

Religious leaders vow to work for combating Aids/HIV

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

It was a unique occasion as religious leaders especially imams of mosques and priests of shrines and temples at a workshop in Satkhira town yesterday vowed to play 'appropriate roles' to combat Aids/HIV.

Save the Children USA, Padakkhep Consortium, SEDAB and National STI / HIV program under the Ministry of Health and Family Planning jointly organised the workshop on 'The role of religious institutions and religious leaders to prevent Aids' was jointly at Satkhira Officers Club in the town.

Religious educational institutions and religious leaders especially imams of mosques and priests of shrines, temples and churches can play a vital role in

preventing Aids, the deadly disease spreading gradually in the country creating awareness among common people through religious teachings, speakers said at the workshop.

Stressing the need for religious teachings to combat Aids, they said strict adherence to religious practice can help prevent the spread of the disease and religious leaders can motivate the people to adhere religious practice in their lives and the religious leaders to make people aware regarding deadly Aids/HIV.

"Symptoms of Aids have been detected in 365 people out of 1207 HIV positives in Bangladesh from 1989 till date and 123 of them have died," Md Romjan Ali Khulna divisional coordinator of Padakkhep consortium said.

The government has taken

various measures at different levels to create awareness among people and check spread of the disease, said Satkhira Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Delowar Haidar, the chief guest at the function.

But the prime concern of the government is that Bangladesh is surrounded by countries like India, Nepal, Burma and Bhutan where the disease is spreading fast and that cross border visit by people are frequent for trade and other purposes, he said.

Although there are a few HIV positive cases in the country, the number of such cases in neighbouring India, Thailand, Myanmar and Nepal is too high, he said.

Besides sexual relations, some other factors like unchecked blood transfusion and use of conventional needle syringe to take drug

or blood are responsible for HIV infection, speakers said at the meeting.

They suggested holding of workshops and seminars for leaders of religious based institutions, imparting training to imams of mosques and priests of shrines and temples and launching movement in the rural areas to make people aware of the fatal consequences of HIV/aids.

Among others, Maulana Md Rafiqul Islam, Maulana Sheikh Md Mahbubur Rahman, Maulana Md Hasanuzzaman, priest Bhim Chandra Adhikari, Kanan Bala, church priest Henry Mondal, Rehena Yasmin, Rajul Islam Liton, Shariful Islam, Samsuzzoha, Zulfikar Ali Biswas addressed the meeting with Satkhira Islamic Foundation Deputy Director Md Shahin Bin Zaman in the chair.

BCC to exempt freedom fighters from taxes

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Barisal City Corporation (BCC) authorities have decided to exempt freedom fighters from paying holding and water supply taxes.

Following a prayer from the district command of Muktiyoddha Sangsad, the BCC authorities announced the decision on Thursday.

The decision would be executed from current fiscal year, BCC acting mayor Awlad Hossain Dilu said.

District Muktiyoddha Sangsad in a statement yesterday thanked BCC authorities for the approval of the decision.

Ex BNP minister Pintu, relatives among others lose allotment as 18 plots given illegally

The Tangail housing was meant for low, middle-income people

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

Initiatives to implement a housing project for low and middle-income people were taken on 70 acres of land at Kagmara under Tangail pourasabha in 1978, said sources at Tangail office of National Housing Authority.

The Ministry of Housing and Public Works on June 25 in 2004 allocated 200 out of total 231 plots of different sizes among the applicants through lottery. Later, 13 out of the rest preserved 31 plots were allocated to officials and employees of Housing and Public Works Ministry under seven per cent quota for the ministry staff.

However, the remaining 18 'best quality' plots were allocated to influential people under the 'special quota' through violation of rules.

Former deputy minister for industry Abdul Salam Pintu and three of his family members got allocation of four of the plots. Pintu himself took a five katha-plot while his brothers Sultan Salahuddin Tuku and Maolana Tajuddin and Mashruha Selim, wife of another brother, got three and a half kathas plots each.

As per rules for allocating those plots by National Housing Authority, the people whose income is over Tk 3 lakh a year and

who have land, house, plots or flats within eight kilometres radius of Tangail Deputy Commissioner's Office in his own or family members' name cannot apply for the plots. And only one person from a family can apply for a plot.

Abdus Salam Pintu has land at Akur Takur Para in the town that is only one kilometre from the plot.

Besides, former BNP state minister Lutfar Rahman Khan Azad's younger sister Nilufar Jamin Khan and word commissioner of Dhaka City Corporation former JCD leader Munshi Abdul Basit Anju got five-katha-plot each.

