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The first biennial exhibition organised by the Bangladesh Charu Shilpi Sangsad in association with the National Museum got underway at the Institute of Fine Arts premises yesterday. Picture shows a mother and child taking a closer look at one of the paintings on display.

Case against 3 cops for taking bribe in Jhenidah

From Our Correspondent

JHENIDAH, Sept 5: District Anti-Corruption Bureau yesterday filed a case against three police officers for taking bribe from two accused persons and misuse of power while they were in Salkupa thana in 1995.

They are Moniruzzaman Molla, the then OC of Salkupa thana and now OC of Chougacha thana in Jessore, Si Yusuf Ali, now at Kishoreganj thana in Nilphamari and Si Azizul Huq, now at Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP). Narayan Chandra Biswas, officer of District Anti-Corruption Bureau filed the case as complainant.

Police sources said, Si Yusuf Ali and Si Azizul Huq, as per order of the OC, arrested Lakshmitika Biswas and Susanta Pal of Kaptipara village at about 1:30am on June 3, 1995, holding them responsible for the death of a young girl named Chhaya Rani.

The arrested persons had harassed the girl when she came to rescue her father Kanai Lal of the same village from beating due to personal enmity. Chhaya Rani committed suicide following the incident.

But police soon released both the arrested after taking Tk 20 thousand as bribe, sources said. They did not file any case against them.

Sources said that the District Anti-Corruption Bureau investigated the incident and found the three police officers guilty.

2 get life-term for possessing illegal arms at Magura

From Our Correspondent

MAGURA, Sept 5: Two people were awarded life term rigorous imprisonment here today for possessing illegal arms.

The convicts are Nayeb Ali and Sobed Ali of village Pukuria and Nityanandapur respectively in Shalikhia Upazila of Magura district.

According to the prosecution in brief, Acting on a tip-off, a police team led by the superintendent of police (SP), Magura, raided the house of Ali Ahmed of village Raghobdair in Magura Sadar upazila on December 28, 1998.

After an encounter, police arrested the accused along with two foreign-made guns.

A case was lodged with Magura Sadar thana in this connection. Police after investigation chargesheeted the accused.

Additional district and sessions judge A K M Zahid Ahmed, after examining the witnesses and records, pronounced the judgement.

Ershad Shikdar's commissionership cancelled

From Staff Correspondent

KHULNA, Sept 5: The Ministry of LGRD has cancelled KCC's ward commissionership of Ershad Ali Shikdar and Nazim Sultana with effect from today.

KCC Mayor Sheikh Tayebur Rahman said he received an official letter from the ministry concerned today.

Top terror Ershad Shikdar and Nazim Sultana have lost their posts as ward commissioner for remaining absent from the monthly general meeting since last two years.

Shikdar has been sentenced to death in four murder cases.

But the Mayor could not say when the by-election to these vacant seats will be held.

Mufti Ezhar of IOJ arrested

From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Sept 5: Police arrested the Chittagong unit convenor of Islami Oikya Jote (IOJ), Mufti Ezharul Islam in the city this morning for his alleged involvement in subversive activities.

Mufti Ezhar a leader of All Party Action Committee (APAC), was an accused in four cases including two for assaulting three local journalists during an opposition rally at Talighi Maidan in December.

He was arrested near Bangladesh Bank's old office at 11 am today while he was travelling by an autorickshaw.

Later, he was produced before the court from where he was sent to jail, police and court sources said.

Police said hunt was on for a long time to arrest Mufti Ezhar, who is also principal of Lalkhan Bazar Madrasah.

Meanwhile, some Madrasah students brought out a procession in the city this afternoon protesting his arrest.

APAC leaders at a meeting this afternoon condemned the arrest and decided to hold a protest rally in the city tomorrow.

AL to open 'election office' in city next week

By Reaz Ahmad

Awami League opens an 'election office' in the city next week to kick off electioneering well ahead of the next year's parliamentary polls, sources said.

The next general election is due sometime between July 14 and October 14, 2001. The last one was held on June 12, 1996.

The AL is renting the same house on Road No. 12 at Dhanmondi that it had rented for election campaign before the 1996 polls. The party president's former advisor and Finance Minister SAMS Kibria has been given the responsibility to lead a team of AL leaders who would run the show.

The decisions were made during a series of meetings over the weekend with Awami League President and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in the chair. She had exclusive meetings with her cabinet colleagues belonging to Awami League, members of her party's student front and with leaders from some of the district units.

Before leaving for New York on Sunday, Hasina had the last meeting in the current series with the central working committee and party advisors.

According to the party insiders, 'dispute resolution' would be a major workload for the AL Election Office even before it takes up other tasks, which include publication of promotional materials in a bid to brighten the party's poll prospects and monitoring all political developments involving major parties in the country.

