

2 top officials suspended for postal scam in 5 dists

STAR NATIONAL DESK

Two high officials of postal department were suspended in Rangpur on charge of their alleged involvement in the defalcation of depositors' money.

In Gaibandha, police have been deployed at the post office.

Our Rangpur Correspondent reports: Deputy Post Master General (DPMG) Mahbubur Rahman, his predecessor Shusanto Kumar Mondol and Postal Superintendent MA Hasan at Rangpur Regional Post Office have been suspended on charge of involvement in postal fraud of about Tk 2 crore in five Northern districts.

DPMG Reazul Islam, who was in Dinajpur, replaced Mahbubur

Rahman and took over charge on Sunday.

Referring to a letter issued by the Post and Telecommunication Secretary Hasan Muhammad Monsur, Reazul Islam said Mahbubur Rahman and his

immediate past DPMG, now DPMG in Chittagong, Susanto Kumar Mondol, were suspended on Sunday. Postal Superintendent MA Hasan was suspended yesterday, he added.

Probe into the scam continues, he said.

A 5-member high-power team led by PMG Nashir Uddin Ahmed is probing the scam in Rangpur Post office.

A member of the probe team seeking anonymity told this corre-

spondent that it was the duty of DPMG to make an audit into public savings in Rangpur, Kurigram, Lalmonirhat, Nilphamari and Gaibandha main post offices after every six months.

Since Mahbubur Rahman, and his immediate past DPMG Shontosh Kumar did not inform higher authority about the defalcation, the probe body brought allegation against them, Reazul Islam said.

He said officials in postal savings banks in the five districts have been asked to tell depositors that their savings will remain intact and there is nothing to be worried.

Our Gaibandha Correspondent reports: Police have been deployed at the main

post office as depositors continued to crowd the post office.

Shamsuzzuha Sumon, son of absconding postal employee Golam Nabi, has been sent to jail. Nabi faces charge of defalcation of depositors' savings in Gaibandha Post Office.

Sumon was detained in Bogra post office when he had gone there to withdraw Tk six lakh. He was sent to Gaibandha. Police produced him before court, which sent him to jail.

Meanwhile, police could not arrest any of the six postal employees including Nabi, who are absconding since the scam came to light.

The two-member team that was probing the scam left Gaibandha earlier. The probe will resume soon, sources said.

Chargesheet in Balu murder by month-end

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

The chargesheet of Journalist Humayun Kabir Balu Murder Case is likely to be submitted in last week of the current month.

The case is being investigated by Md Abdul Hamid, Inspector of detective branch (DB) of Khulna Metropolitan Police (KMP).

Four outlaws, Iqbal Hossain Shaddin, Nazrul Islam Nazu, Zahidur Rahman and Ripon, arrested on suspicion were again taken on remand for two days for further questioning with effect from Saturday.

Earlier, the State Minister for Home expressed his displeasure for making no headway in the investigation of the murder case.

Former IGP Ashraf Huda was sent to Khulna by the state minister to aware about the progress of the investigation on April 2.

Dainik Jambhumi Editor Humayun Kabir Balu was killed in a bomb attack on June 27 here last year.



PHOTO: STAR

Jiotirindra Bodhipriya Larma, Moniswapon Dewan and Maniklal Dewan jointly inaugurating the Boishabi festival at Rangamati Stadium yesterday morning.

Hill dists in festive mood

Colourful Boishabi programmes begin in Rangamati

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangamati

The Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) CHT is in a festive mood welcoming the Bangla New Year.

All indigenous people belonging to different tribes say good bye to the past year and celebrate the New Year with new hopes through various colourful programmes.

The festival called Boishabi or Bizu is the prime festival in the CHT region.

The government earlier declared a three-day holiday in the region from Wednesday for the occasion.

Different tribes like Tripura, Marma, Chakma and Tanchangya celebrate the New Year through

separate programmes highlighting their distinctive cultural features.

Though the programme began on Friday, it got off to formal kick-off yesterday morning with a colorful procession brought out in Rangamati town.

It was led by CHT Regional Council Chairman Jiotirindra Bodhipriya Larma alias Santu Larma, Deputy Minister for CHT Affairs Moniswapon Dewan, Rangamati Hill District Council Chairman Dr Maniklal Dewan and Bangladesh Adibashi Forum Secretary Sanjeeb Drong.

Representatives of different ethnic groups joined the procession. The five-day programmes undertaken by the CHT unit of Adibashi

Forum includes Chakma folk songs, art competition, football tournament, recitation, drama and Rupkatha Asar (sessions of fairy tales).

It also includes various indigenous sports events including Boli Khela (Human Wrestling) Ghila Khara, Nadeng Khara, Potti Khara, Gudu Khara, Fur Khara, Bansh Khorom Dhaba, Badul Marana, Shel Bonduk Marana and Shor Bansh Marana. The events will be held at Rangamati stadium.

The most attractive event is the 'water festival' of Marma people, which will take place at Raikhali Marma village near Chandraghona on April 15.

