

# A unique children's campaign for schooling

Drama and procession in Brahmanbaria encourage poor parents to send their wards to school

SHEIKH SHAHIDUL ISLAM, B'baria

A unique campaign by children is encouraging poor children to go to school and creating awareness among poor parents for education.

With a slogan --Anandamoi Shikkha (learning with delight)--, the Brahmanbaria Shishu Nattyam, brings out processions with colourful fastoons and stages dramas in different areas of the district, spreading the message --send your children to school, change their life'.

The colourful programmes launched three weeks back draw large crowds and their message is well received by poor parents.

After each programme, members of Shishu Nattyam approach illiterate children in the audience to go to school and also talk to their parents.

"The programmes motivate them well", one of its officials said.

The colourful processions and dramas encourage illiterate children and their parents for education.

It was a unique scene on Monday when the Shishu Nattyam staged its third drama at Debogram Primary School playground in Akhaura upazila.

After the drama, a good number of poor parents raised hands when asked, vowing to send their children to school. A large number of children present there said they would go to school.

Akhaura Upazila Nirbahi Officer Mabzah Uddin Ahmed was the chief guest at the programme. Upazila Education Officer Haripada Acharjo was the special guest.



A drama stage by members of the Shishu Nattyam at Debogram Primary School ground on Monday drew a large crowd including poor parents.

The speakers included Debogram Primary School Headmaster Md. Atiul Islam, journalists Dula Ghosh and Bishajid Pal, teachers Tajbir Ahmad, Jibin Ahmed, Siddika Khatun, Manuara Akter, Tania Akter and Shahin Sultana and Shishu Nattyam Secretary Md. Niaz

Muhammad Khan Bito.

As the curtain fell after the drama, Shishu Nattyam members melted into the audience and urged poor parents to send their children to school.

Later talking to this correspondent, Niaz Muhammad Khan said each of their programme drew a

large crowd and created an awareness for education.

The Shishu Nattyam was launched in 1986 by Niaz Muhammad Khan Bito. It has now about 2000 members who are given lessons on art, song, dance and computer, besides formal education.

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## Satkhira DC, SP join anti-drug rally

'It is a man-made problem and can be eliminated'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

It was a different day for the people of Satkhira town. The Deputy Commissioner (DC) and the Superintendent of Police joined the people in raising voices against drug use and drug peddling.

They expressed solidarity with the townspeople when over 1000 from different ranks, including officials, public representatives, teachers, political activists, lawyers, religious leaders, students, youths, professionals and businessmen at a meeting here on Monday vowed to eliminate drug use and drug peddling.

DC Md Elias was the chief guest and SP Abdur Rahim PPM was the

special guest at the meeting, organised by Satkhira Pourasava Anti Drug Committee, marking the second founding anniversary of Palashpole Social Development and Flashpole Anti-Drug Committee.

It was held on Satkhira Judge Court Premises with Satkhira Pourasava Anti-Committee President Emmanuel Islam in the chair.

The speakers were in one voice against drug. They included Sadar thana officer-in-charge (OC) Abdul Kader Beg, municipal commissioners Shafiq Uddowla Sagar and Shahidul Islam, Palashpole Anti-Drug Committee President Maulana Aminul Islam, Master Abu Bakar Siddique, Zakir Hossain and Omar

Farooq.

"We must work out an effective plan immediately against drug use and drug peddling to protect our present and future generations," the DC said imploring people of all walks of life to create awareness against the social vice.

"It is a social problem and people's spontaneous participation in a movement will surely free the society from drug use", he said.

It is a man-made problem which is obstructing social development, the DC said.

SP Abdur Rahim urged all to extend all out co-operation to law enforcers in eliminating drug use and peddling. The SP also stressed the need for cooperation and joint

efforts by other government agencies and non-government organisations (NGOs).

"Stern action will be taken if any member of law enforcing agency is found helping or sheltering drug peddlers," the SP declared from the crowd.

Responding to complaints about a section of policemen sheltering drug peddlers, the SP urged the people to identify and nab them.

Other speakers said drug use, particularly among affluent youths, increased in the town as these are sold almost openly at certain places.

Vowing to work against drug use and peddling, they urged the authorities to take up a comprehensive action plan to stop the vice.

## Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Executive Engineer, Directorate of Public Health Engineering

Bogra Division, Bogra

Dated: 03-01-2005/20-09-1411BS

### Tender Notice (2004-2005)

Tenders in sealed cover are invited from A-1<sup>st</sup> class/D class contractor/contractor's firm enlisted/renewed with the Directorate of Public Health Engineering for 2004-2005 or any other person/firm who have qualifications mentioned in Serial No. 1 of tender terms and conditions and all such persons/firms who have not been declared ineligible under any law of the country for execution of the undermentioned works in different areas of Bogra district under the Countrywide Rural Water Supply (GOB-5<sup>th</sup> phase) Project of the Directorate of Public Health Engineering during the 2004-2005 fiscal year.

Tenders can be purchased in cash (non-refundable) from the offices of the Research and Development Division-Dhaka under this Directorate, Deputy Commissioner (Local Government Section)-Bogra, Executive Engineer-Rangpur under this Directorate and the undersigned up to 14-02-2005 during office hours. Tenders will be received in the tender box kept at the offices of the Deputy Commissioner (Local Government Section)-Bogra, Executive Engineer-Rangpur under this Directorate and the undersigned up to 12.00 Noon of 16-02-2005 and all the tenders received in sealed condition taken together shall be opened on the same day i.e. 16-02-2005 at 3.00PM at this office in presence (if any) of the attending tenderers. A pre-tender meeting will be held on 07-02-2005 at 11:00AM at the office of the undersigned. Interested tenderers/their representatives can remain present at the said meeting. Office of the undersigned can be contacted for obtaining details including terms and conditions.

#### Tender Schedule

Group No. & name	Description of works included in package				Earnest money	Tender price	Time limit for completion of work
	A	B	C	D			
Package-1 Bogra Sadar	30 Nos.	08 Nos.	05 Nos.	05 Nos.	15,000/-	500/-	60 days
Package-2 Shibganj	22 Nos.	08 Nos.	05 Nos.	—	11,000/-	500/-	60 days
Package-3 Adamdhobi	04 Nos.	14 Nos.	—	—	8,000/-	500/-	45 days
Package-4 Duplicanchia	10 Nos.	04 Nos.	05 Nos.	05 Nos.	8,500/-	500/-	60 days
Package-5 Khalu	18 Nos.	—	—	—	4,500/-	500/-	30 days
Package-6 Sonatala	15 Nos.	—	—	—	3,700/-	500/-	30 days
Package-7 Sariakandi	24 Nos.	—	05 Nos.	—	7,000/-	500/-	45 days
Package-8 Gabtoli	19 Nos.	08 Nos.	—	—	8,500/-	500/-	45 days
Package-9 Nandigram	14 Nos.	—	—	—	3,500/-	500/-	30 days
Package-10 Dhunat	14 Nos.	12 Nos.	05 Nos.	05 Nos.	13,500/-	500/-	60 days
Package-11 Sherpur	06 Nos.	16 Nos.	05 Nos.	05 Nos.	13,500/-	500/-	60 days
Package-12 Shahjahanpur	15 Nos.	04 Nos.	05 Nos.	05 Nos.	10,000/-	500/-	60 days
Total	191 Nos.	74 Nos.	35 Nos.	25 Nos.			

Md Abdul Hossain Akand

Executive Engineer  
Directorate of Public Health Engineering  
Bogra Division, Bogra

## SNAPS

### 34 jailed for attacking neighbours

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Nilphamari

Thirty-four people were jailed for three years in a case for looting four houses in an attempt to occupy a homestead and a small piece of adjoining land in Bandar-Khanbari village in Dimla upazila last year. Judge of the Nilphamari Speedy Trial, Habibur Rahman, delivered the verdict recently. Court sources said Harnur-ur-Rashid and his men had attacked the house of Rafiqul Islam of the village to take possession of the house and the land. Rafiqul Islam lodged a case accusing 55 people. Forty-six people were charged in the case. Twenty-one witnesses were examined during the trial.

The Sohrab Hossain Smriti Sangsad has chalked out various programmes including discussion meeting, destitute feeding and Milad Mahfil to mark the day.

Sohrab Hossain was president of Awami League in greater Jessor. He was elected MNA (Member of National Assembly) twice in 1966 and 1970 in erstwhile Pakistan.