Sources said some of the district units were plagued with internal problems and many stalwarts fear that the party would see its poll prospects diminished if it did not immediately take care of the squabbles within the party fold.

Awami League has 70 organisational districts and some of these units have no full-fledged committees but ad-hoc committees in function. AL Organising Secretary and Home Minister Mohammad Nasim had already submitted to the party chief a report card on malfunctioning of some organisational units.

The AL president has already reminded her senior party colleagues of the debacle that a

few ministers of Khaleda Zia's cabinet had had in 1996 elections. She also sounded tough against trouble-mongers in the party.

The organising secretary also briefed her recently about the intra-party feuds that have been existing at different layers of the party hierarchy.

Councillors at the last triennial council of the party in June this year had expressed concern that intra-party conflicts were eating into the party base.

A party councillor from Khulna region had called upon AL leaders in the upper echelon to either resolve disputes or act against those breaching party discipline.

However, the following months saw escalation in incidents of violence resulting from conflicts at party levels at every nook and corner of the country.

Intra-party bickering resulted bullet-injury to an AL lawmaker in greater Sylhet and was murdered in Bagerhat and police had to seize posters which said a ruling party lawmaker was behind the killing.

Non-govt teachers submit memo to UNOs

From Staff Correspondent

Non-government Primary Teachers yesterday submitted memorandum to the Upazila Nirbahi Officers demanding nationalisation of their service.

The teachers began an indefinite strike on Saturday on the demand.

The striking non-government primary teachers will hold a grand rally at Paltan Maidan in the city on September 10 where opposition leader Khaleda Zia will be the chief guest.

JS: Conflict

From page 1

They said JP Secretary-General Nazim Rahman Manjur is also gunning for the post. Dr MA Matin and Kazi Firoz Rashid are lobbying for the post of secretary-general.

Moreover, a good number of top-ranking leaders have hinted at deserting Ershad.

A JP Presidium member told The Daily Star yesterday that the party is heading towards a split.

He also apprehended that the party may be abolished by the end of this year if Ershad is jailed and barred from running in the next general election.

He said most of the leaders and activists inclined to Awami League have sided with the rebel JP faction led by Communications Minister Anwar Hossain Manjur and veteran leader Mizanur Rahman. But people who are in the upper echelon of Ershad's faction will join BNP if the party is split again.

He said the meeting of the parliamentary party will be held at the Sangsad Bhavan.

BCL leader held for ransacking houses of Pabna BNP leaders

PABNA, Sept 5: Police arrested two people, including a BCL leader, for ransacking the houses of five BNP leaders Monday evening, reports UNB.

Police and witnesses said about 30 workers of the ruling party's student front led by Sujagar Degree College unit secretary Rashed attacked the houses of BNP and JCD leaders over a trifling matter.

The JCD and BCL activists exchanged hot exchanges over sitting arrangement in classroom in the morning. Later they chased each other.

The BCL workers attacked houses of BNP leader and teacher of the college Prof Abdul Monayem, Nurul Islam, JCD leaders Zakir Hossain, Babu and Palton injuring at least 15 people.

Prof Abdul Monayem, his wife Nurjahan Banu, daughters Morium Monayem Bristi and Majnun Monayem Moni, and Nurul Islam were admitted to Sujagar Health Complex with injuries.

Police arrested Rashed and another man after filing a case by Prof Monayem.

Upazila unit BNP president Abdul Latif Master, Secretary Selim Reza Habib and district unit BNP secretary Habibur Rahman Total condemned the incident and demanded exemplary punishment of the attackers.

Shanu's cadres burn 2000 copies of Jessore daily

From Staff Correspondent

KHULNA, Sept 5: The miscreants today snatched 2,000 copies of a local daily from hawkers and burnt them in Molipota crossing chanting slogans in favour of Golam Mowla Shanu, the principal accused in Rob Murder Case.

A top terror of the country's south-western zone, Shanu's name appeared in different local and national dailies as one of the most wanted criminals of KMP.

The Jessore based newspaper the Dainik Loksamaj recently published three stories about the rise of Shanu in the criminal world who was an armed cadre of Juba Command of Islami Chhatra Shibir. He was also one of the chargesheeted accused of Liron Murder Case.

Shanu is involved in as many as 20 murders committed in Khulna city in the last 15 years.

Boral murder

From page 1

Bagerhat Sadar thana with Happy Boral, his wife, as the complainant. Most of the alleged killers and masterminds including Chittalmari thana Juba League President, Alamgir Hossain are yet to be nabbed.

The division in the ruling party following Friday's incident has further slowed down the investigation, said a leader of Bagerhat Bar.

