

Ex-whip Zahed Ali sued for ill-gotten wealth

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) has filed a case against former whip of last parliament Zahed Ali for amassing wealth beyond known sources of income and hiding information on wealth.

Mohammad Mahmud Hassan, deputy director of ACC of Tangail office (adjusted), filed the case with Nokla Police Station in Sherpur on Thursday afternoon.

ACC asked Zahed Ali, former BNP lawmaker of Sherpur-2 (Nokla-Nalitabari), to submit wealth statement on May 17 last year and his representative submitted the statement on May 24 on behalf of him.

According to the case, it was found that Zahed Ali hid information of wealth worth Tk 1,30,86,043.

Zahed Ali is one of the main ACC listed corruption suspects in Sherpur district. He has been absconding since declaration of the state of emergency on January 11 last year.

Srimongal OC, 5 others closed

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

Srimongal Police Station officer-in-charge (OC) Md Asaduzzaman and five others have been closed to Moulvibazar police line on charge of bribery.

Five others are: sub-inspector (SI) Nahid Ahmed, constables Mahmudul Hasan, Md Jasim Uddin, Mainuddin, and police van driver Md Ripon.

All tried to take bribe from some villagers by illegally confining them at police station for two days.

The acting superintendent of police (SP) of Moulvibazar, Md Motiur Rahman, took action against them after unveiling the story on Monday.

20 cops get certificates

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Khagrachhari

Twenty police officials were awarded certificates on completion of a training course organised for them at the Police In-Service Training Centre here yesterday.

The Commanding Officer (CO) of First Armed Police Battalion, Mohammad Abul Kalam Azad, handed over certificates to the first batch of trainees as chief guest at a function held at the training centre.

Additional inspector general of police (AIGP) Naba Bikrom Kishor Tripura opened the centre on July 19.

Housewife acid burnt in Tangail

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

A housewife sustained serious acid burn injury at Ghechua village in Sakhipur upazila of the district Thursday night. The victim was identified as Parul Begum, 45, wife of Habibur Rahman.

A gang of unidentified miscreants stormed into the house by breaking the door and threw acid on her when her porter husband was not at home, police said. Parul's face and upper part of the body were burnt. She was sent to Dhaka Medical College Hospital yesterday morning in a critical condition.

92 rice mills lose licence in Nilphamari

Power lines to be snapped for not supplying foodgrains to govt godowns

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Nilphamari

Licences of 92 rice mills have been cancelled in Nilphamari for not supplying rice and paddy to government godowns at official rates under the on going food procurement drive. Of them, licences of 44 rice mills were cancelled on Thursday.

The licences were cancelled at the recommendation of district food procurement committee, district controller of food (DC food) Enayetur Rahman told newsmen yesterday. The administration has also taken a decision to snap power connection to the defaulting rice mills, he said.

The government procurement rate is Tk 28 per kilogram for rice and Tk 18 for paddy in the current Irri-Boro season.

As per agreement, all licensed rice mills are obliged to supply rice, paddy and wheat to food department at government rates, he said. They have violated the agreement by not supplying food grains.

Rice mill owners are making the

best use of licences by availing bank loans on easy terms, power connection on emergency basis and other facilities but are not fulfilling their obligations, he said.

Of the 92 rice mills, 32 are in Sadar upazila, 21 in Domar, 18 in Jaldhaka, 10 in Saidpur, five in Dimla and six in Kishoreganj upazila, sources at district food office said.

The sources said many licensed rice mills stopped operation long ago but were enjoying all the facilities.

However, 320 mills are supplying rice and paddy to government godowns as per agreement, the sources said.

Meanwhile, Brigade Commander of 222 Brigade Brig Gen Abu Belal Muhammad Shafiqul Haque held a meeting with rice mill owners in the district on Monday at the conference room of the deputy commissioner.

At the meeting he requested mill owners to abide by the conditions as the rice thus procured are distributed among poor people at reasonable prices.

"They earn profit and should also abide by the agreement. Any violation of the agreement should be punished", he said.

He urged rice mill owners to cooperate with the government to make its food procurement drive a success.

He said the government is firm to fulfill the procurement target and those who are not cooperating with the government should face action as per law.

