

Political solution to CHT issue demanded

Different student and political organizations have condemned the killing of nine non-tribal people by the members of out-lawed Shanti Bahini in Chittagong Hill Tracts Thursday in the city, reports BSS.

Prasht Bikas Chakma, president of Greater Chittagong Hill Tracts Student's Council, while expressing 'sorrow and concern' at the repeated killings in Chittagong Hill Tracts, urged all to take necessary initiatives to resolve the problem politically.

Students urged to maintain peace on campus

RAJSHAHI, Jan 3: State Minister for Land Kabir Hossain Monday called upon the students to acquire knowledge to prepare themselves as future worthy citizens, reports BSS.

Addressing the foundation laying ceremony of science building and freshers' reception of Shampur Ideal College, Rajshahi Paba Upazila today, he said, the present democratic government was striving hard to remove problems accumulated during the autocratic regime from all the sectors including education. He said, necessary arrangements were being taken to develop the educational institutions.

He stressed the need for maintaining congenial atmosphere in the campus resisting terrorism and anarchy.

Earlier, Kabir Hossain laid the foundation stone of science building of the college which will be built at a cost of Taka 11 lakh.

Later, the State Minister visited some ailing educational institutions under Paba Upazila of the district and sanctioned grant for the development of the institutions.

Secretary of Pragatishil Ganantrik Shakti protested the killing of nine innocent citizens by armed miscreants from India. The Pragatishil leader called for taking counter action at national and international levels to stop such attacks and demanded appropriate compensation for the families of the victims.

Journalists condemn attack on Agami, Tarakalok

Leaders of Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists and Dhaka Union of Journalists Friday condemned the attack on weekly Agami and fortnightly Tarakalok saying such act would not only affect the freedom of the press but also the basis of democracy in the country, reports BSS.

Expressing their concern in a statement here, BFUJ President Reazuddin Ahmad and Secretary General Amanullah Kabir and DUJ President Zahurul Haq and General Secretary Rahul Amin Gazi said a host of unruly youths attacked the offices of these two newspapers when the freedom of the press had become indispensable for giving democracy an institutional shape.

They said anybody being affected by a report published in either a newspaper or magazine could approach the Press Council to look into that but any attempt to strangle the press through exercising muscle power or threat would never bring any welfare.

The journalist leaders urged all democratic forces and conscious citizens to stand against such designs for the sake of democracy and freedom of the press.

Continued influx of Rohingyas poses socio-economic problem

CHITTAGONG, Jan 3: Continued influx of Arakan Muslims into Cox's Bazar district of Bangladesh has been posing a serious socio-economic problem in the area, reports BSS.

According to local people, 30 to 50 thousand Myanmar Muslims have taken shelter at Teknaf, Nhila, Leda and around Cox's Bazar town during the past few years. They have raised bamboo sheds on the government forest lands. Most of them being illiterate are competing with local unemployed people in getting jobs in fishing trawlers and agricultural farms.

Myanmar refugees are also involving themselves in some anti-social activities, said Salam Ullah Khan, a resident of Cox's Bazar town. They are reported to have destroyed forest to make new settlement and go for begging.

The UNO, Teknaf upazila, said about 5000 Rohingyas

Muslims have settled in different areas of the Upazila while many are pouring in from Arakan.

This correspondent found about 2,000 Rohingyas at Marchha, most of whom entered into Bangladesh during the past three months. About one hundred of them arrived just three days back.

BSS correspondent met a number of Arakan Muslims who say they left their ancestral homeland to escape atrocities by Myanmar army and police. Nurul Alam (30) of Kepradang, Douchidang had entered into Bangladesh two months ago along with eleven members of his family. Talking to this correspondent at Marchha, he said, 'Our house has been occupied by Myanmar army and we were left with nothing.' Zinnur Mohammad (43) of Chopalong, Abdul Latif (25) and Sulha Khatun (50) of Buchidang also told similar stories. Their homes have been

turned into military camps, they said.

According to the latest report received from Arakan Muslims, new settlement is being given to Muslims by evicting the Rohingyas. Faiz Ahmad, who was a school teacher at Buchidang said, 'We were tortured and then pushed into Bangladesh.' He said that Myanmar police and army intensified their oppression on Arakan Muslims after December 21 incident in which Myanmar army and police attacked Rezapara BDR camp killing one jawan and injuring seven others.

