

UNO office

FROM PAGE 1
sources in the joint forces, police and the local administration.

Enraged by the UNOs outright arrogance the farmers entered different office rooms, including those of the UNO, agriculture officer and the engineer, and damaged furniture and documents.

Later the rampaging farmers piled up the damaged furniture and office documents at a corner in front of the UNO's office and set fire to them.

Some farmers who took part in the spontaneous rampage said they were already getting angry because the authorities had not been distributing enough fertiliser to meet their requirements.

Official sources said there is no fertiliser crisis in Nachole upazila. They said 900 metric tons of fertiliser had been allocated for the upazila to meet a demand for 788 metric tons during the current crop season, and there is still a stock of additional 200 metric tons for the upcoming rabi season.

The farmers however alleged that they have been suffering from an acute fertiliser crisis as they could not get the required quantity of it even after waiting for more than three days in queues.

Our staff correspondent from Khulna reported that different districts of the south-western region have been in the grip of an acute urea crisis for the last two weeks.

Meanwhile, at a news briefing last evening Press Secretary to the Chief Adviser Syed Fahim Munaimi said they will know whether there is a fertiliser crisis, and if there is one whether it is genuine or an artificial one, only after proper authorities make field visits and submit their report on the matter.

According to eyewitnesses of yesterday's Nachole incident, about 3000 farmers had been waiting in several long queues for urea since early morning.

Government officials started distributing the fertiliser through issuing coupons among the waiting farmers from four posts in the upazila parishad compound.

The inevitable hullabaloo that accompanies such a large gathering brought the UNO out of his office, and he asked his officials to halt the distribution. Soon he himself took over the responsibility of issuing coupons from only one post, giving the waiting farmers another reason to get angrier.

At one stage, the UNO slapped Deputy Assistant Agriculture Officer Saidur Rahman because he advised the boss to distribute the coupons from more than four posts instead of curtailing the number of them. The UNO was also hurling expletives to the waiting farmers numbering in thousands by then, igniting the wick of the revolt.

The farmers became furious and started beating the UNO bringing him down to the ground.

Then the protesters started to beat up other officials present, prompting them to take cover in their office rooms in vain, as the mob of farmers chased after them into the office rooms.

Party Chairperson Khaleda Zia is also preparing reform proposals that would be placed at a party council.

policemen were deployed in the area to prevent further untoward incidents.

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Shahadat Hossain, Superintendent of Police Mokhlesur Rahman, and Deputy Director of DAE Asim Kumar Malakar also rushed to the scene.

Instantly, they along with the upazila administration and 10 representatives from the farmers held an emergency meeting. The DC said the meeting was held to find out whether there was any flaw in the distribution system of the fertiliser, adding that there is no crisis of it in the district. He also said proper actions will be taken against any government official found to be neglecting duties.

The DC formed a three-member probe committee led by the additional district magistrate, the other two members of which are the deputy director of DAE, and the additional police super. The DC asked the committee to submit its report within the next 24 hours.

The district administration officials told reporters that the ongoing fertiliser distribution will resume again this morning remedying the flaws in the distribution system.

Nachole saw a raging peasant uprising in 1949-50 against the oppressions brought on them by the erstwhile class of jotedars in the area, resulting in a legislation banning certain types of oppressions on the peasants.

The home secretary can also approve repatriation of stranded foreigners including the Rohingya refugees and import of passport books. The home secretary is now empowered to allow the children to travel to the foreign countries under the custody of their guardians.

From the countries that are blacklisted for visas, one or more can be excluded while others can be included into the blacklist. This task will be done by the top home ministry official who can also blacklist foreigners or withdraw the names from the blacklist. He can approve the application of citizenship of any foreigners as well.

The secretary can set up, if necessary, new immigration check posts and transfer or withdraw the check posts already existing.

The chief adviser empowered the secretary with ordering detention, extension and cancellation of detention, and even amendment of detention and release the persons detained temporarily under the Special Powers Act 1974.

