

GULSHAN GRENADE BLAST IN SYLHET

Mufti Hannan among 6 Huji men charge-sheeted

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

The Criminal Investigation Department (CID) yesterday filed charge sheet against outlawed Harkat-ul-Jihad (Huji) chief Mufti Abdul Hannan and five other Huji men...

publicity secretary Md Ibrahim Ali died in the hospital while 40 others sustained wounds...

The then senior ASP Munshi Atiqur Rahman of CID was made the investigation officer...

Following the attack, law enforcers arrested expatriate AL leader SM Nunu Miah...

ment in October last year, Inspector Zubayer was made investigation officer...

He told The Daily Star yesterday that the statement given by Belal is not at all acceptable...

"Charges against eight people in connection with the case have been established...

Huji leader Mufti Abdul Hannan and his accomplice Sharif Shahedul Alam Bipul...

Mufti in his statement before a Dhaka court and Bipul in his statement in a Sylhet court...

leadership in Sylhet region. The plan of attack was taken at a house at Badda in the capital...

The six charge-sheeted accused are Mufti Abdul Hannan, Abu Zandal alias Mufti Main Uddin, Mufti Hannan's brother...

Accused Ahsanullah Kjol earlier died. Another accused Fakhru Islam Fahim has been missing...

About 50 party men including city AL Secretary Misbah Uddin Siraj gave their statements...

Record coal extracted at Barapukuria

Smooth running of power plant stressed

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

Barapukuria Coal Mining Company Ltd (BCMCL) on Saturday made a new record by extracting the highest quantity of coal...

The mining authorities feared that the coal yard might be filled up within next month...

The mining company extracted 4,475 metric tonnes (MT) of coal from Coal Phase-1104 on Saturday...

The two-unit power plant, commissioned in December 2005, seldom run except for the period of June and July 2006...

Since January 2008, the power plant was shut down 11 times either for technical glitches or scheduled maintenance...

The two units consume 2,000 tonnes of coal daily if they operate properly.

Pirates rule coasts as shoals of hilsha in water

Prices fall by Tk 100 per kg following good catches but 35 trawlers looted, 30 fishermen abducted in 5 days

SOHRAB HOSSAIN, Patuakhali

Hilsa fishes are being netted in plenty in Patuakhali and Barguna coasts for last four days...

At least 35 fishing trawlers were looted and 30 fishermen abducted by pirates in last five days...

With arrival of boatloads of Hilsa, both fishermen and traders are busy; and fish landing stations and markets are abuzz.

Prices of the delicious fish have also come down in local markets...

Thirty to forty trawlers reach Mohipur daily with Hilsa.

consignments, said its secretary Nimal Chandra.

This correspondent while visiting Mohipur yesterday saw one mound (40 kgs) of big size Hilsa (over 1 kg apiece)...

Prices of Hilsa less than one kilogram was Tk 10,000 to 11,500 a mound...

In local markets, per kg Hilsa is sold at Tk 250 to 300, which was Tk 350 to 400 two days back.

Fishermen and traders said the prices would reduce further if piracy can be stopped.

On Saturday, six fishermen were kidnapped and 12 trawlers were looted in the deep sea...

On September 19, about Tk one crore was looted in fishes, nets, fuel and cash from 12 trawlers...

On September 17 pirates kidnapped 14 fishermen from 10 fishing trawlers on the sea about 50 kilometres southeast of

Pathorghata in Barguna coast. The looted trawlers included FB Janasi, FB Molla, FB Mohima and FB Kabir.

On September 14, a pirate was killed in a fight with Rapid Action Battalion (Rab-8) at Pathorghata under Barguna when the gang was preparing for piracy...

Piracy increased as lots of Hilsa are netted now, said Abdus Salam, president of trawler owners association in Mohipur.

The victim fishermen said pirate gangs have introduced 'token' for trawlers, which have to be collected after meeting their demands.

They showed a token in which name of the trawler is written on one side and signature of the issuing person on the other side.

A Coast Guard official in Bhola told this correspondent over cell phone that a drive against pirates would be launched in the Bay soon. He however said they have shortage of vessels.

First Jatiya Mahle Festival in Rajshahi today

RU CORRESPONDENT

Leaders of indigenous Mahle community in Rajshahi have demanded constitutional recognition of their rights and protection of their lands from grabbers.

