

RUTA's concern over campus situation

From RU Correspondent

RAJSHAHI, June 7: Rajshahi University Teachers' Association (RUTA) at an emergency meeting held recently termed the situation on Rajshahi University campus as suffocating. They expressed their concern for alleged failure of the government to restore congenial atmosphere on the campus. At a resolution taken in the meeting with Prof M Shahidul Islam in the chair the meeting said Rajshahi University remained paralysed since last two months due to terrorism unleashed by Islami Chhatra Shibir (ICS). It will be suicidal for the government to remain silent in this critical moment, the resolution said. The present complicated situation of Rajshahi University is not a regional crisis, the government should consider the crisis as a national problem, it added. In another resolution, RUTA invited the leaders of Federation of University Teachers' Association of Bangladesh (FUTAB) and other teachers' associations of different universities of the country to visit Rajshahi University to see for themselves the actual situation. The meeting also demanded of a high powered committee taking representatives from FUTAB and other teachers' associations with a view to finding out a permanent solution of the crisis prevailing at Rajshahi University.

Natore Sub-jail hit by accommodation problem

From Our Correspondent

NATORE, June 7: The inmates of the district sub-jail, have been facing an acute accommodation problem. The jail has a capacity to accommodate only 98 prisoners, including 10 female prisoners. But most of the time, the number of prisoners exceeds its capacity by 4 times. At present there are 389 prisoners, including 7 women in the sub-jail. Besides, there is no separate accommodation for jail superintendent, doctor, pharmacist and jail subedar. The jailor in-charge performs his duties in a tin-shed. The main gate and the passage

of the jail is very narrow and the security gates are too close to the main gate. Moreover, the jail has no transport of its own to transfer prisoners. The district sub-jail has only 5 cells including a women cell, 8 toilets including 5 attached with the cells, only 4 tubewells which are completely inadequate for 300 to 400 prisoners.

The inmates have to sleep at night by turn. During the rainy season after a heavy shower the situation worsens. Water accumulates in the jail compound and remains stagnant for long.

Most often water enters into the prisoner's cells also. The jail was first constructed in 1921 on a one-acre land when population of the district was thin. The population of the district is now about 14 lakh.

Meanwhile, observing the deplorable condition of the jail, a decision was taken to build a full-fledged district jail in 1991.

The new site of the proposed district jail has been selected at Boro Harishpur area, 3 km off the town on Natore-Dhaka highway in 1994. But construction works of the proposed district jail is yet to be started.



Acute scarcity of water has been prevailing at Bani Santa, a village situated on the other side of Mongla Port. The inhabitants of this area have to purchase water from far away. In the picture, a local resident of the area is purchasing water from a boat. — Star photo by A K M Mohsin

150 houses gutted in Nilphamari

NILPHAMARI, June 7: Six people were injured and 150 houses gutted in a fire at Angarpara village in Sadar thana recently, reports UNB. Firebrigade sources said the fire originated from an oven at about 2 pm. Valuables, including cash and ornaments, worth about Tk 10 lakh were gutted in the fire.

Kushtia News Letter Storm damages electric tower

From Our Correspondent KUSHTIA, June 7: The cyclonic storm which swept over Bheramara thana on May 24 damaged 7 11 KV electric towers disrupting electricity for 10 hours in the adjoining areas.

The affected areas are: Kodolpara, Mokarrampur, Bahadurpur, Golapnagar, Khemirdiar and Parakpur. The storm also damaged crops and kutcha houses.

It may be mentioned that earlier on May 20 another cyclonic storm lashed over Bheramara breaking 4 132 KV electric national grid towers and damaging a large number of kutcha houses. The towers were broken due to stealing of angles of the towers.

Meanwhile, the police super, Kushtia held a meeting with the people of Bheramara recently and sought cooperation of the local people to arrest the culprits who were responsible for stealing the angles. One thief of the angle has already been arrested. Vigorous police raids are going on to arrest other culprits.

59 fire incidents in 4 months

A total of 59 fire incidents took place in Kushtia district during the last four months and properties worth Taka seven lakh were gutted.

