

B'baria BNP bigwigs not with Bhuiyan

Ex-state minister, several other leaders tell The Daily Star

OUR CORRESPONDENT, B'baria

Most front ranking leaders of BNP and its fronts in Brahmanbaria are united under the leadership of party chief Begum Khaleda Zia, claims former state minister and district BNP president Abdus Sattar Bhuiyan.

But very few of them met with him since declaration of emergency, Abdus Sattar said while talking to this correspondent. He however said they maintained contact with him over phone but could not hold any meeting as indoor politics is still banned.

This correspondent also talked to some other leaders including vice-presidents Shafiqur Rahman and Hafizur Rahman Molla, general secretary Syed Imranur Reza and Sharail ppazila BNP president advocate Abdur Rahman.

They said that they do not support "expelled" general secretary Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan. BNP led by Khaleda Zia is the mainstream BNP as it carries the ideology of its founder Ziaur Rahman.

PATUAKHALI LAND DISPUTE
8 hurt in attack on Hindu families

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

At least eight members of Hindu community were injured and a house was burnt in an attack by a gang of armed miscreants in Marichbunia village in Patuakhali Sadar upazila yesterday.

The incident was sequel to a land dispute, police said.

Police said a group of armed miscreants allegedly led by Delawar Peyada, attacked the house of Narayan Chandra Majhi and Sushila Rani.

The attacker searched for Narayan and failing to find him, beat and injured eight of his family members and relatives.

House of Sushila, widowed sister of Narayan, was burnt.

The miscreants looted goods worth about Tk 2 lakh, they alleged.

Informed by local people, a police team led by Sub inspector Emran came and sent the injured people to Patuakhali Sadar Hospital. The attackers had left the village before police came.

Sub-inspector Anwar Hossain at Patuakhali Sadar police station said a case is being processed and efforts on to nab the attackers.



Flood water, swelled by downpour yesterday, overflowing Bhojon Danga-Sadipur road in Faridpur district.

8X3

JESSORE BLASTS Arrest warrant against Tariqul's son

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Warrant for arrest has been issued against former minister and BNP bigwig Tariqul Islam's son Aninda Islam alias Amit for his alleged involvement in the three bomb blasts in Jessore town on August 25.

Amit was the mastermind behind the blasts, police claimed, saying he crossed the border after the incident. Tariqul is now detained on corruption charges.

According to investigation officer (IO) of the case SI Khalilur Rahman of Jessore Kotwali police station, outlaw Golam Zakaria arrested earlier in the case, named Aninda Islam Amit as the mastermind behind the blasts in front of Circuit House, Kotwali police station and Jessore bus terminal.

The arrested outlaw made his statement in this regard before court under Section 144 of CrPC.

According to Jessore Police Superintendent Md Iqbal Bahar, cadres of detained former minister and his son were involved in the serial bomb blasts on August 25.

Intelligence agencies said that they had got all clues to the incident. The detained minister's son Amit is staying in Bongoan district of West Bengal since the incident, said the IO of the case.

'Strengthen local govt bodies'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

Speakers at a discussion here underscored the need for strengthening the local government organisations at the grassroots level for development of the country.

Bangladesh Union Parishad Forum (BUPF) and Democracy Watch jointly organised the discussion on local government

Held at Mymensingh Pourasabha auditorium Thursday afternoon, the discussion was presided by Democracy Watch executive director Taleya Rehman.

Terming the Union Parishad (UP) as a 136 years old organisation, speakers said the local government leaders are working for people facing obstacles in difficult situations.

They urged the UP chairman to work without fear or favour for the interest of common people.

In the discussion, Boror Char UP chairman Ataharul Islam Bulbul, also a BUPF member, placed 11-point suggestion to strengthen local government organisations.

Among others, Mymensingh Pourasabha chairman Advocate Mahmud Ali Noor Teraq, Anisur Rahaman of Nagorik Andolan, Prof Mukarram Hossain, Advocate Nazrul Islam Chunnu and Char Nilaxia Union Parishad (UP) chairman Fayedur Rahman Fakir addressed.

Alleged bid to grab Hindu family land in Rajshahi

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Some influential people are allegedly trying to grab the ancestral land of a poor Hindu family in Talaimari area of Rajshahi city on the plea of building a madrassah there.

The family of Abonikanta Saha yesterday rushed to Rajshahi Metropolitan Press Club and alleged that the land grabbers are using political influence to capture their land.

They are threatening them to vacate the land, they told a press conference. They are taking help of a section of policemen, they claimed.

The family showed a number of documents and court orders to prove their right on the land and drew attention of the caretaker government to help them protect it from grabbers.

Pallab Saha, Abonikanta's son said, he filed a general diary with Motihar police station on March 19 seeking help to protect the land.

But the officer-in-charge PS Ferdous Ahmed demanded four kathas (6 decimal) of land and Tk 6 lakh for this, he alleged.

As the family failed to provide the money, police did not help them. Moreover, the OC on September 4

called Pallab at the police station and later drove him away keeping his mobile phone and Tk 4000. However, the mobile was later returned, to Pallab said.

Police also threatened Babul Sarker, their attorney and business partner, with harassment by implicating in cases, Pallab alleged.

