

SNAPS

Bid to distort history protested

RU CORRESPONDENT

The Rajshahi University (RU) unit of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) on Friday brought out a procession and held a rally on the campus protesting the government bid to distort the history of Liberation War of Bangladesh in the official publication of the 15 volume documents.

Minor girl rescued from traffickers

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gaibandha

An eight-year-old child was rescued from traffickers at Gobindaganj bus stand on Friday. The rescued girl is Shampa, daughter of Tara Mia of Hasanarpara village in Sadullapur upazila.

2 commit suicide in Feni

A CORRESPONDENT, Feni

Two persons committed suicide in two separate incidents in Dagon-bhuiyan thana in two days. In the first incident, Bela, 28, committed suicide by taking poison at Alipur village on Friday.

High security alert, lax in duty

Violence despite presence of 11 magistrates, BDR, police and Ansar for a UP by-poll in Barisal

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

One platoon of BDR, 11 magistrates, 162 policemen and 108 Ansars headed by two ASPs were deployed during by-election to the post of a Union Parishad chairman.

But the huge number of law enforcers and officials could not ensure foolproof security during the election in Jalla union in Uzirpur upazila under Barisal district, held on Sunday.

Local people and many voters claimed stray incidents of violence and intimidation marked the by-polls but election officials said it was peaceful, free and fair.

Uzirpur UNO and election coordinator Md. Azam Khan and Returning Officer Md. Jasim Uddin said the election was free, fair and peaceful barring some stray incidents.

Nine of the 11 magistrates were stationed at the nine pooling centres and two were on mobile duty as all

the nine pooling centres were earlier declared vulnerable.

Asked by newsmen after the polls, ASPs (Additional Police Superintendents) Sirajul Islam and Farhad Hossain declined to make any comment.

Political circles there said the by-election in Jalla union was a prestige fight for opposition Awami League and ruling BNP.

Awami League men held the post of the UP chairman for the last 15 years. About eighty-five percent of voters in the union are of Hindu community.

This time also, Urmila Baroi, wife of slain UP chairman Aboni Baroi, won the by-polls, defeating her BNP rival with a big margin. She got 6338 votes against 3203 of BNP-backed Jalal Malik.

The post fell vacant following the murder of Aboni Baroi on May 23.

Two rival groups of outlaws, known as sarbaharas, were active in the area for days before the polls and

the polling day, sources said. The Zia group supports Awami League and the Kamrul group supports the ruling party.

Local people alleged that the rival outlaws displayed arms, exploded bombs and intimidated voters during days before the polls.

The Kamrul group threatened voters not to go to the pooling centres.

On the election day, armed outlaws belonging to Kamrul group created "check posts" at different points to prevent voters from going to polling centres, many voters alleged.

They attacked and chased voters in front of police at about 11-30 am at South Bahargate center in Ward No.9.

Sarbahara cadres Humaun Sikder, Mujibur Rahman, Hanif Howladar, Anis Begari of Kamrul group blasted crackers outside the centre.

At about 12-15 pm, outlaws

supporting the ruling party abducted Urmila Baroi's election agents Alomoti Baroi and Dharendra Chandra Baroi and three voters -- Shyamol Halder, Nikhil and Swapon Baroi-- from Shahid Swarnika center in Ward No.4.

Alomoti Baroi and Shyamol Halder were later rescued from a road side and sent to Goila hospital. Condition of Shyamol was critical. Alomoti and Shyamol later told police that they were abducted and tortured by Kamrul group cadres Humaun Kabir, Mahbub and Hiru.

The Sarbahara cadres also threatened local journalist Nazrul Biswas not to go close to the centre, he alleged.

They also attacked, ransacked and looted the houses of Bidya Rani Biswas and Kajal Rani in Jallar Par in Ward No.7 as they were supporters of Urmila Baroi.

A wonder fertiliser from waste

Vermicompost is said to be environmentally friendly, lessen pest attack, increase taste of vegetables, fruits

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

Farmers and scientists call it a wonder fertiliser.