Mahli Adibashi Artho-Samajik (socio-economic) Unnayan Sangastha (MASAUS) and Mahle Dighar Baisi Bangladesh on Sunday jointly held a press conference at Rajshahi Press Club...

There are around 30,000 Mahle indigenous peoples in the country, they said.

Vast lands fallow for want of a culvert

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

In absence of a culvert on a road of the Roads and Highways Department (RHD), serious waterlogging has affected Sanjabpur village in Kamalganj upazila under the district.

Due to the situation, this year farmers have left much of their Aus and Aman paddy lands uncultivated and it caused loss of several lakh taka.

Affected farmers Alkas Ali, Tajul Islam, Salam Miah, Mokaddas Ali, Mujahid Ali and Tajammul Ali said they have submitted applications to Moulvibazar deputy commissioner, Kamalganj upazila nirbahi officer and RHD executive engineer at Moulvibazar several times to solve the problem.

One of them said he received 'unwanted behaviour' from the executive engineer of RHD at Moulvibazar when he went to submit an application on September 18.

When this correspondent tried to contact with the Executive Engineer of RHD over telephone two times, he received phone calls but soon the connections were cut.

Contacted, Kamalganj UNO Musammat Hazera Begum said she will take steps to solve the waterlogging problem in Sanjabpur village.

Party men boycott 'reformist' ex-BNP MP Anwar in Pabna

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

Majority of BNP leaders boycotted a party meeting of Chatmohar unit of the party called by 'reformist' leader and former lawmaker Anwarul Islam on Saturday...

This was the first meeting of the party unit, held at his residence, since allowing political activities.

Former MP KM Anwarul Islam, elected from Pabna-3 constituency, was accused in several cases including one for misappropriating government CI sheets...

Anwar went into hiding after joint forces recovered CI sheets from his house. Later, some cases were filed against him.

Some party men who do not like me boycotted the meeting. He said party chief Begum Zia ordered all to work together for the coming national polls.

branding him a reformist, the sources said. Anwarul is also president of Chatmohar upazila BNP.

Most BNP leaders here boycotted Anwar as he sided with reformists, said party leader Mohammed Ali, chairman of Chatmohar Upazila Parishad.

At least 40 leaders holding party posts in the upazila including vice-president Sultan Mahmud, joint secretary Ismail Hossain, law affairs secretary Gias Uddin Chairman boycotted the meeting...

Former MP Anwar is a reformist. So mainstream BNP leaders and activists boycotted him, said Md. Gias Uddin.

Some party men who do not like me boycotted the meeting. He said party chief Begum Zia ordered all to work together for the coming national polls.

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Mof Chatmohar municipality and president of Chatmohar Uoura BNP Md. Abdul Mannan said Anwar does not belong to the mainstream of BNP...

Twenty-five to thirty activists loyal to him attended the meeting, he claimed.

When contacted, Anwar refuted the allegation. "Most of the party men took part in the meeting", he said.

Some party men who do not like me boycotted the meeting. He said party chief Begum Zia ordered all to work together for the coming national polls.

Khagrachhari dist BNP convening body dissolved

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Khagrachhari

Khagrachhari District BNP convening committee which was formed by some BNP leaders on September 9 was dissolved yesterday following protests from Wadud Bhuiyan's group...

The 11-member convening committee was formed to operate party activities in eight upazilas ignoring former law maker Wadud Bhuiyan and other dedicated leaders...

District BNP press secretary Mohammad Nazrul Islam, in a press release issued here yesterday, declared abolition of the committee.

The committee was dissolved as most of party leaders protested its formation causing division in party, he said.

Wadud Bhuiyan also suggested dissolution of the 11-member committee locally known as Belayet-Salam-Nazrul committee...

The committee was formed at a meeting held at the residence of Khagrachhari Hill District Council chairman Monindra Lal Tripura where 'corrupt' Ramghor Upazila BNP president Belayet Hossen Bhuiyan was made its convener...

Belayet Bhuiyan came out of jail on August 10 after being granted bail in 18 corruption cases.

BNP-Jamaat try to dominate Satkhira Red Crescent

Life members want cancellation of Sept 25 meet

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

The life members of Satkhira Red Crescent Society at a meeting yesterday protested convening the general meeting of local Red Crescent Society by its local officials violating the constitution.