Meanwhile, at a news briefing last evening Press Secretary to the Chief Adviser Syed Fahim Munaimi said they will know whether there is a fertiliser crisis, and if there is one whether it is genuine or an artificial one, only after proper authorities make field visits and submit their report on the matter.

According to eyewitnesses of yesterday's Nachole incident, about 3000 farmers had been waiting in several long queues for urea since early morning.

Government officials started distributing the fertiliser through issuing coupons among the waiting farmers from four posts in the upazila parishad compound.

The inevitable hullabaloo that accompanies such a large gathering brought the UNO out of his office, and he asked his officials to halt the distribution. Soon he himself took over the responsibility of issuing coupons from only one post, giving the waiting farmers another reason to get angrier.

At one stage, the UNO slapped Deputy Assistant Agriculture Officer Saidur Rahman because he advised the boss to distribute the coupons from more than four posts instead of curtailing the number of them. The UNO was also hurling expletives to the waiting farmers numbering in thousands by then, igniting the wick of the revolt.

The farmers became furious and started beating the UNO bringing him down to the ground.

Then the protesters started to beat up other officials present, prompting them to take cover in their office rooms in vain, as the mob of farmers chased after them into the office rooms.

Party Chairperson Khaleda Zia is also preparing reform proposals that would be placed at a party council.

Charges framed

FROM PAGE 1
In Kushtia a fund misappropriation case was filed against former BNP lawmaker from Meherpur-1 Masud Arun.

DULU CASE

Our staff correspondent in Rajshahi reported that Dulu along with 23 other arrested accused were produced before the court during the charge framing.

Judge Abdus Sattar Bhuiyan fixed Sunday to start trial of the case.

The arrested accused include Dulu's brothers—Nabi Talukdar and Rafik Talukdar, cousins—Atikur Rahman, Nurunnabi Talukdar, Abidur Rahman and Mojibor Rahman, nephews—Renu, Belal, Helal and Bulbul, nephew-in-law Rahim Newaz, Natore municipal ward commissioners Sadruddin Huda Dambel and Nasim Khan.

Meanwhile, Natore Additional District Magistrate Rawnak Mahmud recorded statements of three witnesses—Feroza Begum, Abdul Momin and Jaheda Begum—in other part of the case. The court will hear the other witnesses today.

Natore district Jatiya Chhatra Samaj President Asaduzzaman Shah filed the case with Naldanga Police Station (PS) on February 25 accusing 105 people.

Arman Hossain, officer-in-charge of Naldanga PS, submitted two separate charge sheets—one for arson and looting and another under explosives act accusing total 94 persons months later on May 3.

According to charges, the accused persons launched a series of attacks at Ramsa Kazipur (Dulu's home village), Shappara and Amtali Bazar on Dulu's directives to retaliate murder of his nephew Sabir Ahmed Gama on February 7 in 2004.

Hearing the murder news, Dulu rushed to the scene and brought the attacks torching Asaduzzaman's straw-made-house himself.

In a couple of days, some 37 households and shops were torched spraying gunpowder and belongings of these houses were

also looted and damaged.

Dulu's armed cadres unleashed a reign of terror in the areas blasting bombs and firing gunshots, it was said in charge sheets.

NADIM ACQUITTED

Second Additional District And Session Judge's Court, Rajshahi yesterday acquitted Nadim and seven others of the charges saying the prosecution could not prove that the seized CI sheets were from the government relief fund, according to our Rajshahi correspondent.

The other acquitted are—Selina Khatun, her husband Salek Sarker, Abdur Rahman Sarker, Munsur Rahman, Rakib, Zahidul Islam and Rokonuzzaman Alam.

Putia police seized 22 pieces of CI sheets from houses of Salek Sarker and his neighbours at Zamira village on February 25.

CASE AGAINST MASUD

Our Kushtia correspondent reported that Tonik Biswas, a farmer of Sailmari under Sadar upazila, yesterday filed a case against former lawmaker Masud Arun with a first class magistrate court.

Magistrate Sheikh Sahadat Hossain accepted the case and ordered the officer-in-charge of Sadar Police Station to investigate the case.