'Vermicompost', an organic fertiliser produced from household waste, straw and shrubs with the help of earthworm, is not only environment friendly but also a deterrent to pest attack on croplands.

It also increases taste of vegetables, users claim.

It is becoming popular among farmers because anybody can produce it in the backyard. At least 100 families in Khaserhat area in Sadar upazila are now commercially producing the fertiliser and earning their livelihood. They sell it at Tk five per kilogram.

The production method is very simple. A heap of household waste, straw and shrubs mixed with cow dung is left in a damp and dark place for about seven days to rot. Some earthworms are then let loose on it. The earthworms eat the rotten wastes and release those.

The heap is then dried in sun. The compost is ready for sale.

Vermicompost is more effective for all crops than chemical fertiliser and has no side effect, said Anisur Rahman of the Centre for Mass Education in Science (CMES), an



A family in Khaserhat village producing 'vermicompost' for sale.

NGO which initiated the process in 2000 in Khaserhat.

So far, CMES has trained 25 youths who are now commercially producing the fertiliser.

"We are getting better result by using this compost", nursery owner Nur Banu of Khaserhat told this correspondent during a recent visit to the village.

Less irrigation is needed if this fertiliser is used because the soil can retain moisture, she claimed.

Dr Prof Wahid-uz-Zaman, Vice-chancellor of Patuakhali Science and Technology University (PSTU), who did some research on 'vermicompost' said this fertiliser has manifold benefits.

It has no side effect like organic fertilisers. Experiment showed that pest attack was lesser on croplands where this fertiliser was used. Vegetables and fruits produced by using vermicompost are more tasty and nutritious, he claimed.

Shaheen doing 'silent terrorism', Kulaura BNP leaders allege

Allegations false, lawmaker says

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

Kulaura BNP leaders at a press conference on Sunday alleged that independent lawmaker MM Shaheen is doing "silent terrorism in Kulaura upazila" and maligning Finance Minister Saifur Rahman and his son Naser Rahman MP.

Uzila BNP President Prof Md Abdul Hannan read out a written statement at the press conference, held at a hotel in Moulvibazar town. He also replied to questions from newsmen.

Hannan alleged that Shaheen is "maintaining a group of terrorists and using BNP politics to justify his unlawful activities".

"MP Shaheen is looting government allocated rice and wheat for his relatives and supporters", the BNP leader alleged.

There are allegations that he often threatens officials with transfer if they decline to obey his unlawful order, he alleged.

Answering a question, Kulaura BNP leaders said Shaheen has formed a so-called committee of Kulaura BNP with some "expelled BNP men and his followers".

He uses the name of BNP but criticises the "undisputed leader of Sylhet division Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman" and his son Naser Rahman, president of Moulvibazar district BNP, they alleged.

He is publishing fabricated stories about them in "The Thikana", a newspaper published by him in New York (USA), they alleged.

Shaheen was expelled from BNP in 2001 and there is no scope for him to return to the party, they

said.

Kulaura BNP General Secretary Joynal Abedin Bachhu, its Poursava unit president MAS Majid, party leaders Advocate Mujibur Rahman Mujib, Moulvi Abdul Wali Siddique and MA Mukit were also present at the press conference.

When contacted by this correspondent over phone last night, Shaheen said all the allegations are false. "People of Kulaura know everything very well".

He said, "Shaheed president Ziaur Rahman is the ideology of BNP and Prime Minister Khaleda Zia is the leader now."

"There are so many national leaders and Finance Minister Saifur Rahman is one of them and respected by all", Shaheen added.

Humanitarian gesture of a police officer

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

A noble gesture of a police officer has saved the life of a hardened criminal here.

The criminal, Jummon, 30, sustained critical injuries due to alleged torture following his arrest by the Rapid Action Battalion (Rab). Police shifted him to Kushtia General Hospital for treatment on Saturday night. There he was fighting for life due to shortage of blood. His blood group was rare. Even it did not match the blood of his relatives.