Although the housing authorities submitted on July 2 in 2005 published a list of the affected landowners due to the project, the latter did not get any of the preserved 31 plots.

After promulgation of the state of emergency, the sufferer landowners submitted petitions to the high-ups including those in the housing ministry about the irregularities.

Meanwhile, several plot owners who are facing cancellation of plots, said they will go to the court against the cancellation orders as they had got the plots following 'rules and regulations'.

TORTURE FOR DOWRY Husband, 2 in-laws sent to jail

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

A court on Thursday sent three persons of family including a woman to jail for torturing a housewife for dowry.

Bazul, who married Nazma Khatun in 2007, use to torture her with the help of his family members, police said.

After the marriage, Bazul demanded Tk 1 lakh as dowry to Nazma's family and started torturing her as her family declined to give it, sources said.

On July 7, Bazul with the help of his elder brother Liton and mother mercilessly beat up Nazma and critically injured Nazma went to her father's house.

Informed by Nazma's family, Bheramara police investigated the matter, filed a case against Bazul, his brother Liton and mother Rehena Khatun under Children and Women Repression Prevention Act, and submitted a charge sheet on July 16.

The three accused appeared before the court with prayer for bail on Thursday; the court denied the petition and sent them to jail.



ROAD COMMUNICATION IN A LARGE PORTION OF HAIMCHAR UPAZILA IN CHANDPUR DISTRICT HAS BEEN VIRTUALLY CUT WITH EROSION TAKING A SERIOUS TURN IN THE IRRIGATION PROJECT AREA OF THE UPAZILA.

Outlaws demand toll from banks in Swarupkathi

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Tolls have been demanded in the names of ultra left parties from four branch managers of four public and schedule banks of Swarupkathi upazila town under Pirojpur district.

Related regional offices and branch managers of banks and police sources said general diaries have been lodged by the bank authorities with Swarupkathi Police Station after receiving the threats demanding immediate payments of demanded tolls.

Md Fariduddin Shahin, Md Shahjahan Howladar, Sujit Kumar Roy and Md Safiuzzuddin, local branch managers of Sonali, Rupali, Krishhi and Pubali banks respectively, lodged those general diaries (GD).

They alleged that one Mamun identifying himself as a regional leader of Purbo Banglar Communist Party over telephone demand Tk 50 thousand per branch as tolls with life threats in default.

Officer in charge of Swarupkathi police station, Shah Md. Azad said that police is investigating the matter through tracing the phone calls.

They have also strengthened security arrangements of the bank branches and residences of the bank officials, he said.

421 sacks of fertiliser seized in 3 dists

STAR NATIONAL DESK

Police recovered 421 sacks of fertiliser in separate raids conducted in Rangpur, Jhenidah and Khulna yesterday and Thursday, police said.

Our Rangpur Correspondent reports: Detective Branch (DB) of police recovered 103 bags of Indian substandard potash from a depot at Bidyapara in Kaunia upazila yesterday.

On a secret information, police raided the depot owned by Babul Miah at about 5:00 pm and recovered the potash.

Babul had been cheating farmers for a long time by selling Indian substandard potash keeping in Bangladeshi sacks, police said.

However, he averted arrest.

Three including Babul were sued in this connection.

Our Jhenidah Correspondent reports: Moheshpur police seized a truck loaded with 225 sacks of urea at Mandertala and arrested the truck

driver named Sabu Mia Thursday night.

The urea was being smuggled to India from Ghorashal through Moheshpur Mandertala, police said.

Our Khulna Staff Correspondent reports: Police recovered 98 sacks of fertiliser from a rice godown at Morrelganj upazila in Bagerhat district on Thursday.

However, the proprietor of the godown, Bimol Roy, also a wholesaler of rice and a dealer of fertiliser absconded, police raid. But two of his younger brothers Shishir Roy and Nakul Roy were arrested.

The recovered fertiliser included 48 sacks of TSP and 50 sacks of potash, police said.

When contacted, Morrelganj Police Station officer-in-charge said Bimol used to hoard fertiliser in the rice godown to sell them in black markets.

Hundreds of farmers demonstrated in front of the office of Morrelganj upazila nirbahi officer on July 10 demanding fertiliser for aman cultivation.

Nabinagar OC closed to Rajshahi Police Lines

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Nabinagar Police Station officer-in-charge (OC) Md Abdus Salam was closed to Rajshahi Range Police Lines following various allegations from people, police said.

The action was taken against him following complaints lodged by people in the upazila on several occasions, local police said.

