

National

Mourning Day observed

By Staff Correspondent

The National Mourning Day, commemorating the 25th martyrdom of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman was observed on Tuesday in districts with due respect and solemnity.

In observance of the day people of all walks of life in Chittagong paid their glowing tributes to the great leader who was the architect of independent Bangladesh. They also demanded immediate execution of the verdict of the Bangabandhu Murder Case.

Different political parties, their front organizations, educational institutions, professional bodies and trade unions have drawn up elaborate programmes in observance of the day. The programmes of the day was heralded with hoisting of the national flag at half mast atop all public and private buildings and placing of wreaths at the portrait of the father of the nation.

A big mourning procession under the joint auspices of Chittagong City Awami League, Bangladesh Mohila AL, Bangabandhu Parishad and Jatiya Samik League was brought out from Muslim Institute Hall here on Tuesday morning. Led by City Mayor ABM Mohiuddin Chowdhury and province-Chancellor of Chittagong University the procession has passed through some important city roads.

As part of the three-day programmes of Chittagong City Corporation, Mayor Mohiuddin Chowdhury along with the officers and employees place wreaths at the portrait of the father of the nation at the corporation building on Tuesday morning.

Other programmes of the day included hoisting of the national and corporation flags at half-mast atop all corporation buildings, award offices and all educational institutions, wearing of black badges, milad mahfil, special payers, discussions and distribution of tabaruk.

District administration organised a discussion at Shishu Academy auditorium with deputy commissioner in the chair.

Mayor of Chittagong Mohiuddin Chowdhury attended it as chief guest while Commissioner of Chittagong Division ASM Mohaidul Islam was the special guest.

In Khulna, various political and socio-cultural organisations took up special programmes which included mourning procession, qurankhwani, milad

mafil, feeding of the destitute and discussion.

The day began with the hoisting of national flag half-mast in all public and private buildings. The mourning procession was brought out in the city from Circuit House maidan. People of all walks of life participated in the procession.

A voluntary blood donation programme was held at the local Shaded Hadis Park arranged under the auspices of Khulna Civil Surgeon and Sandhani Doctors Club.

Awami League and district administration have taken separate programmes to mark the day.

Khulna University held a day-long programme which included milad mahfil and discussion.

Special prayer was held in all mosques and other places of worship for peace and progress of the country.

Regional daily newspapers published special supplements and Bangladesh Betar, Khulna station, put up special programmes highlighting the significance of the day.

Meanwhile, Chief Whip Abul Hasanat Abdullah, along with leaders of Barisal district unit of Bangladesh Awami League and its front organisations, visited the Mazar of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman at Tungpara on Tuesday as a part of observance of the national Mourning Day.

The leaders and workers offered Fateha at the Mazar and prayed for peace of the departed soul of the great leader and those of others who were killed brutally by some misguided army personnel on the black night of August 15, 1975.

The group comprising several hundred leaders and workers led by the Chief Whip returned to Barisal in the evening.

From Tungpara says: Social Welfare Department on Tuesday distributed over Taka five lakh among distressed people as part of its Taka 10.50 lakh welfare programmes on the occasion of the National Mourning Day.

Rest of the amount would be distributed among the poor people by August 31.

The department distributed the money at a function, jointly organised by the Social Welfare Department, Women and Children Affairs Ministry and the Islamic Foundation, in the GT High School premises here to mark the occasion.

Minister of State for Social

Welfare Dr Mozammel Hossain, Minister of State for Women and Children Affairs Prof Zinatunnesa Talukder, Social Welfare Secretary Dr Khanada Mohan Das and Director General of Islamic Foundation Maulana Abdul Awal spoke on the occasion.

Recipients of the money included 90 elderly people, 45 husband-abandoned and distressed women, while 79 people got interest-free loan.

Sewing machines and cash were also donated on behalf of the Women and Children Affairs Ministry.

Besides, prizes were distributed among the winners of Hand and Naat competition organised by the Islamic Foundation on the occasion of the National Mourning Day.

A discussion was arranged at Rangamati Municipal auditorium in observance of the day on Tuesday. Leaders and activists of Rangamati unit of Awami League and its front organisations attended it. The discussion was followed by a morning procession led by the Chairman of the Task Force on Repatriated Tribals and Internal Refugees Rehabilitation Affairs Dipankar Talukdar, MP.