Kushtia Fire Brigade unit, however, said that properties worth Taka 5 lakh 36 thousand five hundred were lost. According to them, they attended 17 fire incidents. The loss was estimated to the tune of Taka 40 thousand 700 in the month of January. In the month of February, 12 fire incidents took place and the loss was estimated to be Taka one lakh 81 thousand 200. In the month of March, 13 fire incidents took place and the loss was estimated to be Tk one lakh 68 thousand 500. In the month of April, 17 fire incidents took place and the loss of properties was estimated to be Taka one lakh 46 thousand 100.

Unofficially the loss was estimated to be Taka 7 lakh during four months.

Workers' confce of Mirpur thana JP

A workers' conference of Mirpur thana unit of Jatiya Party was held recently at the local sugarcane purchasing centre.

Presided over by Md Serajul Islam, Vice-President of Jatiya Party's Mirpur union unit, the conference was addressed, among others, by Saiful Islam Khan, Faruq Choudhury, Amirul Islam, Md Musfiqur Rahman Taha, Shahabul Dewar, Enamul, Sahar Ali and Khollu.

The conference discussed for strengthening the organisation. Besides, Md Faruq Choudhury was nominated to contest the ensuing Union Parishad (UP) election from Jatiya Party. About 50 persons joined Jatiya Party during the conference.

4,000 tubewells out of order in 10 dists

From Our Correspondent

MAGURA, June 7: Acute scarcity of drinking water has been prevailing in 10 south-western districts for a long time causing untold sufferings to the people.

According to sources of Public Health Engineering Department (PHED), there are one lakh 16 thousand 22 tubewells in 10 south-western districts of Magura, Jhenidah, Narail, Jessore, Khulna, Bagerhat, Satkhira, Kushtia, Chuadanga, and Meherpur. About one crore 10 lakh people live in these districts. According to population, at least three lakh tubewells are needed to cope with the situation. About four thousand tubewells are out of order, due to lack of proper maintenance, officials of PHED said. There are only two hundred government mechanics in 10 south-western districts for one lakh 16 thousand 22 tubewells. As a result, due to lack of required number of manpower, a large number of tubewells are useless around the year.

On the other hand, hundreds of tubewells which are located by the side of the rivers Goral, Bhairab, Nabganj, Madhumati, Fatki, Mathabhangha, Chitra Kumar are practically out of order. As a result serious scarcity of water has been prevailing in the districts. The ground water level in the above areas are gradually going downwards during the summer season.

Meanwhile, PHED sealed many tubewells in the local hats and bazars in the 10 districts are not working well. The local leaders of the hats and bazars alleged that inspite of repeated appeals, no steps has been taken to ensure smooth supply of drinking water in the hats and bazars of those districts. As a result, they are compelled to drink river and pond water. Thus the users are prone to be attacked with waterborne diseases.

Cyclone renders 75,551 homeless in Bandarban

BANDARBAN, June 7: Homeless people of the district affected by the May 19 cyclone are still living under the open sky passing days in misery, awaiting rehabilitation and adequate relief, reports UNB.

According to the Deputy Commissioner, a total of 19,257 houses were destroyed rendering 75,551 people homeless.

He said boro crop on 1,001 hectares of land and 1,320 educational institutions were also damaged in the cyclone. Death of two people in Nalkhongchhori thana and 77 domestic animals were also reported.

Deputy Commissioner Atiqul Islam Chowdhury said the comprehensive report on the losses reached to him late because of disruption in the telecommunication link with the outlying thanas of the district.

Meanwhile, the government has sanctioned 53 metric tons

of rice, 100 tons of biscuit, 1,200 pieces of saree, 400 pieces of lungie, 500 T-shirts, 250 bowls, 200 each pieces of plate, glass, kitchen knives (Bot) and cash Tk 1,10,000 for the affected people of the district.

The entire district remains without power due to delay in the restoration work of 29 electric polls which were uprooted during the cyclone.

An All-party Alliance organised protest demonstrations Saturday demanding restoration of power and water supply but the demonstrators were allegedly attacked by police injuring 30 of them.