In 1973, he was unanimously elected MP (Member of Parliament) and was made minister for relief and rehabilitation. Subsequently, he was made minister Fisheries and Livestock and for public works.

Sohrab Hossain was born in 1921 at Bhaina village in Magura. He died on January 26, 1998.

### One murdered for dowry in Jhalakathi

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

One person was slaughtered in South Tarabunia village in Rajapur upazila in Jhalakati district on the Eid day in a dispute over land. Police and witnesses said, a group of miscreants with sharp and lethal weapons chased Abdul barek, 44. He took shelter in a near by house. The chasers caught and slaughtered him and left the village. Police recovered the body and sent it to Jhalakati hospital for autopsy on Sunday morning. A case was yet to be filed till Tuesday evening, police said.

### Sec 144 at Galachipa

OC among 10 hurt in BNP rivals' clash

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

Section 144 was imposed at Gopachipa upazila headquarters yesterday after 10 people including the officer-in-charge (OC) of Galachipa thana were injured in a clash between rival groups of ruling BNP.

OC Shilamoni Chakua was injured when he led a police team that swung into action to quell the violence. He was treated at a clinic.

The injured were admitted to Galachipa Upazila Health Complex in serious condition. They are Farhad and Sabuj, sons of Municipal Chairman Abu Taleb Mia and Yusuff, son of Upazila BNP President Shahjahan Khan.

Shahjahan Khan had earlier filed a case against the two sons of the municipal chairman.

Yesterday, the BNP faction led by the municipal chairman brought out a procession in the upazila headquarter protesting the "false case".

The clash ensued when the rival group swooped on the procession with sticks and sharp weapons as it reached the Sadar Road.

Police charged batons and dispersed the clashing groups.

### Barisal telephones out of order again

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

All telephone connections starting with number '5' in Barisal digital exchange are not working since Monday due to a technical glitch.

A few of those were restored somehow yesterday but are not functioning properly, subscribers said.

This is hampering work at different offices, banks and other institutions, they said.

Divisional Executive Engineer Jagadish Chandra Mandal, when contacted, said they are trying to properly restore the telephones.

Telephones are not functioning properly since the December 25 technical problem in the exchange when several thousand lines became non-operational following collapse of the hard disk drive (HDD) in the central processing unit (CPU). The exchange installed by ITALTEL Company of Italy.

Milon's announcement evoked reaction from political leaders of both ruling and opposition parties, including Awami League central Public Secretary and lawmaker Asaduzzaman Noor.

On June 6, Nilphamari BNP Secretary Anisul Arefin Chowdhury at

## 2 Barisal colleges hostage to JCD activists!

Extortion from students of BM College, Hatem Ali College alleged: Several hostel supers resign

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Students and most of the teachers of Barisal Government BM College and Sayed Hatem Ali College are hostage to activists of ruling BNP's student front fatiyatabadi Chhata Dal (JCD) and musclemen backed by them.

The hostel superintendent is helpless in the situation as he can do nothing.

Students who came from villages or outside the city became easy targets.

Students residing at different private boarding houses at Baddaypara, Hospital Road, Natun Bazaar, Kauna and Shadur Bata Tala and other areas in the city also have to pay toll to the activists, allegedly protected by BNP high-ups.

The students and teachers in charge of hostels lodged verbal complaints to local police, but to no effect, they alleged.

When contacted, B M College Principal Prof Nurul Haque declined to any comment about the matter. He said he did not get any such complaint.

Some teachers of the two colleges seeking anonymity said the illegal practice is continuing on the campuses due to partisan role of a section of pro-BNP teachers.

Recently, some honest and reputed teachers of BM College resign their posts of hostel superintendents due to alleged misbehaviour of JCD leaders. But the college authorities did not take any action against the wrongdoers, it was gathered.

The JCD cadres compelled the hostel superintendents to allot seats as per their lists and allow them to use some rooms.

## Nilphamari politics hots up again

State Minister Milon may sue 2 journos for 'false news' published 8 months ago

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Nilphamari

Nilphamari politics is warming up again, centring use of a slogan during a public address by a ruling party leader about eight months back.

The matter is now a talk of the town after State Minister for Education ANM Ehsanul Haq Milon on January 18 said at a gathering of high school teachers that he will sue two local journalists for alleged "misreporting" on the leader's public address, made on June 6 last year.