Inspector general of police (IGP) Noor Muhammad sent the office order to Brahmanbaria superintendent of police (SP) Md Ataul Kibria Wednesday night asking for the OC's closure.

While contacted, the SP confirmed the incident.

Govt. of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Directorate of Relief & Rehabilitation
Disaster Management and Tran Bhaban
92-93, Mohakhali C/A, Dhaka-1212

Memo No. DRR/Transport-16/99 (part-7)/433, Date: 17/07/2008

Tender for Auction Sale of Immovable Vehicles

Sealed tenders are invited from the intending firms/customers for auction sale of immovable SAS vehicles on the basis of "as is where it is."

The particulars and location of the vehicles are mentioned below:

No.	Registration No. of vehicles	Type of vehicles	Location
1	SAS-65-2297	Car	Disaster Management and Tran Bhaban Garage, 92-93, Mohakhali C/A, Dhaka-1212.
2	SAS-65-2572	Jeep	District Relief & Rehab Office, Satkhira.
3	SAS-65-2837	Jeep	District Relief & Rehab Office, Meherpur.
4	SAS-65-2849	Jeep	District Relief & Rehab Office, Borguna.

- The vehicles may be seen at the places mentioned above during office hours in any working day.
- The tenderers may submit sealed & signed tender on their own pad or plain paper.
- The price of the each vehicles should be mentioned in figure and words separately, otherwise the tender may be cancelled. Correction or overwriting in the tender document will be treated as void.
- The tender must submit Bank Draft/Pay Order/SDR from any scheduled bank @ 5% of quoted price as earnest money in favour of the undersigned along with the tender. The total amount of quoted money should be deposited within the stipulated date after acceptance of the tender by the authority, failure of which earnest money will be forfeited.
- Successful tenderers shall have to pay income tax money @ 3% of quoted price.
- The tenders may be dropped at the tender box kept in the office of the Director General, Department of Relief & Rehabilitation, Disaster Management and Tran Bhaban (2nd Floor), 92-93, Mohakhali C/A, Dhaka-1212 or in the concern office of District Relief & Rehabilitation Officer on 11/08/2008 from 10.00am to 2.00pm. The tenders will be opened on 13/08/2008 at 12.00 noon in the presence of tenderers, if there be any.
- The concerned DRRO will have to send the tenders received in his office with a covering with seal & signature by a special messenger within 12/08/2008.
- The authority reserve the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason.
- In any case of confusion, the decision of the authority will be final.

Md. Asadul Islam
Director (Admn)
Phone: 8851959

Indigenous students demand higher quota in institutions

RU CORRESPONDENT

Adibasi Students' Association in Rajshahi University, an organisation for indigenous students, at a freshers' reception held at the university central cafeteria on Thursday urged the caretaker government for increasing quota of indigenous students at all educational institutions including the university.

Association president Mukul Kisko presided the reception while it was attended by former president Arab Toppo as chief guest and former executive member Dipok Ekka as special guest.

Indigenous students demanded their constitutional recognition and ensuring rights to education in their mother language. They urged the government to form a body to look into their problems including those of underprivileged communities.

They demanded an equal opportunity like Bangalee students in educational and other government sectors. They urged the university authorities to ensure residential facilities for them as well as increasing their scholarships.

500 bottles of phensidyl recovered

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

Police recovered 500 bottles of phensidyl and seized a private car in Ghoraghat upazila yesterday, police said.

Acting on a tip-off, police recovered the bottles Phensidyl from a private car at Khetabmore on Ghoraghat-Gobindaganj highway in the morning. Police also seized the car.

Manhunt for 10 women outlaws

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Security forces have started manhunt for at least ten women 'linked' with outlaws as part of steps to dismantle underground organisations after Dada Tapan, founder of outlawed Purbo Banglar Communist party (PBCP-Janajuddho), was killed along with a woman cohort in June.

The ten wanted women -- Putul, Mukta, Khadija, Halima, Anowara (1), Dolly, Delowara, Rina, Rashida and Anowara (1) were earlier arrested on different occasions but later freed.

Putul alias Asma of Khalishpur married Janajuddho founder Dada Tapan in 1999. Police arrested her in 2000 from Bakcharin Jessore Sadar upazila.

Rab arrested Shammil Huq alias Mukta on July 26 in 2005 from a building at north Shahjahanpur and recovered from her a revolver, six bullets and two bombs. Mukta is wife of outlaw Haroon-or-Rashid of Kashipur under Daulatpur thana of Khulna city.

Detective Branch of Khulna police arrested Khadija Begum with a 9mm pistol from Batiaghata upazila on December 2 in 2004. Khadija told police that she is a cadre of Janajuddho.