In a statement on Sunday, Chittagong Hill Tracts National Coordination and Peace Council condemned the police excess on the hill people and demanded judicial enquiry into the matter, punishment for the persons involved and compensation for the injured.

Satkhira residents face acute air pollution

From Our Correspondent

SATKHIRA, June 7: Most of the automobiles plying in the district town emit black smoke polluting the environment. Residents of the district town have been facing acute air pollution.

Old and worn-out buses, trucks, jeeps, autorikshas, and micro buses plying on different routes emit black smoke causing serious health hazards. It is worth mentioning, there is a government bus plying the vehicles on streets which emit black smoke.

According to a source, about 2,500 vehicles move to and from the district everyday. Hundreds of buses, minibuses and other vehicles in 12 routes of 4 districts ply along Satkhira roads everyday.

The district town has been jammed with a large number of

automobiles which emit black smoke. The owners of these vehicles take no precautionary measures to stop such emission.

Physicians said, the smoke of the vehicles is likely to cause blood pressure, cancer, skin disease, other chronic diseases and even heart disease. Children are the worst sufferers, they said.

Knowledgeable sources said that when the engine compression become weak, vehicles emit black smoke and such vehicles should not be given fitness certificates from Bangladesh Road Transport Authority (BRTA) until the engine is over handled.

BRTA should take stern action against the violators of law.

Notice Inviting Tenders No. 25 (U)

Sealed tenders in BD Form No. 2911 are hereby invited from enlisted contractor of PWD as noted below as per financial limit for the undermentioned work and will be received by the undersigned as well as by the Executive Engineer, PWD, Divn. Bogra/Joypurhat in their respective offices up to 12-00 Noon on 22.6.97 Eng. and will be opened on the same day at 12.30 PM in presence of the tenderers who may like to remain present. Each tender shall be in a separate sealed cover with the name of work superscribed on it.

Sl. No.	Name of work	Estimated cost	Earnest money	Class of contractor enlisted to submit tender
1.	Construction of bituminous carpeting approach road in the compound of Ullapara Thana in the dist of Sirajganj.	Tk 5,89,935/-	Tk 11,799/-	Enlisted special 1st class and 1st class contractor (Bldg) of PWD, 2nd class contractor (Bldg) of PWD Zone, Rajshahi and 3rd class contractor (Bldg) of PWD Circle, Bogra.

Contract document consisting of BD Form No. 2911, schedule of items, statement, additional terms and conditions etc. can be seen and obtained from the office of the undersigned and Executive Engineer, PWD Divn. Bogra/Joypurhat and Sub-Divn. Engineer, PWD Sub-Divn. Sirajganj/Ullapara/ E/M Sub-Divn. Sirajganj on payment of usual charges. The tender form may be purchased by the contractor himself or his representative duly authorised by the contractor along with the original Registration book any day during office hours up to 21.6.97 Eng. No tender form will be sold after office hours of 21.6.97 Eng.

Photocopy of original registration book and VAT registration certificate (Attested by a Gazetted Officer of this Department) must be submitted with the tender, otherwise the tender will be summarily rejected.

Md Zahangir Alam

Executive Engineer

PWD Division, Sirajganj

Phone No. 72501

DFP-13287-2/6
G-1607

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Police Super, Naogaon

Tender Notice

Sealed tenders in Bangladesh Form No 2911 are invited from Police Department, Rajshahi Range enlisted 1st & 2nd class contractors and Public Works Directorate's 1st & 2nd class enlisted electrical contractors for celestification repair works at Thana building, OC's quarters & other officers' quarters of Patnitala, Niamatpur, Mohadebpur, Sapahar & Manda thanas under Naogaon district subject to future grant of the authority. Tenders should be submitted in the tender box kept at the office of the undersigned by 12 hours of 14-6-97, which will be opened on the same day at 12.30 PM before the tenderers (if any) present. The authority is not bound to accept the lowest tender and reserves the right to reject any or all tenders or accept any tender without assigning any reason.

