

SNAPS

Jubo Dal leader held with arms

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Police on Saturday arrested Jubo Dal leader Md Noman with a pistol and some sharp weapons from Swarga Chhoya Club at Nazirer Pool in the city.

Police said, the club known as a den of criminals, was used as a 'torture cell'. They said Noman was wanted in cases filed for extortion, drug peddling and toll collection. He was sent to jail after primary interrogation.

School boy killed by bus

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

A school student was killed and another seriously injured when their bicycle was knocked down by a bus at Rupatali on Barisal-Jhalakati road while they were going to school on Saturday. Al-Amin, 12, died on the spot. His classmate Ujjal was taken to Barisal Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital in a critical condition. They were students of class V11 at Rupatali Jagua High School. Angry people ransacked the bus and blocked the highway for some hours. Police later cleared the road. Police seized the bus but the driver escaped.

Two held with arms

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

Police on Saturday arrested two alleged criminals with arms after a gunfight in Bitipara in Sadar upazila and Bheramara bus stand. They are Mazhar Rahman, 40, of Charhalisa in Mirpur upazila and Sahin, an alleged outlaw.

BTMC mill earns profit at last

No trade union in Kurigram Textile Mills, power supply improves

RAFIQUE SARKER Back From Kurigram

Rangpur: The Kurigram Textile Mills of BTMC, reopened under new terms and conditions, has started earning profit for the first time since its inception in 1986.

There is no trade union in the mill and loadshedding, which was one of the reasons for losses earlier, has been reduced, mill authorities said.

It was reopened in April 2003 following ten months' closure from June 2002 with a total loss of about Tk 50 crore.

Failing to privatise the mill due to pressure from different quarters including workers and non-availability of suitable buyer, BTMC (Bangladesh Textile Mills Corporation) reopened the mill under a new concept.

It produces yarn for textile businessmen in exchange of 'service charge' under contract.

Now, Rita Traders of Narayanganj supplies raw materials and purchases the yarn at the rate of Tk 5,300 per bale. The mill earns a gross amount of Tk 40,000 to 50,000 per day.

About 350 workers and 50 employees of the mill are working day and night under new conditions that BTMC will neither pay their salary or give any subsidy. They are earning on the basis of 'no work no pay'.

Talking to this correspondent during a recent visit, its Deputy General Ansar Uddin said the mill has started earning profit and expressed optimism that it would run profitably if the present working condition prevails and smooth power supply ensured.

"Workers' sincerity made the mill profit-earning", he said.

The mill earned a small profit of around Tk two lakh in the last couple of months, other sources at the mill said.

"The profit may be very small but it shows a good trend", he said. But electricity disruption is still the main hindrance.

"Even in January, February, and March (this year), loadshedding kept many of the machines inoperative for eighteen hours a day", he said.

The DGM said he has written to different quarters in the government to take initiative to ensure smooth power supply.

The mill needs two megawatt electricity but gets about half of it.

So many of the machines often remain idle and the production target of 12 bales per day can not be achieved.

The spinning mill was set up in poverty-stricken Nazira in Kurigram Sadar upazila at a cost of Tk 22 crore to provide jobs to 500 people.

In the wake of continuous loss, BTMC decided to lay off the mill and kept it closed with a plan to privatisise it.

"In such a situation, workers urged BTMC not to privatise the mill and agreed to comply with any condition to keep it running under government management," said former workers union secretary Noor Zamal Naya.

Naya Miah said the workers abolished trade union and are more active and punctual now than before.

They took all arrears dues and are now working on 'no work no pay basis' under BTMC management, he said.

Contract is made with parties through tender. A large number of textile businessmen responded when the mill authorities offered to produce yarn in exchange of 'service



Works on machines at Kurigram Textile Mills. The photo was taken on Friday.

charge' only.

Rita Traders of Narayanganj was selected as it offered the highest rate, the former trade union leader said.

Some of the workers this correspondent talked to said they are happy and many of them work

overtime to earn more.

But the production target can not be reached due to load shedding, which keeps many machines idle.

Twenty-seven out of 29 machines are workable now. They urged the BTMC to make the rest two operative.

BATB to give 15 lakh saplings in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The British American Tobacco Bangladesh (Batb) would distribute 15 lakh saplings among the farmers of greater Chittagong district this year.

This is as part of Batb's country-wide afforestation programme.

