

Fish Cultivation In Kaptai Lake Rangamati Dist Council seeks permission

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rangamati District Council yesterday urged the government to allow them, instead of Bangladesh Fisheries Development Corporation, to cultivate fish in the Kaptai Lake.

Council Chairman Manik Lal Dewan sought the permission

during a meeting of three hill district council chairmen with Deputy Minister for CHT Affairs Moni Swapan Dewan in Dhaka.

The deputy minister asked Manik Lal to apply for the permission and said he will take up the issue with the fisheries ministry.

The meeting also decided that the three hill district councils will provide 10 percent of the revenue collected from tax and other sources to the CHT Regional Council.

The meeting discussed ways to increase revenue.

The council chairmen said unclassified forests in the CHT region are under the district councils but the councils do not collect the revenue from the sale of timber.

Representative of CHT Regional Council Rupayan Dewan, Bandarban District Council Chairman May May Ching and Khagrachhari District Council Chairman Naktra Lal Devbarman were present at the meeting.

Tongi poura chairman gets bail

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Tongi Pourasava chairman Advocate Azmatullah Khan, an accused in the case filed under the Speedy Trial Act, was granted bail after his surrender.

Judge Abdul Hye of the Dhaka District and Sessions Judge's Court granted the bail upon a bond of Tk one lakh with two guarantors.

Azmatullah Khan, Gazipur district Awami League General Secretary along with his lawyers appeared before the court yesterday and submitted a petition for bail.

Moving the petition, the lawyers told the court that the petitioner surrendered before the High Court (HC) for anticipatory bail on May 22. After hearing, the HC directed the petitioner to surrender before the Sessions Judge's Court within three weeks, they said. As per direction of the HC, the petitioner appeared before the court and sought bail.

In the case filed with Railway Police Station, it was alleged that Azmatullah Khan and 11 others equipped with firearms attacked and ransacked the BNP offices of Tongi thana adjacent to Tongi Railway station at about 5 pm on May 7. The accused also looted valuables worth about Tk 65 thousand from those offices.

Abul Hossain, president of Hawkers Dal, Noagon, Tongi filed the case accusing Azmatullah and 11 others on May 11.

The investigation officer pressed charges against Azmatullah and 11 others on May 15.

Death threat to Prof. Arefin

BCL demands arrest of culprits

DU CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL), student wing of the opposition Awami League, yesterday demanded immediate arrest of and punishment to those who issued death threats to Prof. AAMS Arefin Siddique, president of Dhaka University Teachers' Association.

At a rally on the campus, the BCL leaders threatened to launch a tougher agitation if the culprits are not brought to book immediately.

They blamed the religious fundamentalists for the death threats and called on the people to resist them.

It is not only a threat to Prof. Siddique but also a threat to freedom of expression, BCL President Liaqat Sikder said.

The fundamentalist forces have been strengthening their position day by day with the patronisation of the BNP-Jamaat alliance government, he added.

DU unit President Delwar Hossain presided.



Leader of the Opposition in Parliament and Awami League President Sheikh Hasina speaks at a meeting with Rickshaw Van Owners' and Workers' Action Council at the party's Bangabandhu Avenue office yesterday.

Top criminal Joy behind BJP leader Didar killing

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Investigators said yesterday three hitmen deployed by a listed top criminal in the capital -- Joy -- killed Bangladesh Jatiya Party (BJP) Vice Chairman Golam Parvez Didar mainly for his refusal to pay toll out of the profit he would make from construction works for which he obtained a contract from the Roads and Highways (R&H) Department.

"Primary investigation suggests rivalry among crime syndicates operating in R&H Department and Didar's refusal to give them a huge amount in toll are the main reasons behind his killing," said Deputy Commissioner of Dhaka Metropolitan Police Mazharul Hoque.

"The motive of the killing is clear to us and we are now trying to identify the masterminds behind it," he added.

Another top police official said they have already identified the three hitmen who sprayed bullets on Didar, also a first class contractor, when he was moving out of his apartment house at Mohammadpur in a microbus on Tuesday.

He however declined to disclose the names of the hitmen for the sake of 'proper investigation'.