Khulna Sadar police arrested outlaw Halima Begum on October 12 in 2004 from a shopping mall in

the city when she was collecting toll from a trader in favour of Dada Tapan. She is wife of outlaw Iddris Ali of Mohammadpur village under Rupsha upazila of Khulna district.

Police arrested Anowara Begum on February 2 in 2005 from near Islami Bank Hospital under Sonadanga thana and recovered from her a six-shooter gun and a pipe-gun. She and her husband are armed cadres of M-L faction of PBCP.

Khulna Sadar police arrested Dolly Begum as a suspect in AL leader SMA Rob murder case in 2000. A court acquitted her in the judgement delivered on August 10 in 2004. Dolly Begum is an armed cadre of Janajuddho, police said.

Special Branch of KMP in 2005 listed Delowara Begum and Anowara Begum (2) as bombers of Janajuddho.

Police arrested Janajuddho armed cadres Rina Begum and Rashida Begum on January 17 in 2005 from near Sonadanga Truck Terminal in Khulna city. A SBL gun, 79 live cartridges and some booklets of Janajuddho were recovered from their possession.

Janajuddho faction of PBCP formed a nine-member 'women suicide squad' in Khulna city in 2005 to take revenge of their husbands' killings in 'crossfire'.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Ministry of Industries
91, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka

Notice

Application for Selection of CIP (Industries) 2009

Ministry of Industries invites application from proprietors/managing directors/chairmen of small, medium and large scale industries for selection of CIP (Industries)-2009.

The intending applicants are to apply in prescribed form obtainable from the office of the undersigned during office hours from 9.00am to 5.00pm.

Application form should reach the office of the undersigned within the office hours on or before 15 August, 2008. Income-Tax Defaulters/Loan Defaulters/Persons suffered conviction in a criminal case within the last 5 (five) years have no scope to apply.

For details visit our website www.moind.gov.bd or smef.bd.com

Md Lutfar Rahman
Assistant Secretary
Aodhi (B&B) Section
Phone No. 9552419



People at Banfur Bazar in Lama in Bandarban district often pass night on such 'shelters' to get rid of wild elephants that killed five people at Banfur Bazar and Naikhongchhari recently.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Bangladesh Road Transport Authority
Airport Road, Allenbury, Tejgaon, Dhaka-1215

Memo No: BRTA/3E-1/Online/Rev/2007-2077 Date: 21 July, 2008

Corrigendum

Request for Expression of Interest for selection of Service Provider for collection of MV taxes & fees through On-Line Banking

Kind attention is drawn to Request for Expression of Interest (EOI) in the invitation No: BRTA/3E-1/ONLINE/REV/2007-1854, Date: 29 June, 2008 published in some national dailies and in CPTU website. Following amendments have been made in the "EOI".

Original	Modification
Bangladesh Road Transport Authority has been allocated public funds from Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh (GOB) towards the cost of the "Selection of Service Provider for collection of MV taxes & fees through On-Line Banking" and intends to apply part of the proceeds of this fund to payments under the contract packages for the provision of such services by a Service Provider.	Bangladesh Road Transport Authority has been allocated public funds from Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh (GOB) towards the cost of the "Selection of Service Provider for collection of MV taxes & fees through On-Line Banking" and intends to apply part of the proceeds of this fund to payments under the contract packages for the provision of such services by a Service Provider.
A consulting firm (Service Provider) will be selected using the selection sub-method in accordance with the Public Procurement Act-2006 and rules made there under issued and published by the GOB. The said assignment will be for a period of five years from the date on which it is commence.	A Service Provider may be a Bank/Financial Institution/Agency or institution having competent authority to collect public funds.
Expressions of Interest shall be submitted in sealed envelope delivered to Chairman, BRTA and be clearly marked "Request for Expressions of Interest for selection of Service Provider for collection of MV taxes & fees through On-Line Banking" by 21 July, 2008 within 12.00 noon.	Expressions of interest shall be submitted in sealed envelope delivered to Chairman, BRTA and be clearly marked "Request for Expressions of Interest for selection of Service Provider for collection of MV taxes & fees through On-Line Banking" by 27 August, 2008 within 12.00 noon.
All other terms and conditions of the "EOI" will remain unchanged.	"On-Line" means "true on-line" where a customer shall have options to deposit taxes/fees at any booth of the Service Provider, while the system will automatically and instantly update his/her deposit account in the system on real time basis.

Md Humayun Rashid Khaliqa
Director (Engg.)