Finally, the blood of on-duty police inspector Apurbo Hassan matched his group. He at once came forward to donate blood to the criminal and saved his life.

On Friday, Rab nabbed Jummon and two other criminals Minarul and Anwar of Charakuthipara in the town with firearms.

A unique event in remote village

A UP 'budget session' draws enthusiastic crowd

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

It was a unique day for villagers in Joynagar union, a remote area in Kharua upazila in the district.

Over 2000 enthusiastic people had a day-long 'Union Parishad budget session', held on Badrunnesa Girls High School premises on Saturday.

The aim was to ensure accountability of the local government body and transparency in its activities.

Joynagar Union Parishad organised the session with the help of

Manusher Jonno, a local NGO.

Joynagar UP Chairman Tapan Kumar Saha presented the budget for his UP for fiscal 2004-5 and also presided over the session. Retired principal of Satkhira Government College Asit Kumar Majumdar was the chief guest.

NGO representatives Farzana Nayeem, Shila Tasmin and Nikesh Kumar; Noakhali-based Gandhi Ashram Trust Project Co-ordinator Begum Souda, Romjan Nagar Union Parishad Chairman Alamgir Haidar, Advocate Dilip Kumar Dev and

Principal Abu Bakar Siddique were present as special guests.

Abdus Sabur, director, of a local NGO, Agragati Sangstha, narrated the aim of the budget session, conducted by Asit Kumar Banerjee.

Tapan Kumar replied to questions from villagers on the budget.

People from all sections-- rich and poor-- spontaneously attended the meeting and asked various questions on how the money would be spent. They also gave suggestions.

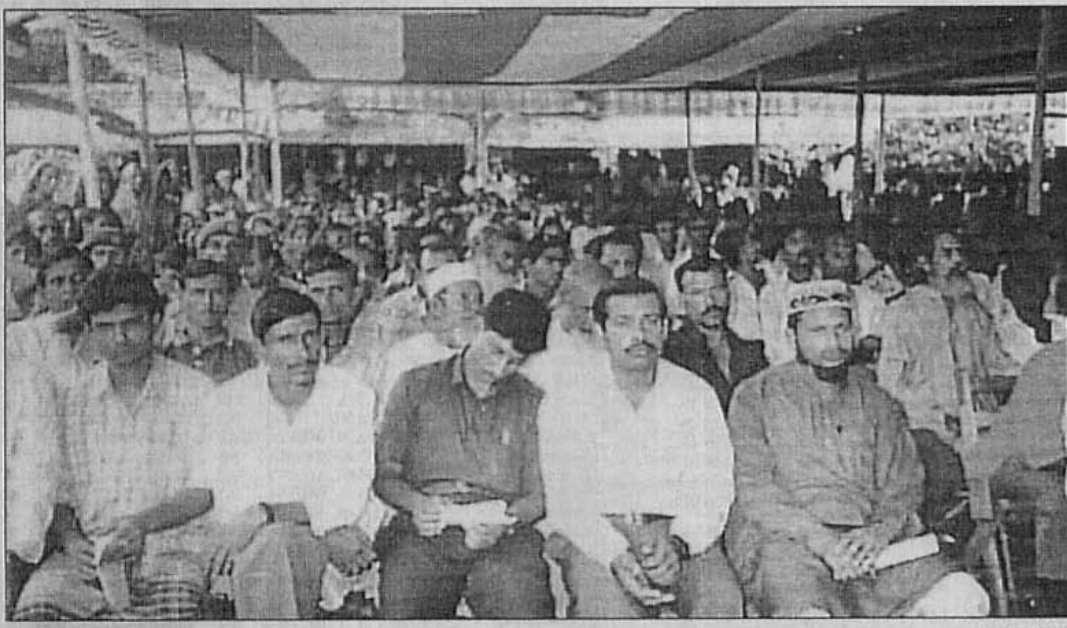
Proshika chief's release demanded

A CORRESPONDENT, Sherpur

Fifty lawyers, six NGO chiefs and leaders of different organisations on Sunday demanded separate release of Proshika and Association for Development Agencies in Bangladesh (ADAB) president Quazi Faruque Ahmed.

