

Dateline Khulna

Bitter power struggle in city JP unit

From Syed Issa

KHULNA, Feb 18: With the fall of former President H M Ershad local Jatiya Party, which was always considered as a hub of political shelter seekers rather than a political organisation has been on the verge of disunity.

Already divided in few groups even while in power, the JP activists are now trying to consolidate their individual group strength to counter inside squabbling.

With the ensuing parliamentary polls, where grouping in local JP has erupted with the selection of party candidates, though Jatiya Party centrally nominated six candidates for all the six constituencies of the district, at least two JP candidates are also fighting from Khulna-2 and Khulna-4 constituencies as independent contenders. JP leaders and activists of Khulna are sharply divided these days in at least two clear groups in supporting these party candidates.

Sk Abul Kashem, the President of Khulna Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the General Secretary of Jatiya Party's Khulna city unit is contesting from Khulna old town seat as an independent candidate without resigning from his party post where his party unit President and a former Whip of Parliament Mia Musa Hossain is also contesting with a party ticket. Mia Musa's efforts were learnt to have been foiled to force Abul Kashem to retire from the election race even with a threat of expulsion by the Party Acting Chairman Mianur Rahman Chowdhury.

Kashem is believed to have been enjoying the blessings of

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Metropolitan



Islam Andolok held a rally in city on Monday demanding immediate pullout of troops from Kuwait. The rally was led by Major (feted) Jainul Abedin Khan and Moulana Anisur Rahman.

Elaborate RU programme on Ekushey

RAJSHAHI, Feb 18: Rajshahi university has chalked out an elaborate programme to observe Teachers Day and historic Shaheed Day in a befitting manner, reports BSS.

The university will observe Monday as Teachers Day. Floral wreaths will be placed at one minute past midnight on behalf of Rajshahi University RUCSU and Shaheed Smriti Granthasala at the mazar of Shaheed Dr Shamsuzzoha, who was killed by Pakistani army 22 years ago. Chemistry Association, University Teachers Association, different hall unions, University Club and others will also place wreaths at the mazar.

Other programme of the day includes Quran khawani, mifal mahfil, discussions on Dr Zohra and blood donation. To mark the day the Shaheed Smriti Granthasala will remain open from 8 am to 2 pm for all.

Historic Shaheed Day will also be observed through placing wreaths at Shaheed Minar at one minute past midnight by the teachers, students and members of the public. Rajshahi University (RUCSU), Teachers Association and Shaheed Smriti Granthasala will also place wreaths at the Shaheed Minar.

National flag will fly at half mast on the day and teachers and students would bring out probhat ferry to mark the occasion. Special prayers will be held after Zohra prayer at the University.

No AIDS virus in Bangladesh

Blood samples of 42,000 tested

By Staff Correspondent

A three-day seminar on 'AIDS and media' jointly organised by the Bureau of Health Education and the National AIDS Committee began on Sunday at the auditorium of the Institute of Preventive and Social Medicine (INPSOM) at Mohakhali in the city.

Addressing the seminar as the chief guest Education Adviser Prof Zillur Rahman Siddiqi stressed the need for role of media in creating mass awareness against the killer disease AIDS.

The Adviser said the concerned authorities and media personnel could play vital role in this regard.

Presided over by Professor M. A. T. Siddiqi, Director-General of Health, the function was also addressed by Prof K. M. Fariduddin, Additional Secretary of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

Prof A. K. Shamsuddin Siddiqi, Director of Hospitals and Clinics, Dr. A. M. A. Abey Sunder, WHO representative in Bangladesh and BSS Special Correspondent Gias Kamal Chowdhury.

Prof Siddiqi said the Government had taken steps to control AIDS in the country. Blood samples of 42,000 people have been tested and no AIDS virus was found, he added.

He said about 700,000 people of 158 countries of the world were infected with AIDS and 100,000,000 more people are expected to contact this deadly disease in the years to come. Prof Siddiqi said prevention and control of AIDS should be given first priority as majority of the people were suffering from various diseases and malnutrition.

Fifty media personnel from dailies, weeklies, PID Radio and TV are participating in the seminar.

Dateline Chittagong

Insurgents kill 2 tribals: arms recovered, 65 held

CHITTAGONG, Feb 18: Tribal insurgents killed two persons at Tanchangya Para of Gagra Zone under Rangamati, Sadar Upazila on Saturday night, official sources said on Monday, reports BSS.