Turning old is not withering away

A CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

The whole town was in a festive mood for two days. The two-day colourful programmes celebrating 150 years of Dinajpur Zila School ended here yesterday.

Dignitaries from Dhaka, who are former students of the school, joined the programmes this year, which was a boost to students and teachers of the school.

The festival began with a colourful procession by former and present students, teachers and employees of the school. It was led by former Chief Justice ATM Afzal, who was also the Chief Patron of the festival.

The procession with a band party in the front after parading the town streets gathered on the school campus where Justice Afzal formally inaugurated the festival by hoisting the National Flag and releasing balloons. He also unveiled the cover of a souvenir --Dinajpur Zila School's Shoronika-- published on the occasion.

Former Chief Justice ATM Afzal and other dignitaries, who are former students of Dinajpur Zila School, leading a colourful procession brought out in the town on Sunday marking 150 years of the school.

Speaking on the occasion, Justice Afzal advised the students to be equipped with knowledge and appropriate training to face the challenges of the 21st century and

150 yrs of Dinajpur Zila School

build a prosperous nation. There is no alternative of good education to face the challenge because the world is competitive.

Bengali is one of the rich languages in the world but that does not we will not learn English and other languages.

He emphasised learning English to face the challenge.

Former headmaster of the school Tajmirul Rahman, former students Tasiruddin Rumi and Shohel Ahmed Chowdhury, a retired secretary, were special guests.

The inaugural function was

presided over by Mizanur Rahman, Headmaster Dinajpur Zila School and President of the Celebration Committee. It was addressed by, among others, Abdul Quddus, Mizanur Rahman, Bimol Kumar Dev, Golam Nabi Dulal and Prof Samsur Rahman.

The programmes included a seminar on 'evaluation and development of education,' sports competition and a cultural function.

On the concluding day yesterday, Justice Afzal presented crests to some of the former teachers for their outstanding performance as teachers and medals to some former and present students for their brilliant academic performance.

He highly praised the school authorities for its good academic records and extra-academic performance.

The programme ended with a cultural presentation by students of the school and attractive fireworks.



PHOTO: STAR

Students clash with transport workers: 11 hurt

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Buses and auto tempos remained off the Barisal-Nabagram-Binoykati road following damage to locally produced trawler-tempos by the students of Binoykati College on Sunday.

The attack was in retaliation to an attack by illegal operators of trawler-tempos who protested introduction of new bus service along the route. Tempo workers ransacked the college and injured 11 teachers and students of the college.

According to related sources, locally assembled tempos with irrigation pump machines, locally called trawler-tempos illegally plied to Binoykati in Jhalakati district from Battala trawler-tempo stand of the city via Nabagram. They had no legal route permit and the vehicles created air pollution and plied with risk.

Under the initiative of teachers and students of Binoykati College, the bus service started on the route from March 20. This resulted in decrease in number of passengers of the trawler-tempos.

Agitated trawler-tempo operators assaulted Principal A T M Mizanur Rahman and Abdus Salam, a lecturer of the college on Saturday. Hearing the news, the college students damaged a trawler-tempo in the morning. Then the trawler-tempo workers counter attacked the students on the college campus at about 12-30pm on the day leaving 11 teachers, staff and students injured.

Local people and police controlled the situation.

The injured persons were rushed to Jhalakati Sadar Hospital. The condition of three students serious, doctors said.

Diarrhoea kills 2, attacks 250 in Jhenidah

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Magura

Diarrhoea killed two people and affected over 250 in the sadar and Shaikupa upazilas of Jhenidah district in last three days, official sources said.

The dead are Sumi, 4, of Shatbaria village in Jhenidah Sadar upazila and Saki, 5, of Abaipur village in Shaikupa upazila. Sumi died at Jhenidah Sadar Hospital on Friday and Saki at Shaikupa upazila health complex in the early hours of yesterday.

Diarrhoea patients are rushing to Jhenidah Sadar Hospital and Shaikupa upazila health complex from different villages, officials and

local people said.

A total of 230 patients came to Sadar hospital and 15 to Shaikupa health complex in last three days.

A doctor at the Sadar hospital seeking anonymity said the diarrhoea situation deteriorated abruptly in the last three days.

Jhenidah Civil Surgeon Golam Hossain, when contacted over phone, however claimed that the situation was under control. "Hot spell has spread the disease".

Child specialist Alok Kumar Saha at the Sadar hospital suggested people to avoid of taking stale food.

OC, five other cops closed

OUR CORRESPONDENT, B'baria

Six police personnel including the Officer-in-Charge (OC) of Akhaura Police Station Abdus Salam were closed on Sunday.

They include a sub-inspector (SI), a nayeek and three constables, according to police sources.

According to allegations, a team of patrol police headed by SI Liton Dewan of Akhaura PS escorted a truck of garments to border on March 30 night. Following this, a on-duty BDR team complained against them to the higher authorities.

According to the complaints, an investigation was made by the Additional SP of Brahmanbaria, Md Jahangir Hossain.