The influx of refugees is obviously creating problems for Bangladesh, an overpopulated country. Bangladesh bore the brunt of 1978 Rohingya Muslims influx when over three lakh were sheltered in Teknaf, Nhila, Leda, Gondhoom and Naikong Char areas. The international community at that time extended

material help to Bangladesh to save the refugees from hunger and diseases. But now in the absence of any foreign assistance Bangladesh government alone is to look after the refugees.

Local people said that Bangladesh should draw the attention of the United Nations and the international community to the growing Arakan Muslim refugee problem. Cox's Bazar Chamber President Muhammad Ali said, Bangladesh cannot handle the situation alone as the problem has reached an alarming proportion.

Leaders of a number of local socio-cultural organisations also expressed concern over the continued influx of Arakan Muslims into Bangladesh saying the government should find a permanent solution to this problem by drawing attention of international community.

Ctg AL leader dead

Eminent social worker and the President of Hathajari Upazila Awami League of Chittagong Alhaj Nazimuddin died of a heart attack Friday, reports BSS. He was 45.

The Namaz-e-Janaza of Nazimuddin will be held today after Jhr Prayer at the Laldighi Maidan.

The Acting President of Awami League Abdus Samad Azad and General Secretary Sajeda Choudhury MP in a statement expressed their deep condolence at his death.

Begum Sajeda Choudhury MP will leave Dhaka for Chittagong today to express sympathy to the bereaved family of the deceased.



A procession was brought out in the city Friday urging the government to declare Kadianis non-Muslims. — Star photo

HERE and THERE

Muktijuddha Gabeshana Kendra

Muktijuddha Gabeshana Kendra organised a day-long seminar Friday in observance of the 20 years of independence of the country, at the Rahman Chamber at Motijheel.

The seminar held in four sessions was presided over by Prof Anisuzzaman, Prof Rehman Sobhan, Ali Akbar and Prof Abu Sayed while the keynote papers of the seminar were presented by Prof Salahuddin Ahmed, Moidul Hassan, Prof Nurul Islam and Prof Abu Mohammad Delwar Hossain.

Prof Syed Anwar Hossain, Dr Rangalal Sen, Zohra Tajuddin, Dr Atiur Rahman, Ajaya Roy, Prof Taibul Hassan and others participated in the seminar.

Sarbadalio Tanti Oikya Parishad

Sarbadalio Tanti Oikya Parishad demanded withdrawal of all cases filed against the weavers for failing to repay the loans.

It also condemned the harassment on the weavers in the name of recovery of loans and demanded a separate ministry for the weavers.

The statement held the price-hike of the weaving materials responsible for deterioration of the economic condition of the weavers and said it would be inhuman to claim repayment of the loans at this moment.

The meeting presided over by Sohrabuddin Ahmed, Convener of the Parishad decided to hold a convention of the weavers on February 26 and submit a memorandum to the Upazila Parishad of Sirajganj, Pabna, Naogaon, Rajshahi, Barisal, Narayanganj, Narshingdi and other places of the country before the convention to press home its demand.

Election Officers' Samity

Bangladesh Zila Nirbachon (Election) Officer Samity at a meeting Friday threatened to go for a greater movement from January 8 if the Election Commission Secretariat failed to take any step by January 7 to fulfil the demands of the Samity.

The demands of the Samity include: Creation of B C S cadre in Election Commission offices, preparation of the list of the Election Commissioner and Assistant Election Commissioner of the districts on the basis of seniority and promoting the seniors in the upper posts, providing them with the 25 per cent senior scale and 25 per cent election grade and vehicles for all the district Election Commissioners.

Bangladesh Muktijuddha Sangsad

Bangladesh Muktijuddha Sangsad in a statement Friday demanded immediate reinstatement of Prof Alamgir Mohammad Sirajuddin in his previous post of the Vice-Chancellor of Chittagong University.

It also demanded expulsion of Pakistani citizen Golam Azam from the country.

The statement blamed the government for collaborating with the anti-liberation forces and warned that the government would have to bear all consequences of the matter if it was not settled immediately.

Petroleum Dealers' Assoc

Bangladesh Petroleum Dealers' Association organised a mourning Friday at 3 pm at its central office to condole the death of three members of the Association.

The meeting presided over by Abul Kalam Azad, President of the Association was addressed among others by Secretary General Golam Sarwar Munshi, Shahjada Anwarul Kadir, Mizanur Rahman Ratan, Lutful Rahman, Altaf Hossain and A K Shawkat.

