

Double life term for possessing heroin, illegal arms

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

A court in Sylhet yesterday gave a man double life term in separate cases. The convict is Babla Rahat, 26, son of Muktar Miah of Khozarkhola area of the city.

Rab caught Babla from Khozarkhola area in the night of January 22 and recovered 120 grams of heroin and a country made revolver from his possession. A case was filed with Kotwali police station on the same night.

After investigation, police submitted two charge sheets—one under the Narcotics Control Act and the other under the Arms Control Act.

District and Sessions Judge Abdul Gafur handed down life term for possessing the illegal revolver, Public prosecutor EU Shahidul Islam said.

'Revise 6th wage board award'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

Journalists Union of Dinajpur (JUD) a unit of Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalist (BFU), at a rally here yesterday urged the government to modify the sixth wage board award announced on Saturday.

Speakers at the rally said the sixth wage board award is not acceptable as it curtailed existing benefits and offered nothing to the mediators.

The rally was held at Dinajpur Press Club with JUD president Sharup Kumar Bakshi.

The speakers included JUD secretary Md Akram Talukder, Chitta Ghosh (Sangbad), Md. Golam Nabi Dulal (Bangladesh Observer and Radio Bangladesh), Abu Bakr Shiddique (Deshbangla), Md. Moshedur Rahman a (ATN Bangla), Monminul Islam (Jai Jai Din and UNB) and Shamim Reza.

DELAY IN AGRI REHABILITATION IN 11 SIDR-HIT DISTS Food yield may fall by 3 lakh tonnes this season

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Agriculture rehabilitation programme in Sidr affected areas of 11 districts under Barisal Agriculture Extension Department (AED) is yet to start, posing the risk of a production loss of around three lakh tonne food grain in the region during the coming winter season.

The region saw a yearly surplus of around five lakh tonnes food grains in previous years.

More than 6.67 lakh tonnes of agricultural productions on 4.10 lakh acres of cultivated lands have been reported damaged by Sidr in 72 upazilas of 12 districts, of which 67 upazilas of 11 districts belong to Barisal AED.

Disclosing these facts, Deputy Director in charge of Barisal Agricultural Extension Department (AED) they already sent reports of damage to the higher authority. Rehabilitation programmes are yet to be started

due to delay in providing funds as the agriculture ministry is asking for details of each affected person.

The ministry has instructed the AED to send names, addresses and other details of the Sidr affected 15.5 lakh farmers of the region but it is not possible to send the details within a short period.

AED sources said Rupa Aman, Boro and wheat seedbeds, pulses, vegetables, mustard, betel nut, coconut, betel leaf and other crops have been badly damaged by Sidr in 72 upazilas of 12 districts, of which 67 upazilas of 11 districts belong to Barisal AED.

Cultivation of paddy, wheat and different types of winter crops of these Sidr affected areas depend on implementation of immediate rehabilitation programmes in agriculture sectors.

Rescheduling of old and distribution of new long term, interest-

free or low interest agriculture loans, as well as providing power pumps for irrigation, power tiller for cultivation, seeds and saplings for Boro and Iri paddy and wheat, and supply of fertilisers, pesticides, fuel and energy are also urgently needed under agricultural rehabilitation programmes.

Besides, more than two lakh hectares of agricultural lands have been affected by salinity from surging sea water that engulfed river banks and lands inside the embankments of coastal region during the Sidr, AED sources said.

Cultivation of crops on these lands may not be possible for next two to four seasons due to the salinity and further delay in implementation of agricultural rehabilitation programmes may add to production deficit, they added.

'TAX EVASION' BY ARIFUL
Hearing on charge framing today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Hearing of charges against detained Sylhet city BNP chief Ariful Haque Chowdhury for tax evasion will be held today. It was deferred for the third time.

Ariful is on the first ACC (Anti Corruption Commission) list of 50 corruption suspects.

On Monday, Special Judge Abdul Gafur, who is also the District and Sessions Judge in Sylhet, rejected the petition of Ariful's lawyers for four week's stay on hearing and re-fixed December 13 for hearing.

Earlier, November 13, charge hearing was deferred.

Additional Assistant Commissioner of Taxes Abdur Rahman filed the case under Special Powers Act on November 6. In the case, it has been alleged that Ariful evaded taxes amounting to Tk 37 lakh by concealing wealth of over Tk 1.56 crore during 2002-2003 and 2005-2006 tax years.

Chowdhury is in jail since he surrendered before joint forces on February 25.

**RU Arabic
Students demand
Galib's release**

RU CORRESPONDENT

A section of students of Arabic department of Rajshahi University yesterday demanded immediate release of their teacher Dr Muhammad Asadullah-Al-Galib, detained three years ago for patronising militancy.

Galib, chief of Ahle Hadith Andolon (Ahab), Bangladesh, was arrested in February 2005.

The students led by Abdul Halim, general secretary of Rajshahi unit of Ahle Hadith Jubo Andolon Bangladesh met RU Vice Chancellor Prof Altaf Hossain at his office and placed the demand through a memorandum carrying signature of 101 students.

SACKING OF 431 SCC STAFF HC stays ministry order for 3 months

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

would not be declared illegal, the sources said.

Meanwhile the SCC at its scheduled meeting yesterday stayed for three months the order issued by the local government ministry sacking 431 employees of Sylhet City Corporation (SCC).

The bench comprising Justice Kairul Haq and Justice Abdul Awal passed the order upon a writ petition filed on behalf of the sacked employees, according to a faxed message received at the SCC office from Dhaka yesterday evening, sources at SCC said. Details and a copy of the verdict is awaited, they said.