According to the complainant, Masud encroached a water body at Sailmari used by about 200 farmers for pisciculture after he became a lawmaker in 2001.

Some locals were the owners of 8 acres of the 26-acre water body while the rest was government khas land, said the complainant.

In 2002, Masud ousted the farmers from the water body with the help of the outlawed party cadres and his gang members and occupied it, according to the complainant.

Rawshan said she does not have any contact with her husband Ersheed who is now under treatment in a hospital.

She however said she would visit him soon.

JP leader Golam Mosih and Col (rtd) MA Gaffar were present at the briefing.

CA delegates

FROM PAGE 16
section 16(1) of Acid Control Act 2002 and permit the courts to take into account the cases and crimes under various sections of the Criminal Procedure Code (CrPC) 1898.

The secretary can also allow Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) to investigate cases under section 6(B) of The Armed Police Battalion Ordinance 1979, the official said, adding that he can also approve the Internet connections, maintaining the formalities.

The home secretary can also approve repatriation of stranded foreigners including the Rohingya refugees and import of passport books. The home secretary is now empowered to allow the children to travel to the foreign countries under the custody of their guardians.

From the countries that are blacklisted for visas, one or more can be excluded while others can be included into the blacklist. This task will be done by the top home ministry official who can also blacklist foreigners or withdraw the names from the blacklist. He can approve the application of citizenship of any foreigners as well.

The secretary can set up, if necessary, new immigration check posts and transfer or withdraw the check posts already existing.

The chief adviser empowered the secretary with ordering detention, extension and cancellation of detention, and even amendment of detention and release the persons detained temporarily under the Special Powers Act 1974.

Meanwhile, at a news briefing last evening Press Secretary to the Chief Adviser Syed Fahim Munaimi said they will know whether there is a fertiliser crisis, and if there is one whether it is genuine or an artificial one, only after proper authorities make field visits and submit their report on the matter.

According to eyewitnesses of yesterday's Nachole incident, about 3000 farmers had been waiting in several long queues for urea since early morning.

Government officials started distributing the fertiliser through issuing coupons among the waiting farmers from four posts in the upazila parishad compound.

The inevitable hullabaloo that accompanies such a large gathering brought the UNO out of his office, and he asked his officials to halt the distribution. Soon he himself took over the responsibility of issuing coupons from only one post, giving the waiting farmers another reason to get angrier.

At one stage, the UNO slapped Deputy Assistant Agriculture Officer Saidur Rahman because he advised the boss to distribute the coupons from more than four posts instead of curtailing the number of them. The UNO was also hurling expletives to the waiting farmers numbering in thousands by then, igniting the wick of the revolt.

The farmers became furious and started beating the UNO bringing him down to the ground.

Then the protesters started to beat up other officials present, prompting them to take cover in their office rooms in vain, as the mob of farmers chased after them into the office rooms.

Party Chairperson Khaleda Zia is also preparing reform proposals that would be placed at a party council.

Meanwhile, some BNP leaders including former lawmakers Syed Abul Hossain and Mosharraf Hossain Mangi and a group of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) leaders yesterday met Bhuiyan at his residence to express their support for efforts to make the party more democratic in its functioning.

On June 25, Mannan Bhuiyan announced reform proposals for the party.

Party Chairperson Khaleda Zia is also preparing reform proposals that would be placed at a party council.

Meanwhile, some BNP leaders including former lawmakers Syed Abul Hossain and Mosharraf Hossain Mangi and a group of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) leaders yesterday met Bhuiyan at his residence to express their support for efforts to make the party more democratic in its functioning.

On June 25, Mannan Bhuiyan announced reform proposals for the party.

Party Chairperson Khaleda Zia is also preparing reform proposals that would be placed at a party council.

Meanwhile, some BNP leaders including former lawmakers Syed Abul Hossain and Mosharraf Hossain Mangi and a group of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) leaders yesterday met Bhuiyan at his residence to express their support for efforts to make the party more democratic in its functioning.

On June 25, Mannan Bhuiyan announced reform proposals for the party.