Intending tenderers should quote rate in percentage of estimated cost distinctly in figures & words. No tender with any striking off, overwriting & illegibility will be acceptable. Documents containing tender form, schedule of electrification repair works, specification and other terms & conditions will be available at Tk 425/- (four hundred twenty-five) only (non-refundable) on all working days except holiday up to 12-6-97.

Sl No	Site of work	Description of work	Estimated cost	Earnest money	Time limit for completion of work (from the time of Work Order)
1.	Sapahar thana	Repair to existing electrification of overhead line, SI's quarters, ASI's quarters at Sapahar thana of Naogaon district.	4,44,850/-	at 2% 8,897/-	30 days
2.	Manda thana	Repair to electrification of thana building, OC's quarters, 2 units, SI's quarter, 2 units of Manda thana.	4,64,218/-	at 2% 9,285/-	30 days
3.	Mahadebpur thana	Repair to electrification of thana building, officers' quarters including overhead line of Mahadebpur thana.	4,61,794/-	at 2% 9,236/-	30 days
4.	Patnitala thana	Repair to electrification of overhead line, thana building, OC, SI & ASI's quarters of Patnitala thana.	4,36,604/-	at 2% 9,272/-	30 days
5.	Niamatpur thana	Repair to electrification of thana building, OC's quarters, 2 units, SI's quarters, 2 units ASI's quarters including overhead line.	4,96,800	at 2% 9,936/-	30 days

DFP-13356-3/6
G-1613

ASM Monowar
Police Super, Naogaon

Steps to make Vitamin-A week successful

MANIKGANJ, June 7: The local administration has undertaken all measures to make the 'Vitamin-A Week' a success, reports UNB.

A four-day advocacy meeting to ensure better coordination among the officials and employees of seven thanas of the district to observe the 'Vitamin-A Week' ended on Thursday. Officials and employees of Family Planning and Health Department, representatives from non-government organisations, school teachers, local leaders, UP chairman and local politicians attended the meeting.

BKB loan disbursed among farmers

RAJBARI, June 7: Bangladesh Krishi Bank (BKB) disbursed Tk 8.76 crore loan among the farmers of the district during the current fiscal year, reports UNB.

According to official sources, 9,214 farmers received the loan through the 11 branches of the bank. Of the amount, Tk 6.12 crore were distributed for vegetable cultivation and the rest Tk 2.64 for other purposes including dairy farms, pisciculture, purchasing of bullocks, betel leaf farming and irrigation. During the period, the bank also realised Tk 9 crore from 8,000 farmers of the district.

Man commits suicide

HABIGANJ, June 7: A man allegedly committed suicide by hanging in a residential hotel in the town here, said a delayed report, reports UNB.

Bashir Ahmed of Sangram Rai area in Baniachong thana of the district, hanged himself from a mosquito net stand in room number 109 of Banani hotel on May 27. He was an accused of a criminal case for forgery. He forged the signature and seal of the then Prime Minister Khaleda Zia to apply for lease of a government land. Frustration may be the reason behind the suicide. A case was filed with the police.

LGED implementing 25 projects

TANGAIL, June 7: Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) is implementing 25 projects in Madhupur and Shakhupur thanas in the current fiscal year at a cost of Tk 12.11 lakh, reports BSS.

Official sources said, the projects include the repair work of one college, six schools, one police camp and construction of one community centre. A total of 16 culverts will also be built under the projects. The projects will be completed by this month, the sources added.

Workshop on mother-child care

SUNAMGONJ, June 7: A day long training workshop on mother and child health development organised by district information office was held at Deral Thana Parishad auditorium on May 31, reports BSS.

Deputy Commissioner Iqbal Hussain Khan was present as chief guest. A total of 40 persons including teachers, journalists, union parishad chairmen and imams participated in the workshop.

Dacoity at Baherchar bazar

PATUAKHALI, June 7: A dacoity was committed in Baherchar bazar of the district on May 24 last, reports BSS.

It is alleged that a group of dacoits numbering about 8/10 raided a shop owned by one Kallayan Brata Roy of the bazar and snatched away from Tk one lakh on gun point. When one employee of the shop raised alarm the dacoits decamped with the booty. A case was filed with the Bauphal thana in this connection.