Save the distressed people

A unit workers-meeting of the mothers and child care home project of the Save the Distressed People (SDP) held Friday at 3 pm at its office at Khilgion.

The meeting presided over by Dr Afzal Hossain was attended by SDP Finance Director Mattur Rahman as chief guest and by project Director Rafiqul Islam as the special guest.

BSCIC meeting

Shamsul Islam Khan, Minister for Industries called for strengthening the development and service programmes of Bangladesh Small and Cottage Industries Corporation (BSCIC) aiming at flourishing Small and Cottage Industries in the country.

He was addressing a meeting of Bangladesh Small and Cottage Industries Corporation (BSCIC) officers and proprietors recently at BSCIC Industrial Estate at Pabna.

The meeting was also addressed by Mohammad Maniruzzaman Chowdhury, Chairman, BSCIC and local industrialists.

Greater Comilla Samity

The biennial general meeting and election of the Comilla-Chandpur and Brahmanbaria Samity Dhaka was held at the WAPDA premises on Sunday with Samity President A B M Golam Mustafa in the chair.

Al-Haj Siddiqui Ullah Mia General Secretary of the Samity presented report of last two years activities at the meeting.

It was also addressed, among others, by Minister Abu Kasem, Advocate Ahmed Ali, Advocate Md Yunus and Md Mahfuz, Advocate.

Scouts asked to take part in uplift activities

CHITTAGONG, Jan 3: Communication Minister Oli Ahmed today called upon the members of the Scouts to participate in nation building activities through training and exercise, reports BSS.

He was inaugurating the third National Cub Camporee of the railway region here.

The Minister said the objective of the Scout Movement was to build up the boys and juveniles as good citizens of the country so that they could lead the nation in future.

He said that a Scout was also committed to his creator. Therefore he cannot deviate from his ideals as a Scout, he added.

The ministers said that the government would continuously patronising the movement for building an honest and efficient future generation.

Miscreants kill one in Sitakunda

CHITTAGONG, Jan 3: Armed assailants gunned down a youngman and injured nine others at South Kazi para village in Sitakunda Upazila Thursday midnight, reports UNB.

The victim was identified as Shafilek Kabir (35), a day-labourer of the village.

Witnesses said a gang of miscreants numbering about 25 rammed into the house of Shafilek at midnight and killed him on the spot.

The attackers opened at least four rounds of fire leaving nine others injured.

The injured Ahamad Gani (60), Abu Saleh (22), Solaiman (18), Jinnat Ali (16), Shahana Begum (16) Nurunnahar (18), Mariom (22), Ilalima (50), Aesha Begum (32) were rushed to the Sitakunda Health Complex with serious wounds.

M N Huda's death condoled

The governing body of the Central Women's College in the city, has condoled the death of former Vice President and eminent economist Dr M N Huda, a press release said Wednesday, reports BSS.

Dr Huda, one of the founders of the college had been associated with the institution since its inception in 1956.

The governing body, in its meeting, paid tributes to Dr Huda for his dedicated role in the advancement of learning and education in the country.

The meeting expressed sympathy to the members of the bereaved family and prayed for peace of the departed soul.

RCC undertakes scheme to reexcavate drains

RAJSHAHI, Jan 3: Rajshahi City Corporation has undertaken a programme to redig and renovate the main drains of the city with a view to solving water stagnancy problem under post monsoon food for work programme, an official source said today, reports BSS.

The corporation will also implement a programme for the renovation of sixteen graveyards of the city under food for work programme.

One thousand metric tons of wheat have been allocated to implement both the programmes.

Mayor of Rajshahi City Corporation Mizanur Rahman

visited the city areas and assured the people to solve their problems.

Tk 78.75 lakh stipends to be distributed

An amount of Taka over 78,75,000 will be distributed as scholarship among 3,382 students and dependents of government employees in Rajshahi division during the current fiscal year, reports BSS.

Additional Divisional Commissioner Sirajul Huq said the amount will be given by the government for encouraging the students to devote themselves to their studies so that

they could do better results in the examinations.

Besides, the government has sanctioned over Taka 10,39,000 medical treatment of government employees of Rajshahi division during the period.

Last year the government had provided Taka 16 lakh for the welfare of the government employees over Taka 16,90,000 for recreational facilities and Taka two lakh for the development of cultural and sports activities in the division.

The divisional sports meet for the government employees will be held here on February 7 next, the source added.