Arrest of leader protested

Transport workers put up road barricade

By Staff Correspondent

Mohammadullah's arrest spread in the area. Supporters of Mohammadullah put up the barricade at around 8 am, halting movement of vehicles from the terminal.

Tejgaon police rushed to the spot and convinced the agitating workers to withdraw the barricade at about 3 pm.

Earlier on Thursday, the DB arrested Sadikur Rahman Hiru, president of workers committee on charge of extortion.

Contractors clash over work order in Rajshahi

RAJSHAHI, Sept 5: Some contractors, reportedly enjoying blessing of the Mayor, clashed with sharp weapons and bamboos at the City Corporation office over issuance of work order of a tender, leaving at least 10 people injured.

They also manhandled some officials and chased them out of the office.

The Tk 20 lakh tender was for supply of some stationary goods. Work order was to be issued today.

The clash ensued when the group which could not submit tender bids demanded re-tendering, submitted a move opposed by those who submitted tender bids earlier.

Two of the injured were admitted to a private clinic and the rest were given first aid.

Police rushed there and brought the situation under control.

Mufti Hannan's brother taken to Gopalganj for interrogation

BAGERHAT, Sept 5: A CID team has taken Anisur Rahman, an accused in the Kotilipara bomb planting case, to Gopalganj for further investigation, reports UNB.

Anis, brother of main accused Mufti Moulana Hannan and owner of the soap factory where bomb making materials were found, was arrested from Durganarayanpur in Rampal upazila on Monday night.

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Opposition's grand rally in Khulna Sept 8

From Staff Correspondent

KHULNA, Sept 5: The grand rally of BNP-led Opposition Alliance will be held at the Circuit House Maidan here on September 8.

Heads of four political parties are expected to address the grand rally from where Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Khaleda Zia will announce fresh programmes.

Khulna city and district units of APAC have taken elaborate programmes to make the grand rally a success.

City BNP president M Nurul Islam was made convenor of the Grand Rally Implementation Committee.

Dengue: 10 more hospitalised in city

By Staff Correspondent

Ten more people with dengue fever were admitted to hospitals and private clinics in the city yesterday.

The Central Control Room at the Health Directorate yesterday said Dhaka Medical College Hospital reported admitting three patients, Mitford Hospital two, Bangladesh Medical College and Dhaka Shishu Hospital one each, Red Crescent Holy Family Hospital two and Ibm Sina clinic reported admitting one.

Meanwhile, Chittagong Medical College Hospital yesterday reported admitting eight people with dengue fever while Khulna, Khagrachhari and Bagerhat Sadar hospitals one each.

Fifty-people have so far died of dengue haemorrhagic fever and shock syndrome across the country.

HSC scam

From page 1

Professor of Economics Department of Hajee Muhammad Mohsin College and now the chairman of Chittagong Education Board, Ahmad Hossain, was formed in December 1998 on the basis of specific allegations against Ashik and Ruhul.

Our Staff Correspondent adds: The Chittagong Board may also go for legal action against the two students, a high official of the Board told The Daily Star yesterday.

Ashikul Kabir Mahmud and Ruhul Haq are now studying in Australia, sources said.

Clause VIII of the Public Examination Act, 1980 prescribes two years' rigorous imprisonment or fine or both for changing answer script or replacing answer script with earlier written answer.

Regarding the Board's decision to cancel the examination centre, some of the guardians, when contacted over telephone, said an institution should not be punished for corruption by an individual.

Akhteruzzaman

From page 1

meeting of the BNP lawmakers during the last session as he strongly advocated for the party's return to the House.

As part of his latest move, Akhtar wrote a 14-page letter to Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Khaleda Zia, requesting her to put an end to the party's long boycott of the House proceedings.

In his letter submitted on September 1, the BNP MP again appealed to the party to go back to parliament. The letter bitterly criticised the opposition leader for rushing to the Ershad's residence no sooner had the latter was convicted by the High Court in the Janata Tower case.

The letter caused widespread repercussions in the BNP rank and file with some lawmakers suggesting that the party chief expel their defiant colleague. Moreover, the day before Parliament goes into session, the National Standing Committee — BNP's highest policy-making body — met to discuss Akhtaruzzaman's move, among other issues.

Akhtar had also written a similar letter to Khaleda Zia earlier and was rebuked by party leaders.

But the outspoken MP is not ready yet to give up his fight against the 'wrongdoing by his party. "I must continue the fight and take the trouble to achieve something good... It is my success that the standing committee has met after so many days."

"I can foresee my fate with BNP. Maybe I will be kicked out of the party. But I'm not at all worried because I've opted to step on the path knowing fully well the consequences."

Akhtaruzzaman was last night suspended indefinitely for acting against the interest of the party as well as its constitution.