

# Outlaw killed in 'crossfire'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Magura*

A top cadre of the outlawed Gono Mukti Fouz (GMF) was killed in 'crossfire' between police and members of the extremist outfit in Sailkupa upazila in Jhenidah yesterday.

Tipul Biswas, 30, died on the spot during the 'shootout', bringing 21 the number of deaths in such incidents in Jhenidah since November last year.

Acting on a tip off, police raided Padamdi-Sreerampur village at around 3:00am where several GMF cadres were holding a secret meeting.

Surrounded by police, the GMF cadres opened fire on the law-enforcers. Police said they fired back and Tipul fell in the line of fire. Others escaped after the gunfight that lasted about half an hour, they added.

Assistant Sub-Inspector Nasir and constables Firoz and Sattar were wounded, claimed police, who seized two pipe-guns and six bullets from the spot.

Tipul, son of Manowar Hossain of Padamdi-Sreerampur village, was accused of eight criminal charges including four murders and two abductions, police said.

# 'AL, RAW plotted to kill Kibria, foil summit'

DU CORRESPONDENT

The ruling Bangladesh Nationalist Party's student wing yesterday accused Awami League (AL) and India of killing former finance minister SAMS Kibria.

From a rally held under the banner of 'Stop Propaganda against Bangladesh', Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) leaders said AL chief Sheikh Hasina and India's external intelligence agency Research and Analysis Wing (RAW) killed Kibria as part of a plot to foil the 13th Saarc Summit with an intent to tarnish the country's image.

The rally held at Aparajeyo Bangla on Dhaka University campus followed a procession brought out from the Madhu's Canteen.

Addressing the rally, the JCD leaders accused Hasina of running a propaganda campaign against Bangladesh both at home and abroad. JCD President Azizul Bari Helal said due to a close relationship with India, she had convinced the Indian prime minister not to join the Saarc Summit.

JCD General Secretary Shafiul Bari Babu said Hasina has long been involved in conspiring against

the country. Now she is trying to cause anarchy in the country at the expense even of her own party men.

She (Hasina) portrays Bangladesh as a country of anarchy and instability so that she could win sympathy of the world leaders, Babu said adding that if the US Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) carry out a thorough and impartial search in Sudha Sadan, the AL president's Dhanmondi residence, everything would come out clear.

AL's student wing Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) yesterday brought out a pro-hartal procession on the campus at about 6:30am in the morning. They held a rally after police had stopped the procession at the entrance to Arts Building.

Blaming the BNP-Jamaat-led coalition for 'slaying AL leaders and activists' across the country, BCL President Liaqat Sikder demanded immediate resignation of the government.

BCL DU unit President Delwar Hossain presided over the rally addressed among others by General Secretary Hemayet Uddin Khan Himu.

Meanwhile a JCD source said they would beat up BCL leaders and activists if they try to bring out proces-

sion on the campus. A number of students residing in different DU dormitories yesterday alleged that hall units JCD leaders had forced them to join the JCD procession.

## CU admission test begins on Feb 8

CU CORRESPONDENT

The Chittagong University (CU) authorities have deferred the schedule of admission test of the first year honours courses for 2004-2005 academic session due to the three-day countrywide hartal.

According to the fresh timetable, the test will begin on February 8 instead of February 5.

The tests for BBA faculty under Ga Unit (students with science and arts background in HSC) and Law faculty under Uma Unit will be held on the first day at 10:30am and 2:30pm respectively.

The test for Ga Unit (students from commerce group in HSC) will be held at 10:30am on February 9, Gha Unit (Social Science) at 10:30am on February 10, Kha Unit (Arts Faculty) at 10:30am on February 12, Ka Unit (Physical Science) at 10:30am and Cha Unit (Forestry and Environmental Science) at 2:30pm on February 14, Ka Unit (Biological Science) at 10:30am and Chha Unit (Institute of Marine Science) at 2:30pm on February 15.

Admission test for Kha Unit (Fine Arts and Arabic) will be held at 10:30am on February 16.

Applicants have been asked to collect their seat-plan from the concerned dean office.

# Major initiative to protect Hakaluki Haor underway

BSS, *Dhaka*

Gradual drying up of vast wetlands with infrastructural expansions in marshy lands exposes deltaic Bangladesh to immense economic and ecological losses posing a threat to sources of livelihood as well as culture, experts said in the city on Wednesday.

Speaking at a seminar to mark the 'World Wetlands Day' they also discussed the state pollution, declining trend of water level, loss of fisheries in the drying up process. They also highlighted the importance of wetlands in terms of economy and ecology in low lying countries like Bangladesh.

"We have undertaken a series of initiatives to protect the wetlands with Tanguar Haor being a major success story," State Minister for

Environment and Forest Jafrul Islam Chowdhury told the seminar.

Jafrul said major initiative was underway to protect and enrich the Asia's largest Hakaluki Haor with GEF fund to safeguard the marshy lands in the coastlines.

Forum of Environmental Journalists, Bangladesh (FEJB), Department of Environment, Environment and Forest Ministry and Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies (BCAS) jointly organised the seminar.

Environment and Forest Secretary Dr Shoeb Ahmed was the special guest at the function chaired by director general of DOE KM Ibrahim Hossain and moderated by FEJB chairman Quamrul Islam Chowdhury.