Sources in the R&H Department also said Joy, one of the 23 listed top criminals in Dhaka, hired the three hitmen for killing Didar. All three are involved in criminal activities in Mohammadpur area.

Joy once lived at Bashiruddin Road in Dhanmondi and was known to Didar. He went into hiding after the our-party alliance came to power.

Police were still interrogating three employees of the BJP leader's construction firm, his driver Harun and Sohrab, Akhter Hossain and Abdul Haq, who were in the microbus during the attack.

Didar's wife Dalia Nargis, who filed a case with Mohammadpur Police Station on Tuesday night, mentioned in the first information report three unidentified criminals shot her husband dead.

Police were yet to track down any of the killers.

Call for unity of pro-liberation forces

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Leaders of different political parties yesterday called for unity of pro-liberation forces to fight against the growing fundamentalism.

The communal forces are indulging in anti-state activities to a greater extent with the patronisation of the ruling party, they said at a condolence meeting in memory of slain Awami League lawmaker Ahsanullah Master.

The Muktijoddha Oikya Parishad organised the meeting at the National Press Club.

Awami League Presidium member Tofael Ahmed, CPB leader Mujahidul Islam Selim, Workers Party leader Rashed Khan Menon, JSD leader Hasanul Haque Inu, Mahbab Uddin Ahmed, Awami League leader KM Shafulullah and Shawkat Ali MP spoke.

Penn State team meets AAA members

A nine-member team of students of Penn State University met members of the American Alumni Association (AAA) at its office at Banani in the city on May 29, says a press release.

The main objective of their visit to Bangladesh is to develop contacts with organisations and people who are working in similar areas of interest.

American Institute of Bangladesh (AIBS) President Dr Syedur Rahman was also present. The students are working here on different projects such as promoting student travel between the two countries, video conferencing for Bangladesh, strategies for raising community awareness and possibilities of wireless meteorological observation stations.

AAA Secretary Ayesha Dastgir briefed about AAA activities. Dr Syedur and AAA President Syed Almas Kabir discussed possible collaboration between the two organisations. The Penn State University students also briefed about the projects they were working on in Bangladesh.

AAA is an association of graduates of American colleges and universities in Bangladesh. For more information on AAA, please contact 9881669 or e-mail at triplea@bol-online.com.

Tk 3 lakh mugged, 2 robbers held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Muggers snatched Tk 3 lakh shooting a construction farm officer in Baridhara and a mob caught two robbers in the act of robbery in Moghbazar yesterday.

Hashmat Ali, 40, accounts officer of Mojibur & SH Joint Venture at Road No. 1 at Baridhara DOHS, is now undergoing treatment at Dhaka Medical College Hospital with critical wound in the back.

Two youths in a motorcycle followed Ali's microbus to his office after he drew the money from the Standard Chartered Bank in Banani.

"As he got down from the microbus in front of the office, one of the muggers shot him in his back and took away the sum," said owner of the farm Shahin Talukder.

In Moghbazar, five robbers went to Orient Chem-Tex Ltd. office in Tajuddin Ahmed Road at 1:45pm and attacked its officials Abul Kalam Azad and Golam Rabbani at the stairs without any notice.

As other officials raised an alarm, locals caught two of the robbers and beat them up until Ramna police rescued them.

Officials said the robbers fol-

lowed sales executive Rabbani to the office after he drew Tk 2 lakh from a bank.

Cuetta begins boycott of class

CU CORRESPONDENT

Chittagong University of Engineering and Technology Teachers' Association (Cuetta) began indefinite class boycott programme yesterday demanding immediate withdrawal of a show cause notice on its seven members and appointment of vice chancellor.

No class, quiz and viva-voce were held. The semester final examinations were exempted from the programme.

Cuetta at an emergency meeting at EME building yesterday decided to observe a token hunger strike on the campus on June 6 to press home their demand.

Meanwhile, the seven teachers yesterday replied to the show cause notices of the university authorities through their lawyers.



A delegation of Penn State University students meet the members of the American Alumni Association (AAA) and American Institute of Bangladesh (AIBS) recently.

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