

JCD cadre shot, 2 Jubo Dal activists stabbed in Barisal

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

A JCD cadre was shot, two Jubo Dal activists were stabbed and a JCD leader was beaten up by their rival faction members in Barisal city in a span of 10 hours.

Jahirul Islam Shamim, 26, was injured when the members of Salam gang opened fire at him near Amanatganj police camp shortly after midnight last night.

Shamim is a driver and a member of the notorious JCD cadre Saidul Islam Polu gang.

He claimed that Mannan and his accomplices of Salam gang tried to kill him in a sequel to previous enmity.

He was rushed to Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital and later sent to Dhaka for better treatment.

In another incident, Jubo Dal cadres Mamun, 20, and Shah Alam, 22, were stabbed by Rafiq, a bodyguard of Jubodal leader Mehedi, and his accomplices on the medical college campus in the early hours of Tuesday.

They were now undergoing treatment at the hospital. The condition of Mamun was said to be critical.

JCD leader Shamim was injured when his rival gang beat him over distribution of money collected from gambling at the Ananda Mela ground.

Independence Book Fair begins in Ctg March 21

BSS, Chittagong

An 11-day long "Independence Book Fair-2004" under the auspices of Department of Public Libraries (DPL) will begin in the port city on March 21.

This will be the first such book fair in the port city.

The DPL has taken the decision to hold the book fair in Chittagong at a meeting at Dhaka recently with an objective to spread the reading habit across the country as well as to promote the publications of creative books.

DPL sources said one of the core objectives to hold such a book fair on the occasion of

Independence Day is to uphold the spirit and ideals of independence as well as create awareness among the people about its significance through seminars, cultural functions and discussions side by side with book fair.

The Independence Book Fair-2004 will be held at Muslim Institute Hall premises here to be participated by leading publishers of Dhaka and Chittagong.

A 36-member fair management committee was formed headed by DPL director Mohammad Anisuddin Miah as president, while Deputy Commissioner, Chittagong Mohammad Shafiqul Islam has been made Vice-President.



The Department of Population-Environment, Independent University, Bangladesh, organised a two-day workshop on 'Population Health and Development' that concluded yesterday. The government, the planning commission and the UNFPA sponsored the workshop held on the university campus in the city.



PHOTO: STAR

Krishak League, peasant front of the Awami League, forms a human chain in the city yesterday in observance of its 'Save Farmers - Save Country Day'.

BCL, Azad Manch submit memo to DU VC Arrest real culprits involved in attack on Azad

DU CORRESPONDENT

Humayun Azad Mancha and Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) submitted memoranda to the vice-chancellor of Dhaka University yesterday demanding immediate arrest of the real culprits responsible for the butcher's knife attack on prominent writer Humayun Azad and steps to send the writer abroad for treatment.

Azad Mancha, a platform for the agitating DU students, placed a 13-point demand and the BCL, student wing of the opposition Awami League, placed a 12-point demand.

The common demands include resignation of the home minister, investigation into police atrocities on the agitating students, punishment to the JCD men for the attack on students, release of all students and leaders and medical expenses for the injured students.

The BCL also threatened to go for an indefinite strike if the demands go unheeded.

Earlier, Azad Mancha and the BCL took out separate processions on the campus.

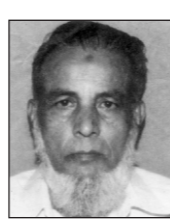
The BCL also held a rally where its President Liaqat Sikder, General Secretary Nazrul Islam Babu, Saifuzzaman Shekhar, Ashraf Azim, Rafiqul Islam, Delwar Hossain and Hemayet Uddin Khan Himu spoke.

Samajtantrik Chhatra Front (SCF), a left-leaning student wing, also demanded immediate release of all its leaders and Progotishil Chhatra Jote leaders who were arrested during demonstrations on the campus.

Police have tortured the arrested leaders severely in their custody, the SCF leaders said at a press conference.

They demanded that the writer be sent abroad for treatment and the real culprits be brought to book immediately.

Obituary



ANM Shahidullah, a senior advocate of the Supreme Court, died at Holy Family Hospital on Tuesday at the age of 74, says a press release.

He is survived by his wife, two sons, two daughters and grandchildren.

His qulq-hwani will be held at his residence at 19/16 Tajmahal Road, Block # C, after Asr prayers tomorrow.

Relatives, friends and well-wishers have been requested to attend the qul.

They also called for resignation of the home minister.

The SCF will stage countrywide demonstrations from March 11 to 24 to press home their demands.

It will also hold solidarity rally on March 15 and stage sit-in at the DCs' office across the country on March 24.

A JCD activist, meanwhile, began a hunger strike at the foot of Aparajeyo Bangla demanding immediate resumption of classes.

The activist, Abu Toyeb Habilder, is a second year student of Persian and Urdu department.

The students of fourth year at a rally yesterday hailed the decision of DU Teachers' Association to exempt the examinations from its ongoing strike.

They also called on the teachers to return to classes.

They urged the university authorities to send the injured writer abroad for treatment.

1355 more held

UNB, Dhaka

Police arrested 1,355 people from different parts of the country in the last 24 hours ending at 6.00 am yesterday.

During the countrywide drive, they also recovered five firearms and 108 bullets and filed four cases against five people under the Arms Act, says a police headquarters press release.