The Irri-Boro procurement target in Nilphamari district is 27,000 tonnes of rice and 5,000 tonnes of paddy. Till June, 14,000 tonnes of rice and 890 tonnes of paddy were procured, food department sources said.

The procurement will continue till August 31.

Taking to this correspondent, some rice mill owners said they want to cooperate with the government but they can not operate mills due to rain and bad weather now. They also demanded smooth supply of electricity to operate the mills.

Voters decline by 1,84,653 in Sunamganj

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

The number of voters decreased by 1,84,653 in Sunamganj district in comparison with that of the previous list.

As many as 12, 53,645 voters were enlisted in the district this year. Previously, the number was 14,38,298, officials said.

Meantime, distribution of National Identity (ID) card was completed in Sunamganj Sadar, Dakkhin Sunamganj and Tahirpur upazilas. ID card distribution work will begin soon in Chhatak upazila.

It is expected that ID card distribution work will be completed in Derai, Shulla, Jagannathpur, Dharmapasha, Doarabazar and Biswambharpur upazilas by the month of September.

Work on voter listing began in Sylhet division on September 12 last year.

2.75cr cocaine seized in C'nawabganj

A CORRESPONDENT, C'nawabganj

Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) in a drive yesterday seized 2.75 kilograms of cocaine worth Tk 2.75 crore and 8500 piece of imitation ornaments in Chapainawabganj Sadar upazila.

Acting on a tip, a BDR team challenged five people at Kodalkati village at about 4 am when they were returning from India, said Maj. Syed Abu Hasan of 39 Rifles Battalion. They ran away leaving a bag which contained the cocaine in 25 packets.

In another drive at noon, the border guards recovered 8500 piece of abandoned imitation ornaments worth Tk 25 lakh from Bakchar village.

On June 19, BDR recovered 2 kg cocaine from the same area.

Housing project MD sent to jail in mugging case

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Sylhet Kotwali police arrested three people including the female managing director of a housing project yesterday morning.

She was produced before the Judicial Magistrate's Court that ordered sending her to jail.

Helen Ahmed, managing director of Ahmed Housing Ltd at Barsala suburb in the city, were arrested along with two staff Zanu Miah and Ashique Hasan from her house at Majumdar at 3:00am yesterday, police said, adding that the arrests were made in connection with a case filed by Rakibul Islam, a retired government employee.

The accused attacked him and snatched away Tk 10,000 and a mobile phone set from his possession when he went to his 4-decimal plot at Barsala a few days ago, the complainant said.

Helen's family members, on the other hand, said police arrested her and sent to the court after implicating her in a false case of mugging.

It was done to harass her, they said.



Untimely supply of urea fertiliser in the wet season leads to its dampening and damage as dealers, failing to sell it to farmers, keep it in go-downs. The photo was taken from a go-down at Akkelpur upazila in Joypurhat yesterday.

Ministry demanded for indigenous people

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

Speakers at a workshop held here yesterday demanded of the government for setting up a separate ministry for indigenous people of plain lands to uphold their rights.

Held at CARITAS auditorium here, the workshop titled, 'Plain Land Indigenous Peoples' Rights and PRSP: Strategic Advocacy,' was organized by the Centre for Indigenous Peoples' Research and Development (CIPRAD), an NGO, working to uphold rights of indig-

enous people. Tribal Welfare Association (TWA) chairman Advocate Promod Mankin presided.

Speakers said indigenous people of plain land outnumbered their brothers in Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) by four times. Still then the people of CHT are enjoying more facilities than indigenous people of plain land, they said. The government should take steps to set up a separate ministry titled, 'Ministry for Plain Land Adivasis,' for upholding their rights, speakers said.

'Dubious' pir sent to jail

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

A pir, attracting a number of people for his miraculous 'healing power', has been sent to jail following his arrest along with two associates on Thursday.

Sylhet Kotwali police and a team of Detective Branch picked the young pir named Murad Ahmed and Rukon Miah and Farid Rahman from Murad's parental house at Kazitola in the city and the judicial magistrate sent them to jail after police produced them before the court.

Murad, however, said, "I am not a pir. But people ask me to heal their diseases."