Rangamati district unit of Mukti Juddha Command organised a discussion and milad mahfil at its office. Chairman of Rangamati Hill District Council Ching Kew Roaza attended the meeting as chief guest.

Rangamati district unit of Social Services Department disbursed an interest-free loan of Taka 1.89 lakh at a function among the unemployed youths to generate their income in observance of the National Mourning Day. Old age allowance to 60 aged persons and 30 widows and divorcees were also given at the function held at the local municipal auditorium. Chairman of the task force on repatriated Tribals and Internal Refugees Rehabilitation Affairs Dipankar Talukdar, MP handed over the cheques and allowances to the recipients.

District administration served improved diet to the inmates of local jail and orphanages as part of the programme.

The day was also observed in different upazila headquarters in a befitting manner. A Taka 4.20 lakh interest free loan was disbursed among 54 unemployed youths at Zurachhari Uzila headquarters.

Similar befitting programmes were arranged in all other districts in observance of the day.

News snaps

Two fish traders still missing

From Our Correspondent

NETRAKONA, Aug 16: Two out of five fish traders remained still missing while bodies of three others were recovered by Madan thana police from Barai haor under Madan upazila on Saturday evening.

The missing fish traders are Khairul, 40, and Rubel, 33, while the deads are Golam Kibria, 35, Mainul Haque, 38, and Titon, 33. They were suspected to be killed by strangulation. Police sources said, five persons were jointly running their fish trading. They set for business purpose on August 7 last towards Mohongoni by boat. Local people found the floating bodies at Machukanda of Barai haor and informed Madan thana police who rushed to the spot and recovered the dead bodies. The bodies were sent to Netrakona Sadar Hospital for postmortem. A murder case was registered with Madan police station, but none was arrested so far. It may be mentioned here that the dead Minul and Titon were brothers.

Baseless rumour on dengue

From Our Correspondent

SIRAJGANJ, Aug 16: The inhabitants here have become panic stricken because of a rumour about spread of dengue fever.

The people now apprehend all kinds of fever as dengue. Even one youth named Ripon of Kalia died of heart failure but it has been spread that he had died of dengue fever. Having been alarmed by such rumour, the common people who are attacked by common fever throng to the local hospitals and health complexes. When contacted the Sirajganj Civil Surgeon Dr. M Mohaddess Hossain told this correspondent that no dengue patient had been found in the district till now. He added that all doctors, para-medics and concerned staffers are now very active in combating the disease, if found anywhere else in the district. A control room has been opened to combat the disease, he added.

Massive development programme

BOGRA, Aug 16: Rural Poverty Alleviation Foundation, emerging as separate entity, has taken a massive economic and social development programme to uplift the poor, landless people of Bogra district recently, reports BSS.

With this view in end the foundation, Bogra region invested Taka 6273.55 lakh among 25,175 members including 22,729 female members of 1,184 groups in 11 upazilas. A total of Taka 5,505.47 lakh calculated about 97 per cent of the amount due, has so far been realised. Foundation sources said that arrangement was also made to train up the target members with modern technique of vegetable cultivation, nursery, pisciculture, beef fattening, poultry farming, cattle and goat raising. A six-member technical resource team of agriculture graduates has been imparting a 4 days training in phases to a 35-member batch.



Submerged homesteads at Samurbari village under Louhajang upazila in Munshiganj district where flood situation is gradually improving. —Star photo by A KM Mohsin

A different bazaar

From Abdul Wadood

RAJSHAHI, Aug 16: There is a bazaar in Rajshahi which is called Bou-Bazar.

"Bou" means "wife" and "bazar" means "market." So "Bou-Bazar" means "wife market." But one must not make a mistake thinking that wives are sold and bought here, rather it is factually a market where both the sellers and buyers are women, mostly housewives.

The market sits everyday in the early morning on the by-lane which starts from the Rajshahi-Dhaka highway and passes to the north through in between Ramchandrapur in the west and Raninagar in the last of the city. It is about one and a half kilometers away from Shahebbazar, the main and the biggest market in the city and only about two kilometers away from Talaimari market.

In spite of that Bou-Bazar is a busy and popular market.

"It's popularity is increasing day by day," said Saleha Begum, who has been selling vegetables here from the very inception of the market.

The market started in a completely unplanned way about three years ago.