Dr Atiq Rahman of Bangladesh Center for Advanced Studies

(BCAS), NH Chowdhury, Dr Mahfuzul Haque, Mohammad Reazuddin Ahmed and Moklesur Rahman also spoke.

## Death anniversary

The 12th death anniversary of poet Al-Mamoon Sanaul Huq, a former ambassador and secretary, will be observed today, says a press release.

A discussion and milad mahfil will be held on the premises of Chaura AM Sanaul Huq High School in Brahmanbaria after Zohr prayers.

Golam Rabbani



Today is the fifth death anniversary of Golam Rabbani, a senior advocate of the High Court and Supreme Court, says a press release.

He was also a vice-president of Dhaka Bar Association.

A doa and milad mahfil will be held after Maghrib prayers at his home at Bakshibazar in the city.

# RU Pro-VC assaulted by new recruits

RU CORRESPONDENT

A total of 546 employees, who were appointed controversially by the Rajshahi University (RU) authorities last year, have called a strike on February 7 demanding confirmation of their jobs.

They will also stage a demonstration and a two-hour-long sit-in on the campus on the day.

The employees have also threatened to enforce an indefinite strike if their jobs were not confirmed by the date and they would cut off electricity and water lines of university officials.

The programmes were announced after they staged demonstrations and put administrative building under lock and key for one hour on Wednesday.

They also assaulted RU Pro-vice-chancellor and Chairman of the

appointment committee Prof KAM Shahadat Hossain Mondol when he rushed to the scene after hearing a chaos.

The employees held a rally presided over by Rafiqul Islam Sadar, convener of the Newly Recruited Employees' Interest Preservation Committee.

"RU authorities have always used us against general students who were on movement for security," said Joint Convenor Akkas Ahmed.

The employees also staged one-hour sit-in in front of the administrative building.

The pro-VC said their demands are under consideration.

The High Court stayed the recruitment following a suit by Abu Aslam, a lawyer, last year.

Monowara Islam



Today is the first death anniversary of Ln. Monowara Islam, wife of late Ln. Aminul Islam Miah, a retired AIG of Police and former chairman Bangladesh Lions Foundation, says a press release.

A doa mahfil will be held at 25/17 Khiljee Road, Mohammadpur after Asr prayers today.

DHAKA

T O D A Y

Painting exhibition

A solo exhibition of paintings by Javed Jali will be inaugurated. Venue: Shilpangan, House-25, Road-5, Dhanmondi. Time: 5.00pm. The exhibition will remain open till February 10 from 10.00am to 1.00pm, and from 5.00pm to 9.00pm daily.

Drama

Centre for Asian Theatre will stage a drama titled 'The Mission' authored by Heiner Muller. The play is translated by Saidus Saklaen and directed by Kamaluddin Nilu. Venue: Experimental Theatre Hall of Shilpakala Academy, Segun Bagicha. Time: 7.00pm.

Film show

Bishwasahitya Kendra will screen a film titled 'Antorjoli Jatra' directed by Goutam Ghosh. Venue: Bishwasahitya Kendra Auditorium, Bangla Motor. Time: 10.00am.

Muldhara film show

Muldhara, a forum of writers, journalists and artists, will screen two films titled 'Krishna' and 'Last Action Hero'. Venue: House-15, Road-7, Dhanmondi. Time: 3.30pm and 6.30pm.

Documentary show

Easel Production will screen a documentary titled 'Bishwa Torone

DHAKA

T O M O R R O W

Art exhibition

The inaugural ceremony of an art exhibition, organised by the Iranian Cultural Centre to mark the 26th anniversary of the Islamic Revolution in Iran, will be held. Venue: Poet Sufia Kamal Auditorium of National Museum. Time: 4.00pm.

Seminar

Prosperous Bangladesh Movement organises a seminar on the 'Role of the caretaker government in national election'. Venue: Institution of Engineers' Auditorium. Time: 10.00am.

Condolence meeting

Jalalabad Association Dhaka will hold a meeting to condole the death of Shah AMS Kibria, a former finance minister. Venue: Jalalabad Bhaban, Karwan Bazar. Time: 3.30pm.

Bangla' based on the life of the martyrs of historic Language Movement. Venue: National Gallery Plaza of Shilpakala Academy, Segun Bagicha. Time: 3.00pm.

WEATHER

T O D A Y

Dry weather likely

UNB, *Dhaka*

Weather is likely to remain mainly dry over the country with light to moderate fog during the early morning till 6.00pm today.

Mild cold wave over Rajshahi division and the regions of Tangail, Mymensingh, Srimangol, Jessore, Kushtia, Satkhira and Faridpur may continue during the period.

Night temperature may fall slightly over the country, said Met Office.

Highest temperature 27.3 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Teknaf and lowest 08.5 degree Celsius at Srimangol.

The sun sets in the capital at 5:47pm today and rises at 6:38am 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	22.4	11.6	70	58
Chittagong	26.4	15.0	55	52
Rajshahi	23.0	08.9	95	62
Khulna	24.0	11.8	76	65
Barisal	23.6	11.6	78	74
Sylhet	26.0	11.3	86	63
Cox's Bazar	25.0	17.0	59	57

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