The so-called general meeting was called at Kharibilla, about five kilometres off the district town, to form the unit committee with local leaders and activists of BNP and Jamaat, they said at the protest meeting at Satkhira Press Club.

Most of the life and general members are yet to get notice of the meeting announced for September 25 as BNP and Jamaat leaders who are still working as its officials are hatching conspiracy to form the committee with leaders and activists of BNP and Jamaat, they said.

Similar case happened during the rule of immediate past BNP-Jamaat-led alliance rule, they said.

They urged the government and central Red Crescent Society authorities to stop the meeting that was convened to form a partisan committee.

They also urged people to resist local BNP-Jamaat leaders' move to politicise the reputable international organisation.

They said acting president of the society Dr Shahidul Alam, also a central leader of BNP-backed organisation DAB, a , distributed 1,500 forms to district Jamaat secretary Nurul Huda, BNP leaders Sirajul Islam and Asduzzaman Asad who secretly enlisted their party activists as general members.

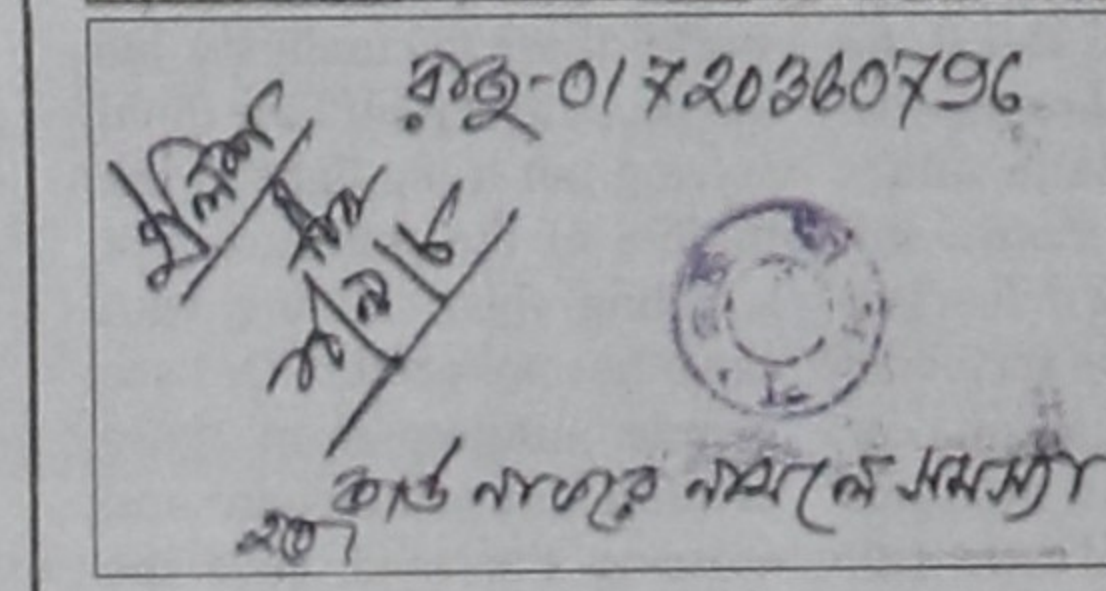
Dr Shahidul Alam who got BNP ticket to contest postponed parliamentary election on January 22 last year from Satkhira-4 (Kaliganj-Debhata) constituency is an aspirant to contest the next election.

Speakers at the meeting at Satkhira Press Club urged the life members to join another meeting on the same venue today to chalk out further course of action.

They said they will submit a memorandum to the chief adviser to the caretaker government tomorrow to press home their demand.

Among others, advocate Abdur Rahim, Firoz Ahmed, Sheikh Nizam Uddin, Ramkrishna Chakraborty, M Kamruzzaman, Saiful Karim Sabu, Ruhul Quddus, Mostafizur Rahman Ujjal, Kazi Moina, Sheikh Touhidur Rahman Dablu addressed the meeting presided over by Prof. Abu Ahmed.

The meeting also formed a 13-member action committee with advocate Abdur Rahim and Prof. Abu Ahmed as convener and member secretary to resist 'the conspiracy'.



Huge hilsa being unloaded from a trawler at Pathorghata fishing ghat in Barguna district, top, two sides of a 'safety token' that pirates issue after realising toll from a trawler.



Water remains stagnant in vast areas of Sanjabpur village in Kamalganj upazila as the adjacent RHD road lacks a culvert.

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