DU Maths Deptt programme concludes

By DU Correspondent

The Mathematics Department of Dhaka University Friday concluded its

70th founding anniversary programme through holding a seminar on 'Learning and Application' of Mathematics at the Science Annex Building.

The seminar was presided over by Hanif Uddin Miah, Former Director of Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission and ex-student and professor of mathematics department.

The discussion was participated among others by Professor Md Ramjan Ali Sarder, Prof Hasna Banu of Mathematics Department, Dr Abdul Musabber Chowdhury, Director, SPARSO, Dhaka, Samarendra Karmaker, Deputy Director of Meteorology Department, Prof Md Fazel Hossain, Dean Science Faculty of Chittagong University, MA Huq Howlader of Dhaka Stock Exchange, Dr S M R Chowdhury of Atomic Energy Commission, Dhaka, Shamsul Huq Mollah of Mathematics Dept, Shahabuddin, CU, Prof Sheikh Bazzul Rahman of BL College, Dawlatoor and Alaur Rahman, Editor of Weekly Ghoshona. Professor AFM Khodada Khan has been elected President of the Mathematics Department Alumni Association.

Siddiky made DIG of police

A.Y.B.I Siddiky, a senior police officer, who served as Bangladesh police contingent chief in the United Nations Transitional Assistance Group (UNTAG) in Namibia, has been appointed as the Deputy Inspector General (DIG) of Police in the police headquarters, reports BSS.

Siddiky returned home recently after serving as the country's first high commissioner in Namibia, which got independence from South African

Illiteracy obstacle to development

State Minister for Cultural Affairs Prof Jahan Ara Begum said in Dhaka Wednesday that the present government was launching compulsory Primary Education Programme to remove the curse of illiteracy from the society, reports BSS.

She was addressing a series of meeting at Pangsha and Baliakandi upazila of the district.

The State Minister said the BNP government had fulfilled its another election commitment by introducing the Compulsory Primary Education Programme.

Terming the illiteracy as a major obstacle to the overall national development, she sought co-operation of all concerned for creating mass awareness in this regard.

Referring to the Canal Digging Programme Prof Jahan Ara Begum said Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman had initiated the programme for attaining self-sufficiency in food. She called upon the party workers to motivate people so that they could participate in the programme on voluntary basis.

Earlier, the State Minister laid the foundation stone of a modern diabetic hospital at Kalybar.

Speaking on the occasion Prof Jahan Ara Begum said the present government was determined to ensure 'Health For All' by the turn of the century. She said the BNP government was committed to provide medicare facilities to every citizen of the country.

Dateline Chittagong CUCSU condemns removal of Vice-Chancellor

CHITTAGONG, Jan 3: Central Students Union of Chittagong University and All Party Students Union here at a joint press conference today urged the government to fulfill their seven-point demand immediately for restoration of normalcy in the campus, reports BSS.

The student leaders blamed the anti-liberation forces for creating the stalemate in the university for a long time and said the government has complicated the problem by appointing a new Vice-Chancellor and Pro-Vice-Chancellor of the university in violation of the University Ordinance of 1973.

The seven-point CUCSU demand placed in the press conference included cancellation of the appointment of new Vice-Chancellor, trial of the

killers of Feroque and ousting of 73 students with the show cause notice, expulsion of outsiders and arms holders from the residential halls.

CUCSU and other student leaders unanimously condemned the removal of an elected Vice Chancellor Prof Alamgir Mohammad Sirajuddin and said that with the appointment of newly Vice-Chancellor and Pro-Vice-Chancellor, the government had revived and strengthened the anti-liberation forces.

Manzurul Alam Shaheen and Anup Khastagir, President and General Secretary respectively of the university chapter of Bangladesh Chitra League, Joyjit Barua, Mujibur Rahman, Mamun Minto, Mokaddesh Ali Shaheen, Mohammad Mahiuddin Badal, all APSU leaders were present at the press conference.

Re-Tender Notice Re-Tender Notice No.9/1991-92. Table with columns: Sl. No., Name of work, Estimated cost in Tk., Earnest money in Tk., Cost of tender document in Tk. Includes items like construction of Top slab over Alamdanga main canal, Re-const. of Combined Regulator at T3/T4/STA at Royrah, Const. of Water Pond Mecadam Road over A.M. C. (Left Bank) Inspection Road from K.M.13.62 to 15.77/1991-92, etc.

Executive Engineer Jhenidah O&M Division WDB, Jhenidah Phone No. 211. Includes contact information and details for the tender process.