They demanded withdrawal of false case against him and condemned police harassment to Proshika and ADAB employees.

Signatories to the statement are district Bar Association president advocate Narayan Chandra, secretary advocate Md Muklasur Rahman and lawyers AKM Farhad, Rafiqul Islam, Abdul Wadud, Mukaddash Fardavshi, Haridas Karmakar, APP Sudhangshu Khatun, Hasnara Begum, Emam Hossain Thandu, Prodip Dey, Abdur Rahim, Rukshana Begum, general secretary of district Awami League advocate Chandan Kumar Pal, Dalia Samad, Bakshiganj development area co-ordinator of Proshika Md Mizanur Rahman, Shepur Press Club secretary Manirul Islam, executive director of RDS Md Gulam Mustafa, executive director of KAP Md Nur Ahmed, executive director of Poor Society Development Organisation Md Eman Ali, executive director of SS Md Shuab Hossain, executive director of Seba Parishad Jaynal Abdin, Sherpur Correspondent of Sangbad Haikm Babul, advocate Aktaruzzaman and advocate Abul Kashem.



A partial view of the 'budget session' held at Joynagar.

Minu for more power to local govts

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Rajshahi Mayor and BNP lawmaker Mizanur Rahman Minu on Friday urged the government to give more power to local government leaders.

He said this while addressing the divisional council meeting of the National Union Parishad Forum (Nupf) here as chief guest. He told local government leaders' empowerment is a prerequisite to strengthen local government institutions.

Speakers at the meeting placed their 12-point demand. The demands include stoppage of issuing notices which hinders Union Parishad's autonomy, returning UP resources, preventing lawmakers from meddling in UP activities,

Tributes paid to Ayesha Abed

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Manikganj

Speakers at a discussion meeting on Sunday paid rich tributes to Ayesha Abed for her contribution towards establishment of women's empowerment in Bangladesh.

The discussion was organised by Ayesha Abed Foundation at its auditorium here to mark the 23rd anniversary of death of the great women's rights activist.

The speakers remembered her with gratitude for employing thousands of women in her established foundation through which they are maintaining their families.

Ayesha Abed Foundation coordinator Rafiqul Islam, senior central manager Hemangshu Badan Chakrabarti, programme organiser Sabina Yasmin, Sramajibi Shakti unit president Sufia Begum addressed the function.

Workshop on woman, child trafficking

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

A workshop on woman and child trafficking was held at Shyamnagar Upazila Officers' Club on Friday.

The workshop was jointly organised by Coastal Development Network (CDN) and Action against Trafficking and Sexual Harassment of Children. Government officials, teachers, local government representatives, journalists and members of civil society took part.

Shyamnagar upazila mirabhi officer (UNO) Solaiman Mondal was present as chief guest, while Shyamnagar thana officer-in-charge (OO) Sheikh Kamruzzaman was special guest.

CDN member secretary Abdus Sabur gave the address of welcome. Among others, Sushanta Sarkar, Nakiapur union chairman Jagul Haidar, Romjan Nagar union chairman Alamgir Haidar and CDN member Anisur Rahman addressed the workshop.

খুলনা শিপইয়ার্ড লিমিটেড
বাংলাদেশ নৌ বাহিনী, খুলনা
নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি
১। বাংলাদেশ নৌ বাহিনী কর্তৃক পরিচালিত খুলনা শিপইয়ার্ডে নিম্নবর্ণিত পদসমূহে স্থায়ী ভিত্তিতে নিয়োগের জন্য উপযুক্ত প্রার্থীদের নিকট হইতে দরখাস্ত আহবান করা যাইতেছেঃ