The victims belonging to Tanchangya tribe were shot dead at their village by the insurgents who later fled away. Security forces recovered the bodies of Nagendra Tanchangya (40) and Kinaram Tanchangya (26) and handed over the corpse to the relatives of the victims.

The victims, both community leaders, were killed as they opposed unlawful activities of the tribal insurgents in their area, the sources said.

Different police stations under Chittagong district arrested 65 persons on various charges and recovered a fire arms during the past 48 hours, district police said.

A pipe gun with one cartridge was recovered and five persons were arrested in this connection at Sundarpur of Fatikchari Upazila Sunday. Fatikchari police also arrested 10 other known criminals from different areas of the Upazila.

Raozan and Hathazari police also arrested 50 others from different areas under the Upazila on various charges, police said.

Transport leader killed

A leader of a transport workers union was killed by some unidentified assailants at Solashahar here on Sunday evening, police said.

Panchalaish police recovered the body of Oli Ahmed (27), President of Truck Workers' Union, Oxygen Unit, from a road side drain at Solashahar gate no 2 Sunday. The body was sent for post-mortem.

A case has been registered with Panchalaish police in this connection.

The victim, son of one Nurul Hoq, belongs to Sholashahar area of Chittagong.

Tk. 207,205 as fines realised

Bangladesh railway realised Tk. 207,205 during January 1 to February 9 as fines and fares from ticketless travellers through mobile courts and block checking, a railway press release said on Monday.

Of the total amount, Taka 112,510 was realised from Chittagong Division and Taka 94,612 from Dhaka Division of the Bangladesh Railway (East Zone). The remaining amount was realised from different stations.

Bangladesh Railway (East Zone) has intensified drive against ticketless travellers during the past few months.

CODEC annual workshop

A three-day annual workshop of community development centre (CODEC) began at the Bangladesh Management Development Centre (BMDC) at Chandgaon here on Sunday, a CODEC press release said.

Managing director of CODEC, Khurshid Alam presided over the opening session which was also addressed by BMDC Deputy Director, MA Matin, CODEC officials, Kamal Sengupta, Khondakar Zahrul Kabir and MA Bari, Area Manager, CODEC, Emdadul Huq read out address of welcome.

Over one hundred CODEC field-level officials and workers from three project areas of Chittagong, Lakshmpur and Patuakhali are participating in the workshop.

CODEC, a Danish aided NGO is engaged in improving the socio-economic condition of fishermen community in Bangladesh. CODEC's operational progress will be reviewed at the workshop.

Theatre festival ends

The 16-day long group theatre festival 1991 organised by the Chittagong Group Theatre Somonay Parishad ended on Saturday.

The festival inaugurated on February 1 by eminent litterature Hasnat Abdul Hafiz was held at the premises of Chittagong Shilpkala Academy.

Drama, discussion meeting, recitation of poems and songs, book fair were included in the festival.

People from all walks of life including educationists, intellectuals and connoisseurs enjoyed the festival.

Preservation of language movement documents needed

Justice Abdur Rahman Chowdhury a former Judge of the Supreme Court on Monday stressed the need for proper preservation of items and documents related to the language movement, reports BSS.

Addressing a discussion on the Ekushey February in Dhaka, Justice Chowdhury said due emphasis should be given on the language movement of 1948 with the historic language pact of March 15 of 1948 for educating properly the posterity on the language movement.

The discussion held at the Jatiya Grantha Kendra auditorium in the city was a part of the two-day function of Sangskriti Kendra on the Amar Ekushey.

Justice Chowdhury said the incidents on February 21 of 1952 would not have occurred had not the language pact been signed on March 15 of 1948.

He said the memorandum

submitted by the students on November 27 of 1945 to the then Pakistan authorities, was the first document of the independence of the country.

He said the language movement was not merely a movement for the recognition of Bangla as state language but a protest against the socio-economic, political and cultural exploitation of the Pakistani rulers.

Justice Abdur Rahman Chowdhury said, although we had fought against alien culture during the Pakistan period, we were not free even now from the clutches of alien culture.



Aerobics at Sonargaon Hotel

Keep-fit drive at Sonargaon

Both agile and fresh all executives of Sonargaon Hotel everyday perform a 30-minutes aerobics programme. The hotel's General Manager Andrew McBirnie conducts the work-out at the hotel's tennis court, says a press release.

The hotel's guests find it an extra bonus as they can also join the session. Mr McBirnie believes that the morning exercise will improve the executives' productivity and physical fitness to a degree which is required for a successful day's work.

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