Death anniversary of Principal Abul Kashem today

UNB, Dhaka



Today is the 13th death anniversary of language movement veteran Principal Abul Kashem.

Different socio-cultural organisations have taken up various programmes to mark the day.

The programmes include milad mahfils at his graveyard today and at his residence tomorrow, and discussion meetings at the Public Library auditorium on March 13 and at Shaheed Minar on March 15.

President Iajuddin Ahmed and Prime Minister Khaleda Zia gave separate messages, recalling his contributions to the language movement.

Masud Ahmed Rumi

BSS, Dhaka



Today is the first death anniversary of Masud Ahmed Rumi, a freedom fighter and sports reporter.

Rumi was a senior sports reporter at Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha (BSS).

Members of Bangladesh Sports Journalists' Association (BSJA) will offer foteha at his graveyard. A milad mahfil will also be held at the stadium mosque after Asr prayers.

The association will hold a memorial meeting at its office on March 14. State Minister for Youth and Sports Fazlur Rahman will attend the meeting as chief guest.

DHAKA TODAY

UK education Fair

A three-day Education@UK Fair 2004, organised by the British Council, will be inaugurated. Delegates from 16 UK universities and colleges are taking part in the fair. Venue: Sheraton Hotel. Time: 11.00am.

Film show

Academy Film Society will screen an Indian film titled 'Paap' (2004) and two American films titled 'Diary of a Serial Killer' (1997) and 'The Annabel Chong Story' (1999). Venue: Society auditorium, 21/C Jigatola. Time: 3.30pm, 6.30pm and 8.30pm.

Protest rally

Writers, artists and cultural activists will hold a rally to protest attack on prominent writer Humayun Azad. Venue: Central Shaheed Minar. Time: 3.00pm.

Roundtable

A roundtable on 'Solid Waste Management and Handling Rules of Bangladesh', sponsored jointly by the government, UNDP, CIDA and BELA, will be held. Venue: Meeting room of IDB Bhaban, Argagaon. Time: 9.30am.

WTO seminar

The Saarc Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry jointly organise a daylong WTO seminar on 'Interests of LDCs and special and differential treatment for developing countries'. Venue: Sonargaon Hotel. Time: 10.45am.

Silver jubilee of Agami

A daylong seminar celebrating the silver jubilee of the Agami, a weekly child rights magazine show by Plan Bangladesh on Bangladesh Television, will be held. Venue: Brac Centre Inn, Mohakhali. Time: 9.00am.

Lecture

The Democracywatch organises a lecture on 'Types of leadership and its practice' with Prof. Dr M Ataur Rahman of Dhaka University as the key speaker. Venue: Democracywatch office. Time: 3.00pm.

Brac University seminar

The Brac University will hold two

seminars on 'Interfacing arrangement and software development for acquisition and analysis of respiratory data' and 'Prospects of bioclimatic urban development in Dhaka city'. Venue: Brac University. Time: 4.00pm and 5.00pm.

Discussion

Awami League organises a discussion to mark the historic 7th March. Venue: Engineers' Institute. Time: 3.00pm.

Seminar on building security

The Secorex (Pvt) Ltd. organises a seminar on 'Modern concept of apartment and multi-storied building security' with display of various kinds of security equipment. Venue: Bulu Ocean Tower, 40 Kemal Ataturk Avenue, Banani. Time: 11.00am.

Training course

The concluding session of a training programme on 'Effective communication' will be held, with State Minister for Education ANM Ehsanul Haq Milon as chief guest. Venue: North South University. Time: 6.30pm.

Discussion

Bangabandhu Sangskritik Jote organises a discussion to mark the birth anniversary of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. It will be followed by a cultural function. Venue: Bishwa Sahitya Kendra auditorium. Time: 4.00pm.

Public meeting

Bikalpa Dhara will hold a public meeting with former president AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury as chief guest. Venue: Muktangan. Time: 3.00pm.

Youth rally

Bangladesh Jubo Union will hold a youth rally to protest alarming rise in crimes and widespread corruption. Venue: Central Shaheed Minar. Time: 3.00pm.

Meeting

A joint meeting of the outgoing executive committee and the newly elected executive committee of Bangladesh Civil Service (Taxation) Association will be held. Venue: Association office, Segunbagicha. Time: 2.15pm.



PHOTO: STAR

Students of the dramatics and music department of Dhaka University took out a procession on the campus yesterday on the occasion of the first death anniversary of singer Nilufer Yasmin.

WEATHER TODAY

Rain or thundershowers likely

UNB, Dhaka

Rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporarily gusty wind is likely to occur at a few places over Rajshahi, Dhaka and Sylhet divisions and one or two places over Khulna, Chittagong and Barisal divisions till 6pm today.

Day temperature may rise by one to three degree celsius over the country during the period, Met Office said.

Highest temperature 29.5 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Chuadanga and the lowest 18.3 degree Celsius at Dhaka, Comilla and Rangamati.

The sun sets in the capital at 6.06 pm today and rises at 6:10 am tomorrow.

Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	26.3	18.3	94	57
Chittagong	22.5	21.0	72	62
Rajshahi	28.5	20.0	75	76
Khulna	27.3	20.0	79	63
Barisal	26.3	19.2	93	69
Sylhet	23.0	21.2	9	90
Cox's Bazar	--	23.0	78	--