A few distressed women of Ramchandrapur and Raninagar used to sell vegetables in baskets on their head around the surrounding mahallas. "Peak time of our business was from 7 am to 10 am," said Hasina Banu adding that they got very much tired because of walking and carrying loads of vegetables. "We sometimes took rest here on the road near the tubewell, drank water, gossip and then left the place," she said.

During the time of taking rest,

sometimes somebody bought vegetables from them. Gradually, it became a regular habit.

"Thus one day it became a hat (market)," said Hasina. Now more than 100 vendors sit here every day at about 6 am and sell their goods upto 12 noon.

It was 100 per cent vegetables market at the beginning. All kinds of fresh seasonal vegetables are still now abundantly available here. But during the recent days, fish, meat, rice, wheat, flour lentils and many other cooking ingredients have begun to come in the market.

The market is extending everyday alongside the by-lane covering also some fallow lands possessed by private owners. Several thousand women come here to sell and buy their daily commodities everyday.

"We buy goods from the wholesale market of Shahebbazar," said Saleha Begum.

The sellers of the Bou-Bazar have come from families of low income. Their husbands, grownup sons and brothers are mainly rickshawpullers and day-labourers.

Both the sellers and buyers of Bou-Bazar had been hundred per cent local people of Ramchandrapur, Raninagar and Ahmedpur. But now-a-days many other people from the surrounding areas come to the market. A very few males are also seen in the market in the recent days.

"We are yet to face any major untoward situation," said Hasina Banu. We have not to pay any kind of tax or toll till today," she said.

Begum Roswhan Ara Mahmud, a housewife of a college

teacher residing at Kedur More in Raninagar area said, "we feel easier in Bou-Bazar.

"Our males remain often so busier with their duties that they face difficulty to have time for marketing. And in the usual markets it is very troublesome for the females to move and buy goods. Bou-Bazar has saved us from that troubles," said Farzana Afroj, a housewife of a physician residing at Bosepara.

We are often cheated in other markets," said Suraiya Akhter of Ramchandrapur. "But Bou-Bazar has become renowned, for just price and weight."

The situation, however, is aggravating slowly. The market is rapidly growing and becoming overcrowded. Male sellers and buyers are also seen, though in very less in number till now. Cleanliness and sanitation are being seriously hampered.

All the sellers and buyers who were contacted by this correspondent have demanded that males might be prohibited from going to Bou-Bazar.

"It is exclusively by the women and for the women and should be so," said Begum Rowshan Ara Mahmud. She also suggested to arrange such female market in some other places of the city.

The customers have also demanded attention of the city corporation authorities in maintaining cleanliness and sanitation of the market.

Some local people, however, have demanded that the market should be transferred from the residential area. "We are facing problems now-a-days as a large number of people gather here blocking the road," said Aminul Islam of Ramchandrapur.



A different type of market in Rajshahi city where both the sellers and buyers are women. —Star photo

Price poor, growers sad

From Akhteruzzaman Bablu



Nimgaachhi in Sirajganj district is a famous paddy market in Chalan Beel area. Traders from all other districts procure paddy from this market to meet up their annual requirement. But sellers here are in a quandary due to poor price of paddy. —Star photo

SIRAJGANJ, Aug 16: Farmers here are selling the newly harvested IRR-1 Boro paddy below the production cost.

At present, IRR-1 Boro paddy is being sold between Taka 185 to 210 per maund against the approximate production cost of Taka 240, farmers said. Small and marginal farmers are now compelled to sell their produce at throwaway prices to pay loans they took from local money lenders during cultivation.

Taking the advantage middlemen are controlling the paddy markets here. The low price has been attributed to the absence of adequate number of buyers.

Meanwhile poor progress of paddy procurement drive by the government is also responsible for its low price. Paddy sellers in markets in Ullapara, Tarash, Rayganj and Kamarkhand upazilas said, officials of the Food Department are reluctant to procure directly from the grow-

ers, some farmers in Sirajganj sadar said to this correspondent recently.

When conducted, the Food Department officials said that their had been no adequate space in the warehouses. When contacted the District Controller of Food said 4 lakh 82 thousand tons of IRR-1 Boro paddy have been produced in this season while government only brought 8 thousand tons of paddy and 4 thousand tons of rice in this season.

Chalan Beel is famous as a rich paddy production area. Some parts of Pabna, Sirajganj, Natore and Bogra also belong to Chalan Beel area.