State Minister for Forest and Environment Jafrul Islam Chowdhury opened the sapling distribution programme at Lama upazila in Bandarban on Friday.

Farmers of Rangamati, Bandarban, Khagrachhari, Cox's Bazar and Chittagong may collect saplings from 12 distribution centres.

Batb officials told this correspondent farmers in greater Chittagong and elsewhere showed a keen interest in planting tobacco and also continuing their afforestation programme giving priority to fast growing saplings, especially herbal ones to attain quick financial gains.

Chaired by the head of leaf department of Batb, Izaz Ahmed Chowdhury, the function was addressed by Bandarban District Council chairman Ma Ma Ching, conservator of Forests Abdul Motalab, deputy commissioner (DC) of Bandarban Hafizur Rahman Bhuiyan, superintendent of police (SP) Iqbal Bahar and farmer Nasir Uddin.

Rajshahi traders for withdrawal of VAT

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Traders in Rajshahi on Friday observed an hour token strike demanding withdrawal of VAT from underdeveloped northwestern region and the power of arrest of assistant customs commissioners.

They staged a sit-in demonstration, formed a human chain and held a meeting in front of Rajshahi New Market to press for realisation of their demands.

The strike was called under the banner of Rajshahi Shop Owners' Association (Rsoa).

All the business houses remained closed during the strike period.

A meeting was held with Rsoa president Nurunnabi Lulu in the chair, while its general secretary Golam Sarwar Swapon and engineer Tajul Islam spoke, among others, in the meeting.

UTTARA PROJECT

Houses damaged as govt still undecided on allotment

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Nilphamari

The authorities are still in a dilemma regarding allotment of houses in the



Some of houses at Uttara Housing Project damaged by a recent tornado.

Uttara Housing Project in Syedpur, the largest such project in the country for the poor, completed seven months ago.

Meanwhile several houses, damaged by tornado in May, are yet to be repaired.

The entire area has been covered with bushes for lack of maintenance. Walls of several houses have developed cracks and some tubewells stolen, sources there said.

At night, the project area turns into a criminals' den. A few policemen deployed there can not look after it, they said.

When contacted, ADC (revenue) Alifuddin Ahmed told this correspondent that a team of engineers from Dhaka recently visited the project area to see the damage.

The housing project is now a deciding factor in Syedpur politics, local people and politicians said.

The ruling BNP, which own the last parliament election, lost in the recent municipal polls because government officials here said the houses would be allotted only to Biharis (non-Bengalee people). This reduced votes by Bangladeshis in the municipal polls, they said. Over two lakh Biharis live in Syedpur.

In the last one year, several clashed took place in Syedpur as both Bangladeshis and Biharis are demanding houses.

The ADC said the houses will be allotted as per the government

gazette of May 12, 1997, not according to the list prepared by the Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO).

The gazette says freedom fighters, victims of erosion and land acquisition, distressed woman and landless people are eligible to apply for allotment.

The project comprising 100 barracks each having 10 houses, a market, a mosque, a community centre and all other facilities,

was built at a cost of Tk 4 crore under army supervision. After completion, the army handed over the project to the district administration.

NGO executive killed by outlaws

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

An official of ASA, an NGO, was abducted and strangled by outlaws on Friday night.

The victim is Asim Kumar, 30, of Khalisakundi village in Daulatpur upazila. He was Deputy General Manager of Alamdanga upazila branch of ASA.

Police arrested Ismail, 41, of the same village for his alleged involvement in the murder.

NGOs emerge as 'viable third sector'

Roundtables on NGO Governance in Sylhet, Bogra told

STAR NATIONAL DESK

NGOs have emerged as a visible 'third sector' with their microfinance becoming the largest in the world.

Their contribution to economic development and poverty alleviation could not be over emphasised, speakers said at two roundtables held in Sylhet and Bogra on July 6 and 8, says a press release.

The roundtables on NGO Governance Principles were jointly organised by the Bangladesh Enterprise Institute (BEI) and the Federation of NGOs in Bangladesh (FNB). Josephine Oguta of BEI was the main speaker.

Over 50 NGOs each from greater Sylhet and greater Bogra districts took part in the programmes.

With the second generation of entrepreneurs entering this sector, the need now was to ensure conti-

nity and sustainability of these organisations. She said NGO governance principles were based on four cornerstones of governance. These are stewardship, accountability, transparency and internal management.