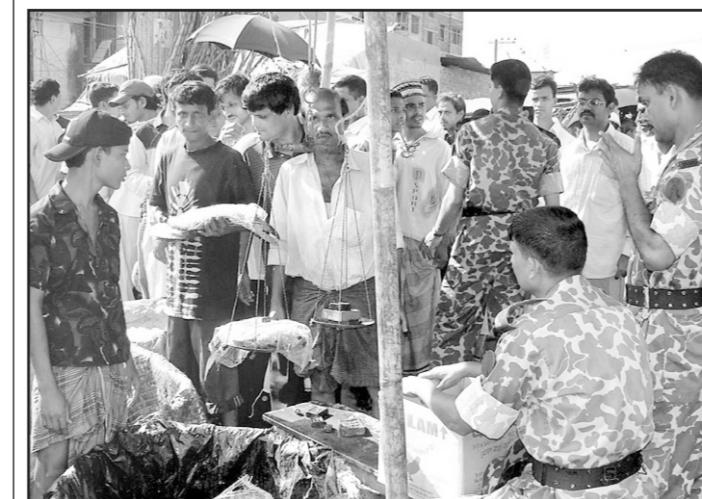
Out of his total 51 kathas (about 76.5 decimal) of land, Abonikanta recently rented 3.5 katha to Babul Sarker to start a business there, he said.

But local ward commissioner Tarikul Islam Paltu forced Babul to stop business as he declined to pay him Tk one lakh as toll, Pallab alleged at the press conference.

Pallab's cousin Amrita Rani Saha, brother Polash, mother Chobi Rani Saha and uncle Amol Kumar and Babul Sarker were present at the press conference.

Contacted later, OC Ferdous denied the allegation of demanding bribe from the Hindu family. He said police were always busy in maintaining law and order in the city and had hardly any time to look into the matter.

"The allegations are mere propaganda", he said.



A BDR shop for essentials at Bahaddarhat in Chittagong drew customers in large numbers on the first day of Ramadan yesterday.

Ex-Jamaat MP sent to jail after remand

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

A former Jamaat lawmaker has been sent to jail by a court here on completion of his 3-day remand at Shyamnagar police station.

Ex-Jamaat lawmaker Gazi Nazrul Islam who was remanded for three days at the police station in connection with an extortion case was produced before the court on Thursday.

Earlier, the investigation officer (IO) of an extortion case filed by Zamal Uddin, submitted a prayer before the court for granting seven days' remand of the accused. After hearing, the court granted 3-day remand of the former Jamaat lawmaker on September 9. He was remanded at Shyamnagar police station since September 10.

Gazi Nazrul who is also a member of the central Mazliz-e-Sura of Jamaat-e-Islami was elected a lawmaker from Satkhira-5 (Shyamnagar) constituency as a BNP led 4-Party Alliance candidate during the national election in 2001.

Joint forces arrested him following enlistment of his name in the corrupt suspect list of the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) on March 9. In the list, the ACC has suspected him to be a graft suspect.

Zamal Uddin, a staff of a shrimp enclosure owned by Khaja Nazrul Uddin at Nidaya village in Shyamnagar upazila filed an extortion case with Shyamnagar police station on April 22. In the case, he accused Gazi Nazrul, his private assistant Gausul Azam of Khanpur village and a Jamaat Rokon Mahfuzur Rahman of Nurnagar village for taking illegal toll from him.

The plaintiff alleged that a group of people led by Mahfuzur Rahman attacked the staff of the aforesaid enclosure, beat them up and forced



Gazi Nazrul Islam
iby occupied the enclosure on April 22, 2006.

When he went to Gazi Nazrul for help to get back his enclosure, Gazi Nazrul demanded Tk 3 lakh as toll from him through his personal assistant Gausul Azam on April 23, 2006.

Later, the complainant went to Nazrul's Islampur house in Shyamnagar town and paid him Tk. 2 lakh through Gausul Azam and Mahfuzur Rahman on April 24, 2006, according to the complaint.

Earlier, a court here placed Gazi Nazrul on two-day remand as the IO of another case submitted a prayer before the court for granting 5-day remand.

The view exchange meeting titled 'Qualitative Education and Ensuring Good Atmosphere at Higher Secondary Level' was held at Teachers Lounge of Kushtia Government College on Thursday.

The speakers in the meeting said, students need to be involved in politics at his early education life even if he wants to be politician in future.

Dr. Partosh Kumar Das, inspector of colleges in Jessor board presided over the meeting while principle of Kushtia Government College Sheikh Abul Hossain attended as chief guest.

Total of 99 principals from different colleges in Kushtia, Meherpur and Chuadanga districts took part in the daylong programme.

BSF abducts 2 Bangladeshis

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

Indian Border Security Force (BSF) abducted two Bangladeshi cattle traders from Challishpara border point in Daulatpur upazila in Kushtia on Thursday.

The victims were identified as Mintu, 35 and Mirza Alam, 44, of Challishpara village.

Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) sources said BSF personnel picked up the Bangladeshi traders from Talpatti bazaar when they went there to buy cattle.

Colleges should be free from politics

Kushtia principals say at meeting

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

Principles of government and non-government colleges in greater Kushtia in a view exchange meeting said that students at higher secondary level need not be involved in politics and that the campuses should be free from politics.

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