Farmers of this area are now frustrated because of poor price of paddy in markets.

Meanwhile, it is widely alleged that illegal committees have been formed in Kazipur area which is responsible for poor progress of the government initiated paddy

and rice procurement drives.

Moreover, local people have alleged that the ruling party has prepared and supplied a list of people of their choice to the District Controller of Food here for procuring paddy only from them, not from others.

These reasons have also attributed to slow progress in the foodgrains procurement drive this year.

Child-lifter punished

From Our Correspondent

SIRAJGANJ, Aug 16: A village arbitration has asked a man to pay Tk 500 fine for lifting a child.

Kidnapper Alam of Chakmirakhore under Sadar upazila on Friday was caught by villagers while lifting a five-year-old girl at village Baniagati under Sadar upazila.

The victim was Mukti, daughter of Aminul Islam of Baniagati.

Pests attack jute

From Our Correspondent

GAIBANDHA, Aug 16: Pests have attacked jute crop in Sadullapur upazila in the district, much to the disappointment of farmers.

Pests have attacked mainly tosa variety of jute in the upazila, growers said.

Bottom stalk of jute plants is rotting because of the attack, farmers said. A plant is dying within three days after it is attacked with pests, they added.

Besides, inadequate rainfall has been attributed to the slow growth of the plants.

Farmers of the area are yet to get any help from Agricultural Department.

UNB from Thakurgaon says: Growers in the district cultivated jute on half of the targeted land this year due its low price in the market.

According to the district Agriculture Extension Department, this year jute has been cultivated on 3,345 hectares of land against the target of 6,000 hectares.

Growers said that they lost interest in farming jute on their land because they did not get fair price of the produce last year.

Moreover, seedlings on 1,000 hectares of land were damaged during sowing season due to heavy rainfall.

Run-up to JS polls starts in Rangpur

From Mozammel Huq

RANGPUR, Aug 16: Some probable candidates here for the next parliamentary elections have started lobbying party high-ups and exchanging greetings with voters, observers in local political circle said.

Tenure of the government will expire in July 2001.

According to sources, Jatiya Party (Ershad) will field candidates in all six constituencies in the district, the stronghold of the party.

JP (Ershad) chief former president HM Ershad will contest in two seats- Rangpur Sadar (his

present constituency) and Pirganj. Incumbent MP belonging to JP (Ershad) Karim Uddin Bharras will contest in his own constituency Kanunia-Pirgachha seat. In the rest three seats, the prospective JP (Ershad) candidates are yet to be known.

The rebel faction of JP, known as JP (M-M), is also planning to field candidates in all the seats here. Stalwart of the faction Sharf Uddin Ahmed Jhantoo MP will contest in his Gangachhara constituency. Noor Mohammad Mondal MP, who sided with JP (M-M), will contest in his Pirganj

constituency.

Ruling Awami League district unit secretary Advocate Elias Ahmed said the party is looking for prospective and acceptable candidates for the next polls. Meanwhile, Tipu Munshi, a prospective candidate of Awami League, has already started seeking blessings from voters in Pirgachha-Kaunia constituency. Tipu Munshi, a renowned industrialist, was a freedom fighter. He has involved himself in philanthropic activities. He had constructed a hospital at Mahiganj in Rangpur town.

Main opposition Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) and Jamaat-e-Islami have no confirmed candidates at present as the district leaders are waiting for instructions of high command.

But it is almost certain that district leader Rahim Uddin Bharras will get nomination from Kaunia-Pirgachha. Rahim Uddin Bharras, brother of Karim Uddin Bharras, was elected MP from the seat in 1979 general election.

Jamaat-e-Islami source said Principal Shah Ruhul Islam is the prospective candidate of the party for Gangachhara seat.