The HC Bench also issued a rule returnable within four weeks asking the government to reply why the order for sacking the employees

Life-term convict held

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) arrested an absconding life-term convict at village Boor Char in Sadr upazila early yesterday.

The arrestee, Abdul Khaleque alias Kalu, 58, is an ex-member of Boror Char union parishad.

A Mymensingh court in 1996 awarded him life-term imprisonment for his involvement in an abduction case filed with Phulpur Police Station in 1991.

Eco-cottage opens in Habiganj

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Nishorgo Taraphill Eco-Cottage has been inaugurated at Rema Kalenga Wildlife Sanctuary in Habiganj.

The eco cottage would be an ideal location for the nature lovers who seek tranquility in pristine nature in Rema Kalenga.



PHOTO: FOCUS BANGLA

Sonamasjid land port in Chapainawabganj saw a record 9,055 tonne import of onion in 11 days till Tuesday as India last month lifted its ban on the item's export.

Adopt effective info strategy to reduce climate risk

Speakers at Barisal workshop say

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Speakers at workshop in Barisal yesterday said effective information strategy with easy to understand weather cautionary signaling systems for people of different regions can help reduce climate risk.

Local government and administrative channels should interact and function in coordination round the clock before and after the disaster period to give accurate and fast information to all sections of people, they said.

A sustainable system should be introduced in combination of wide wireless and radio networks in remote areas and floating vessels to

face emergency needs of information during power and communication disruptions and it should be a part of disaster management, the participants said.

Dr Habibur Rahman, district president of human rights alliance, presided over and Shamim Reza, teacher of the Department of Mass Communication and Journalism of Dhaka University and Rabiul Islam, senior coordinator of MMC, worked as resource persons in the workshop.

Journalists, NGO representatives and cultural activists participated in the discussions.

Pure water for Sidr-hit people in Morrelganj

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

About 8,000 families in six unions in Sidr-hit Morrelganj upazila of Bagerhat district are getting pure water from two makeshift water purifying plants.

Prodipan, an NGO, with financial assistance from USAID is operating two plants at Nishanbaria and Boluibhania unions in the upazila to provide drinking water to the affected people.

Each of the two US-made plants filter more than 24,000 litres of water a day, said Prodipan Director Sajjadur Rahman Elin.

Each of the water purifying plants needs five litres of fuel (diesel) a day for operation, he said.

One of the two plants was set up at Boluibhania union on November 19 and the other at Nishanbaria union on November 26.

"Our field workers are engaged to serve the Sidr-hit people there with water-filled containers carried by vans and engine boat to remote areas", Elin said.

Prodipan Project Officer Md. Nazrul Islam said chlorine, water purifying tablets and camphor are being used to purify water taken from different ponds with the help



One of the two water-purifying plants, left, supplying drinking water to Sidr affected people in Morrelganj in Bagerhat.

of those pipes.

They said they have a plan set up more plans, if necessary, to meet the demand for drinking water by Sidr-hit people in Sharankhola upazila, Nazrul Islam said.

Besides, Prodipan is providing a



large number of affected families in Morrelganj with food and non-food items with assistance from WFP, UNDP, DANIDA, CARE Bangladesh and Manusher Janno Foundation.

Given to Sidr victims in Sharankhola and Morrelganj in Bagerhat district and Koira, Dakop and Paikgacha upazilas in Khulna district.

The assistance will continue till February next year, the NGO officials said.

Medical support is also being

Meanwhile, Caritas, an NGO, with assistance from German government, on Tuesday distributed food, cloth and other relief items among 1500 Sidr-hit families in Rampal upazila in Bagerhat, said a press release.

Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority

BEPZA Complex

House No. 19/D, Road No. 6, Dhanmondi, Dhaka-1205

Dated: December 09, 2007

Request for Expression of Interest (2nd Invitation)

No: 02/2007-2008

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

1	Ministry/Division	Chief Advisers Office (BEPZA Governor's Board Secretariat),
2	Agency	BEPZA
3	Procuring entity name	BEPZA
4	Procuring entity code	Not used at present.
5	Procuring entity district	Dhaka
6	Expression of interest for selection of	Consulting firm (lump-sum).
7	EOI Ref. No.	02/2007-2008
8	Date	December 09, 2007

KEY INFORMATION

9	Procurement sub-method	Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS).
11	Development partners (if applicable)	NA

PARTICULAR INFORMATION

12	Project/programme code (if applicable)	NA
13	Project/programme name (if applicable)	NA
14	EOI publication date	On or before December 12, 2007.
15	EOI last selling date	December 26, 2007 during office hour.
16	EOI closing date and time	December 27, 2007 at 12:00 noon.
17	Name & address of the office(s)	
	Selling of EOI	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Account Section, BEPZA, BEPZA Complex, 19/D, Road No. 6, Dhanmondi, Dhaka-1205. 2. Account Section, Chittagong EPZ, South Halishahar, Chittagong. 3. Account Section, Dhaka EPZ, Savar, Dhaka.
	Receiving of EOI	BEPZA, BEPZA Complex, 19/D, Road No. 6, Dhanmondi, Dhaka-1205.

INFORMATION FOR APPLICANT

18	Brief description of assignment	The service include:
	a.	Preparation of lay out plan. Preliminary architectural conceptual drawing (floor plan, elevation, different section, perspective view) for the entire works of the residential complex for users approval and after users approval make all necessary arrangements for RAJUK approval. All the expenses will be born by the consultant to approve the drawings from RAJUK.
	b.	After approval of users, consultant will prepare detail architectural drawing (plan for every floor, elevation, section, perspective view etc.). Structural drawing with the details calculation, including electrical, plumbing and sanitary drawing.