Party Chairperson Khaleda Zia is also preparing reform proposals that would be placed at a party council.

Meanwhile, some BNP leaders including former lawmakers Syed Abul Hossain and Mosharraf Hossain Mangi and a group of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) leaders yesterday met Bhuiyan at his residence to express their support for efforts to make the party more democratic in its functioning.

On June 25, Mannan Bhuiyan announced reform proposals for the party.

Party Chairperson Khaleda Zia is also preparing reform proposals that would be placed at a party council.

Meanwhile, some BNP leaders including former lawmakers Syed Abul Hossain and Mosharraf Hossain Mangi and a group of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) leaders yesterday met Bhuiyan at his residence to express their support for efforts to make the party more democratic in its functioning.

On June 25, Mannan Bhuiyan announced reform proposals for the party.

Party Chairperson Khaleda Zia is also preparing reform proposals that would be placed at a party council.

Meanwhile, some BNP leaders including former lawmakers Syed Abul Hossain and Mosharraf Hossain Mangi and a group of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) leaders yesterday met Bhuiyan at his residence to express their support for efforts to make the party more democratic in its functioning.

On June 25, Mannan Bhuiyan announced reform proposals for the party.

Party Chairperson Khaleda Zia is also preparing reform proposals that would be placed at a party council.

Sangakkara

FROM PAGE 1
bundled out for 62 runs in the first innings, opener Javed Omar (28) and Shahriar Nafees (20) started boldly but Nafees paid for his overaggressive attitude as he left the door open for the Sri Lankan pacemen as Bangladesh lost four wickets from 48 for none. Habibul Bashir (3) and Mohammad Ashraful (7) remained not out at the end, but they have to scale Mount Everest against a world-class attack if they just want to avoid the ignominy of an innings defeat.

First innings hero Lasith Malinga was taken off only after two overs as the two Bangladesh openers punished him but Chaminda Vaas and Dilhara Fernando swung the ball brilliantly to claim two wickets each.

But the day belonged to stylish left-hander Sangakkara who showed what could be done with determination after he only scored 6 in the first Test last week.

Fast bowler Shahadat Hossain bowled through early by removing young opener Malinga Warnapura, who was caught at midwicket by Nafees after mistiming a pull after scoring a 140-ball 82, after Sri Lanka resumed the day on 154-2 but his overnight partner Sangakkara kept his cool to slam his fifth double hundred.

During his almost eight-hour knock, the 34-year-old batsman scripted boundaries all over the park and reached the hundred-mark in fitting style by hitting a six over long-off against left-arm spinner Mohammad Rafique and then completed the double after tea, having played 325 balls that contained 20 sweetly-timed fours and a couple of sixes.

Sri Lanka skipper Mahela Jayawardene declared the innings to test the Bangladesh batting for the last hour soon after his deputy reached his mark.

Bangladesh's new-ball pair Mashrafe Bin Mortaza and Shahadat Hossain however bowled with some bite; especially Shahadat's aggressive bowling impressed many. The lanky pacer was over the moon after dismissing the Lankan captain, who was caught at short-leg for 49 runs. Jayawardene was once again involved in a verbal confrontation with the paceman regarding the grunting.

Shahadat took two wickets for 81 runs while debutant left-arm spinner Mehrab Hossain captured two in the space of three balls but the effort couldn't restrict the

innings further. The BB official also said that only the banks or financial institutions whose volume of classified loan is less than 10 percent of the total outstanding loans would get the central bank money for distribution.

Another source in the BB said that the scheme is specially targeted towards low and middle income people who have very limited scope to get loans from existing schemes of different commercial banks and financial institutions.

"We have estimated that the monthly instalment against the loan will be no more than of a service holder's monthly house rent allowance," he said.

Meanwhile, the BB data shows that all commercial and specialised banks' have disbursed Tk 6,253 crore housing loans till March this year, which is 4.41 percent of the banks' total credit.

Of the loans, different Housing Society and Companies got Tk 1,535 crore and Urban Housing received Tk