence of the foreigners living in this country.

Six growth centres to be constructed in Rajshahi

RAJSHAH, Jan 25: Six growth centres connecting roads will be constructed in six upazilas of Rajshahi district in the current year, reports BSS.

A total of 572 metric tons of wheat have been allocated to construct the roads.

The Upazila wise break-up of allocation for the construction of each road is 111 metric tons of wheat in Paba Upazila, 97 metric tons in Bagha, 173 metric tons in Durgapur, 18 metric tons in Godagar, 73 metric tons in Mohanpur and 100 metric tons in Tanore Upazila.

After construction of the roads marketing facilities of the farmers will be extended.

Muslims urged to pray for Gulf peace

The Washington-based American Muslim Council has appealed to Muslims throughout the world to pray for the safety of their brethren in the Gulf and other innocent people there, reports BSS.

The AMC, which views that Iraq's engagement with the United States was not in the best interest of the Muslim world, said, in a message received in Dhaka Saturday, that Mr. Ekramul Kabir, an AMC leader, had met influential Congressional leaders including Senate majority leader Sen George Mitchell, House Arms Committee Chairman Congressman Lee Aspin and Sen Robert Dole to find out peaceful means to solve the problem.

The Council further said, besides making vigorous efforts to bring about a solution to the Gulf crisis, it was about to send a peace mission to Iraq but it could do so as hostilities broke out soon after the decision.

Anti-war rally at JU

SAVAR, Jan 25: Jahangirnagar University Teacher's Association (JUTA) and Jahangirnagar University Central Students Union (JUCSU) jointly brought out a peace procession at the campus on Thursday, reports BSS.

Vice-Chancellor of the University, Prof. Kazi Saleh Ahmed led the procession. The processionists chanted anti-war slogans.

The procession beginning from JUCSU building paraded the campus lanes and by-lanes and ended at the University central cafeteria.

Big parties create pressure says JPD

Jatiotabadi Palli Dal (National Village Party) accused Friday that the major parties are creating pressure on their weak opponents to retire candidates, says a Press release.

The leaders of the party, in an emergency meeting, decided to face the situation with patience as the 'ideal soldiers of Shahid Ziaur Rahman'.

The meeting was presided over by Giasuddin Ahmed, Party Secretary General Mr. H. A. Haqim, Asadul Kabir Asad and Tajul Islam addressed the meeting among others.

Zaker Party urges to recover illegal arms

Zaker Party leader Pirzada Mostafa Amir Faisal Friday urged the caretaker government to intensify its drive to recover illegal arms for fair and peaceful elections, reports UNB.

Speaking to a group of Zaker Party workers from Fatullah Pirzada Faisal said his party will cooperate with the government for holding the February 27 elections and establish democracy.

According to a press release of the party Pirzada Faisal said the law and order situation will deteriorate if the illegal arms remain unrecovered.

He said it is not enough to make laws, these must be implemented. None can allow musclemen to disrupt the polls.

Abu Hena made envoy to Japan

The Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh have decided to appoint Mr. Mohammad Abu Hena, at present, Secretary, Local Government Division of the Government of Bangladesh, as Ambassador of Bangladesh to Japan, says a PID handout.

Scientists asked to help protect environment

Presidential Adviser for Planning Prof. Rehman Sobhan Friday called upon the social scientists to give guideline for evolving an effective environment and natural resources management, reports BSS.

The Adviser was inaugurating a two-day workshop on 'Environment and Natural Resources Management in Bangladesh' at the Institute of Nutrition and Food Science auditorium of the Dhaka University.

Organised by Bangladesh Sociological Association, the workshops was chaired by Prof. K.A.M. Saaduddin while Dr. Syed Zahir Saadeque, Dr. Helaluddin Khan Arefeen and Dr. Nazrul Islam addressed it. Terming the environmental problem as a global concern, Prof. Rehman Sobhan called

for protection and preservation of environment through combined efforts and communal action.

'Environment is an elemental force for our survival', Planning Adviser said adding that its degradation must be checked for the very survival of mankind.

Prof. Sobhan said subjects like population explosion and proper use of natural resources should have taken into consideration along with the environmental issues.

BKSAL calls to cast vote judiciously

The BKSAL General Secretary, Mr. Abdur Razzak, has said that the people must vote judiciously in the coming elections because the rights of balloting in a free atmosphere have come after 15 years' struggle, reports BSS.

He was addressing an election meeting at Takerhat of Madaripur on Thursday, a party press release said.

Mr. Razzak said the country must go back to the 1972 constitution for giving institutional framework to the democratic set up. Presidential form of government encouraged autocracy and the voters should vote for those who would uphold the parliamentary form of government, he said.

Sharp fall in power output

Production of electricity at Ashuganj power plant has been reduced to about 90 to 150 megawatt against the usual production of 500 mw, reports BSS.

The production at the power station has fallen due to the short supply of natural gas by Titas Gas and Transmission Company, Power Development Board (PDB) sources pointed out. The sources said the reduction in gas supply caused by a problem was likely to be resolved in a few days.

THE STAR SERVICE

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Table with columns: Fire Brigade Ambulance, Municipality, Electricity Supply, Complain, WASA, Titas gas, Rocket & Steamer

Seminar on short film begins

A two-day international seminar on short film on the occasion of the second international short film festival began in Dhaka on Thursday, reports BSS.

The first day of the seminar dealt with two subjects 'aesthetics of short fiction film' and 'aesthetics of documentary film'.

The first session of the seminar, held at the German Cultural Centre auditorium in Dhaka, was presided over by Syed Shamsul Huq while Mr. Manzare Hassan presented

key-note paper on the first topic.

Messrs Biren Das Sharma, Raja Mitra, Sabiha Sumar, Kabir Anwar and Syed Salauddin Jaki participated in the discussion session.

Mr. Manzare Hassan, in his paper, said of the two dialectically opposite trends of contemporary film scene in Bangladesh, one is studio based mainstream commercial cinema devoted to pure commercialism while the other trend tries to use cinema as an art form and instrument of social progress.

He said short fiction film makers are always in confrontation with the norms of commercial cinema and they have to innovate and evolve new aesthetic ideas

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