Advertisement for 'সিটি করপোরেশন, ঢাকা' (City Corporation, Dhaka) regarding a tender for road works. It includes details about the tender process, contact information, and a table of specifications for the work to be done.

Man-made traffic problem in Kishoreganj

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kishoreganj

Suspension of traffic through the baily bridge at Roshidabad in Kishoreganj Sadar on Dhaka-Bhairab-Mymensingh Highway since June 27 is causing immense sufferings for commuters as the work for replacement of the bridge started without arrangement for suitable alternative for traffic.

As a number of vehicles including passenger buses and heavy vehicles from Dhaka and Chittagong to Mymensingh, Sylhet and northern districts now have to cross the town using narrow Akhrabazar bridge in the town, serious traffic jam is seen in Kishoreganj town every day. Working period of Roshidabad Baily bridge ended in 1994 and

during last 14 years the bridge needed frequent repair, causing disturbance in road communication, said Kishoreganj Roads and Highways (RHD) office sources.

Locals said as the RHD is replacing the baily bridge with another old baily bridge that was used at Shakwa in Karimganj upazila on Kishoreganj-Chamra highway, they do not expect much improvement in the situation when the work completes.

It would take about two weeks to set up the baily bridge, the contractor said. After having some repair work, the baily bridge earlier used at Shakwa would be set up at Roshidabad, Kishoreganj RHD Executive Engineer Mojibur Rahman Mollah said.



Expired 14 years ago, Rashidabad baily bridge at Kishoreganj town is being disassembled without making any alternative arrangement.



Jubilant GPA-5 achievers of Government Jubilee High School in Patuakhali flash V-sign at a reception accorded to them yesterday.

JP to take part in upazila polls before national election

RU CORRESPONDENT

Jatiya Party (JP) chairman HM Ershad yesterday said his party will participate in upazila polls even if it is held before national election.

He also said the government decision to revive Upazila Parishad is a correct decision.

JP will take part in the upazila and the parliamentary elections for the sake of establishing democracy and help root out corruption, he told a press conference at Rajshahi Circuit House.

He urged party men to prepare for upazila and national elections. People will vote for JP in the polls because they were happy when the party was in power in the past.

"The government will not violate the constitution by holding the city corporation, municipi-

pal and upazila elections. I believe credible elections will be held under the caretaker government".

Ershad said his party is looking for qualified and honest candidates for the planned upazila election.

He also hoped that the upcoming local body and parliamentary elections will be free from influence of black money and muscle power.

The JP chief alleged that the BNP-Jamaat alliance while in power had planned a 'farical' election to cling to power.

JP secretary general Ruhul Amain Hawlader, former Rajshahi City Corporation Mayor Durul Huda, former JP lawmaker Abul Hossain, district JP leaders Faimuddin Sarker, AB Siddik and Saiful Islam Khoka were present at the conference.

Corruption Commission arrest of corrupt political leaders.

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Lift emergency, try war criminals

Satkhira JSD demands

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

Satkhira district JSD at its first executive committee meeting yesterday since allowing indoor politics urged the government to lift emergency, saying this is a precondition to holding a free, fair and credible national election.

They also urged the government not to hold upazila polls before parliamentary election as it will 'hamper' the national election.

They also demanded trial of war criminals as they were involved in killing, loot, rape and arson during the Liberation War.

The government should initiate the trial as war criminals did crimes against the state.

The meeting also called upon the government to implement the National Women Development Policy, arguing that it is not anti-Islamic.

They demanded release of Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina and withdrawal of the 'false' cases against her.

Chaired by district JSD vice-president Subhas Chandra Sarker, the meeting was held at Patkelghata thana JSD office in Talaupazila.

The government arrested

many leaders of major political parties but Jamaat-e-Islami leaders are untouched though many of them were involved in corruption, they said.

JSD leaders at the meeting also criticised the government for enhancing prices of fuel and fertilizer and urged it to take effective steps to control price hike of essentials and introduce rationing system.

They also urged the Election Commission (EC) not to delimit five constituencies in Satkhira, reducing the number of parliamentary seats in the district to four.

Advertisement for Directorate General Defence Purchase, Ministry of Defence. It includes details about the 6th Time Tender for shoes and canvass, including a table of specifications and contact information for the Directorate.