চট্টগ্রাম উন্নয়ন কর্তৃপক্ষ

চট্টগ্রাম, চট্টগ্রাম

দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

নিম্নবর্ণিত কাজের জন্য একই ধরনের উন্নয়নমূলক কাজে পূর্ব অভিজ্ঞতাসম্পন্ন এবং আর্থিক ক্ষমতাসম্পন্ন চট্টগ্রাম এবং অন্যান্য সরকারী/আধাসরকারী/বিধিবদ্ধ সংস্থা তালিকাভুক্ত ও নিম্নবর্ণিত প্রাক্কলিত ব্যয়ের সমপরিমাণ অর্থের কাজের জন্য যোগ্য ঠিকাদার/প্রতিষ্ঠান হইতে সীলমোহরযুক্ত পত্র আকান করা যাইতেছে।

ক্রমিক নং	কাজের নাম	প্রাক্কলিত ব্যয়	আর্নেস্টম্যানি
০১।	ডিসি হীল পার্ক উন্নয়নের কাজ (গ্রুপ-১) (বাউভারী ফেলিং, ওয়াক ওয়ে, রেলিং ফ্রাওয়ার আর্কেড, সিটিং সেড, ওপেন এয়ার-গেজ, রিটেনিং ওয়াল, ড্রেইন, টয়লেট ব্লক ইত্যাদি কাজ)।	টাঃ ১,৩১,৩৭,০০০/=	টাঃ ৩,২৫,০০০/=

দরপত্র অংশগ্রহণে আগ্রহী অন্যান্য সরকারী/আধাসরকারী/বিধিবদ্ধ সংস্থা ঠিকাদারগণকে টেন্ডার পেপার কেনার পূর্বে বিগত ৫ (পাঁচ) বৎসরের মধ্যে উল্লিখিত ধরনের কাজ সম্পাদন করিয়াছেন বা চলিতেছে মর্মে সংশ্লিষ্ট বিভাগের নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলীর নিক্তে নহে এমন অফিসার এর নিকট হইতে সার্টিফিকেট গ্রহণ করতঃ ও প্রয়োজনীয় দলিলাদি, তালিকাভুক্ত, অভিজ্ঞতা, যোগ্যতার সম্পর্কে প্রত্যাশনপত্র প্রদর্শন পূর্বক নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী-৩ এর অনুমতিক্রমে এই কাজের উদ্দেশ্যে সাময়িক ভিত্তিতে চট্টগ্রাম এর তালিকাভুক্ত করা হইতে হইবে।

দরপত্র দাতাকে আর্নেস্টম্যানি/পে-অর্ডার দরপত্রের সাথে অবশ্যই প্রদান করিতে হইবে। যাবতীয় তথ্যাদি নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারীর দপ্তর হইতে অফিস চলাকালীন সময় সংগ্রহ করা যাইবে।

দরপত্র দলিল পূর্ববর্তী ব্যাংক, চট্টগ্রাম শাখা, চট্টগ্রাম ক্যাশিয়ার, ও বিভাগীয় কমিশনার, চট্টগ্রাম কার্যালয় হইতে নির্ধারিত নগদ মূল্যে (অক্ষেরতযোগ্য) ক্রয় করিতে পারিবেন।

আগামী ১৪-৮-২০০০ ইং তারিখে বেলা ১২.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারীর অফিসে ও বিভাগীয় কমিশনার অফিসে রক্ষিত বাস্তব দরপত্র গ্রহণ করা হইবে। ঐ দিন বেলা ২.০০ ঘটিকার সময় উপস্থিত অংশগ্রহণকারীদের (যদি কেহ উপস্থিত থাকেন) সম্মুখে প্রাপ্ত দরপত্রসমূহ নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারীর অফিসে খোলা হইবে।

অগ্রহী দরপত্র দাতাকে দরপত্রের সাথে টিআইএন (Tax Identification Number/VAT Registration) সনদিত সনদপত্র এর ফটোকপি (১ম শ্রেণীর গেজেটেড অফিসার কর্তৃক সত্যায়িত) বাধ্যতামূলক ভাবে দাখিল করিতে হইবে। অনাধার্য দাখিলকৃত দরপত্র বাতিলযোগ্য বলিয়া বিবেচিত হইবে।

দরপত্র গ্রহণের দিন কোন দরপত্র বিক্রি করা হইবে না।

অনিবার্য কারণ বশতঃ নির্ধারিত দিনে দরপত্র গ্রহণ ও খোলা সম্ভব না হইলে পরবর্তী কার্যদিবসে যথারীতি সময়ে তাহা গ্রহণ ও খোলা হইবে।

কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণ ব্যতিরেকে যে কোন দরপত্র গ্রহণ বা বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।

মোঃ ইকবাল হোসেন মজুমদার
নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী
নির্মাণ বিভাগ-৩
জিডি-৭৬৭
চট্টগ্রাম উন্নয়ন কর্তৃপক্ষ।