It is desirable that the NGO Governing Board should be totally separated from the Management which should be accountable to the Board.

While implementing a programme, care must be taken to ensure best use of money and other resources. The participants emphasised that beyond financial and managerial accountability care should be taken to ensure best use of money and other resources. The participants emphasised that beyond financial and managerial accountability care should be taken to develop viable internal governance.

Statement in JS against Naser "false", says Kulaura BNP president

Police deployed at Kulaura as tension mounts following Saturday's clashes

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

A tense situation is prevailing at Kulaura upazila headquarter following Saturday's clash between supporters of independent lawmaker MM Shaheen and BNP MP Naser Rahman, son of Finance Minister Saifur Rahman.

Police have been deployed. The Officer-in-Charge of Kulaura thana said the situation is under control.

Shaheen and nine others were injured in the clash that took place as both the groups called protest meetings at the Choumuhana square at the same time, centring his (Shaheen) statement in parliament on Thursday.

Shaheen was elected from Moulvibazar-2 in the 1996 parliamentary polls on a BNP ticket. He was president of Kulaura upazila BNP and vice-president of Moulvibazar district BNP.

He was expelled from BNP because he contested the last parliamentary election as an independent candidate, defying a party decision. The Four Party Alliance had nominated a Jamaat-e-Islami leader there.

On Thursday, Shaheen rose on a point of order and told parliament that he was "under threat of BNP lawmaker from Moulvibazar-3 (Sadar)". He however did not name Naser Rahman, elected from Moulvibazar-3.

In parliament, Shaheen also quoted Naser Rahman as saying in a public meeting that policy of Saifur Rahman, not of Kaleda Zia or Tarek Rahman, would be implemented in greater Sylhet.

His statement angered Naser's supporters, who attacked his Kulaura office Friday night.

Shaheen's supporters called a public meeting at Choumuhana on Saturday to

protest the attack. Clashes broke out as Naser's supporters also called a meeting at the same venue at the same time to protest Shaheen's statement.

Shaheen told this correspondent yesterday that he was attacked by supporter of Naser and that he was feeling insecure.

Prof Md Abdul Hannan, President of Kulaura BNP, told this correspondent that his party workers were attacked by Shaheen's supporters. He also said Shaheen made a "false statement" in parliament against district BNP President Naser Rahman.

After the last parliamentary polls, Shaheen tried to return to BNP but was refused, sources said. He met Saifur Rahman at Moulvibazar circuit house last week also. But, district BNP President Naser Rahman in a press statement said there is no scope for Shaheen to return to BNP.

Barisal-Ctg waterway link snapped

Lone BIWTC sea truck out of order

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Barisal-Chittagong waterway communication via Laxmipur is disrupted as the lone BIWTC sea truck plying the route is out of order since Saturday, causing immense sufferings to intending travelers.

Only BIWTC sea trucks are allowed to ply the risky route through turbulent waters during the March-October period of flood and storm. Small launches are banned during the period.

BIWTC sea truck Khizir-8 left Barisal Friday morning for Laxmipur via Ilisha in Bhola with

over 300 passengers.

At about 11 AM, just after leaving the Ilisha ghat, one of its two engines went out of order. It reached Laxmipur about two hours behind schedule.

It left Laxmipur with about 500 passengers and crossed the Meghna estuary, the most risky portion of the route, with one engine. It reached Barisal several hours behind schedule.

BIWTC officials here declared its service postponed. The ships' propeller shaft is broken.

They could not say when the ship will be repaired and put into service.

Tk 800 cr Rakub agri loans this fiscal

BSS, Rajshahi

Rajshahi Krishi Unnayan Bank (Rakub) will disburse Tk 800 cr agricultural loans in the current fiscal, its chairman Ruhul Kabir Rizvi told a press conference at Bogra circuit house on Thursday.

Rakub Managing Director Dr Matiuur Rahman Khan, Director Lutfor Rahman, Rajshahi Divisional Commissioner Mushleh Uddin, additional director of the Department of Agriculture Extension Lal Mahmud, Rakub deputy managing director FRM Hafiz-ul-Islam and general manager Masud Alam Khan were also present at the press conference.



Flooded Shibganj area of Sylhet city, snapped on Saturday.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Bangladesh Telegraph & Telephone Board
Office of Project Director/General Manager
10 Lakh T&T-Mobile Telephone (1st Phase-2.5 lakh) Project
Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212

No. N1/BTTB-Mobile/2003/6

Dated: 30-06-2004

Re-Tender Notice

Sealed tenders are invited from Bangladesh Telegraph & Telephone Board's civil works 'A' Class enlisted contractors for the undermentioned work of this project.

Sl No	Name & location of work	Earnest money	Price of tender (non-refundable)	Time limit for completion of work
1.	2-storey GSM (with 4-storey foundation) building with related construction works at Habiganj, Sylhet	Tk 80,000.00	Tk 1,000.00	150 days
2.	Offices where tender schedule to be had at	a) BTTB, Office of General Manager/Project Director, 10 Lakh Mobile Telephone Project (1 st Phase 2.5 lakh), Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212. b) Divisional Engineer, Microwave Maintenance Division-2, Karail, Banani, Dhaka. c) Accounts Officer (Income & Expenditure), BTTB, Dhaka. d) Divisional Engineer, Telecom, Sylhet.		
3.	Requisite papers	Schedule purchase receipt (price), trade licence, enlistment fee receipt, Income Tax certificate, VAT registration certificate, electrical works trade licence/associate letter, bank solvency certificate etc. should be up-to-date renewed & attested.		
4.	Starting & last date of selling tender	05-07-2004 to 02-08-2004.		
5.	Date, time & place of submitting tender in tender box	04-08-2004 morning 09-00 hrs to 12-00 hrs a) Dhaka Divisional Commissioner's Office, Segunbagicha, Dhaka. b) Bangladesh Telegraph & Telephone Board, General Manager/Project Director's Office, 10 Lakh Mobile Telephone Project (1 st Phase 2.5 lakh), Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212. c) Accounts Officer (Income & Expenditure), BTTB, Dhaka. d) Divisional Engineer, Telecom, Sylhet.		
6.	Date & time of opening tender (contractor/representative may attend the opening of tender)	04-08-2004 at 12-30 hours.		
7.	Earnest money (in favour of Bangladesh Telegraph & Telephone Board, General Managers/Project Director's Office, 10 Lakh Mobile Telephone Project (1 st Phase-2.5 lakh), Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212)	Through Pay-Order or Demand Draft.		
8.	The authority reserves the right to accept or reject all or any tender without assigning any reason.			

Md. Obaidullah
Project Director/General Manager
10 Lakh T&T Mobile Telephone
(1st Phase-2.5 lakh) Project
Bangladesh Telegraph &
Telephone Board
Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212
Phone: 9885600

DFP-16842-4/7
G-410

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Executive Engineer
Local Government Engineering Directorate
LGED Bhaban, Nalazani, Gazipur

Memo No. LGED/EE/(Gazi)/Contract-01/2003/1471

Dated: 27-06-2004

2004-2005 Financial Year Contractor's Licence Renewal Notice

All contractors/contractors' firms enlisted with Local Government Engineering Directorate, Gazipur district are hereby requested to apply in own pad to the Executive Engineer, LGED, Dist-Gazipur for renewal of contractor's licence for 2004-2005 financial year as per the undermentioned terms & conditions. It may be noted that tender cannot be participated in 2004-2005 financial year without renewal of licence.

- General Renewal Fee: 'Special' & 'A' class Tk 2000/= (two thousand) only, 'B' class Tk 1000/= (one thousand) only & 'C' class Tk 500/= (five hundred) only.
- A) Renewal can be done from 01-07-2004 to 31-08-2004 by paying class basis general renewal fee.
B) Renewal can be done from 01-09-2004 to 30-09-2004 by paying renewal fee with 50% (fifty per cent) fine.
C) Renewal can be done from 01-10-2004 to 31-12-2004 by paying renewal fee with 100% (hundred per cent).
- Attested true copy of firm's original licence, 2004-2005 renewed trade licence, TIN certificate & VAT reg. certificate (with 10-digit identification number) must be submitted with the tender.
- Renewal fee should be deposited through treasury challan under Code No. [3731700101854] at Bangladesh Bank or Bangladesh Bank approved Sonali Bank, Court Building Branch, Gazipur and the original copy of challan submitted with the application and prior to depositing the renewal fee through challan it should be got verified by this office.
- Failing to renew enlistment by 31-12-2004, enlistment of the firm shall be treated as cancelled.

Executive Engineer
Local Government Engineering
Directorate
Gazipur

DFP-16859-4/7
G-411