

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS Stand up against parties who nominate war criminals SCF leaders urge people

A CORRESPONDENT, Munshiganj

Sector Commanders Forum (SCF) chairman Air Vice Marshal (Retd) AK Khandaker Bir Uzzaman yesterday urged the people to ensure that no single war criminal is able to get into the parliament.

"The people should remain united and on alert that no war criminal is able to get into the parliament because war criminals are not friends of the nation," the SCF chairman said.

He was speaking at a freedom fighters meeting at the Shilpakala auditorium in Munshiganj.

Khandaker said if any party allies with war criminals and nominate them in coming election, SCF and all other freedom fighters would stand up against them.

He also urged that the trial of the war criminals of 1971 should be

Police foil Rajshahi BNP programme

RU CORRESPONDENT

Police yesterday foiled a human chain formed by BNP Rajshahi district and city units demanding release of former Rajshahi City Corporation (RCC) mayor Mizanur Rahman Minu.

Around hundred leaders and activists of the units participated in the programme at Moni Chattar in the city at around 11.30am.

Police barricaded the BNP activists and dispersed them when they tried to form the human chain.

Rajshahi district BNP President Azizur Rahman told newsmen that the government had forcibly postponed their democratic activities by imposing the state of emergency.

He called on the government to immediately lift the emergency and establish democratic environment in the country.

started right now and that the United Nations should be involved in the process so that no one can obstruct or the trial process like Ziaur Rahman did.

The meeting was presided over by President of Bangladesh Muktiyoddha Parishad Mahabub Uddin Ahmed Bir Bikram was also addressed by sector commanders Maj Gen (Retd) KM Shafiullah, Maj Gen (Retd) CR Dutta, Lt Col (Retd)

Abu Osman Chowdhury, former Army Chief Lt Gen (Retd) Harunur-Rashid among others.

The speakers at the meeting demanded trial of all war criminals, declaring them ineligible for the parliamentary election. They also called on all to boycott these criminals socially, economically and politically.

The speakers also demanded the release of Janakantha editor Atikullah Khan Masud.



Although the capture and sale of birds are prohibited to protect biodiversity, a vendor is selling them in cages in Chittagong city yesterday.

Bid to increase tuition fee in public varsities protested

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Leaders of Samajtantrik Chhatra Front yesterday demanded withdrawal of University Grants Commission's (UGC) proposal to increase tuition fee in the public universities, says a press release.

Criticising the UGC chairman's statement, they said, "High tuition fee doesn't ensure quality education, because the students of private universities are paying huge amount of money as tuition fees but they are not getting standard education."

"Instead of taking measures to ensure standard education in the universities, UGC has taken an initiative to turn the universities into money-spinning institutions through this proposal," they added.

The leaders further said in a bid to ensure standard education in the public universities, UGC should come forward to help university administration to recruit highly qualified teachers, allocate adequate budget in research, ensure sufficient library materials, classrooms and laboratories and provide standard food and proper residential facilities for the students.

Pipe guns recovered

BSS, Rangamati

A patrol team of joint forces recovered nine abandoned pipe guns, nine live bullets and 33 shells of bullet from a remote area of Belaichhari upazila yesterday, police said.

Besides, one knife, one radio, 250 grams of gunpowder, one torch light, two cloth made bags and a cap were also recovered during the drive.

DU math bldg foundation stone laid

DU CORRESPONDENT

The foundation stone laying ceremony of the 10-storied 'AF Mujibur Rahman Math Building' at Dhaka University (DU) was held yesterday.

DU Vice Chancellor Prof SMA Faiz along with Rezaur Rahman, chairman of the AF Mujibur Rahman Foundation and elder son of AF Mujibur Rahman, formally laid the foundation stone.

The building will be constructed on one-lakh square feet of land beside the science annex building of the university.

The estimated cost of building has been fixed at Tk 26 crore. The AF Mujibur Rahman Foundation will bear all the construction cost of the building.

DU Pro-VC Prof AFM Yusuf Haider, Treasurer Syed Abul Kalam, Prof Tasmeri SA Islam among others were present on the occasion.

Mentionable, AF Mujibur Rahman was the first Bangali among the Muslim community in the subcontinent who joined the then Indian Civil Service. He also got the first class first position with record marks in mathematics from Kolkata University in 1920.



A traditional boat race was held on the river Rupsha in Khulna yesterday amid colourful festivities.

Traditional boat race held in Khulna

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

A traditional boat race was held on the river Rupsha in Khulna yesterday amid colourful festivities.

Deputy Commissioner of Khulna NM Ziaul Alam inaugurated the impressive event organised by Nagar Samajik and Sangskritik Kendro. Khulna Police Super YM Belalur Rahman was present as the special guest.

Six teams from nine upazilas in Khulna district took part in the race from Customs Ghat to Khanjahan Ali Bridge. The teams are Meghdut, Bidyut, Bongoan, Kapilmuni, Tiger and Kalia. The race began at 2:30pm and ended at 6:30pm.

The prize distribution ceremony and a cultural function were held at a tastefully decorated venue near the bridge in the evening, with KCC Mayor Tafukder Abdul Khaleque as the chief guest.

Commissioner of Khulna division Md Yunusur Rahman, Commissioner of Khulna Metropolitan Police Md Helaluddin Badri, DIG of Khulna Range Police Asaduzzaman Mian, Secretary General of Khulna Development Action Coordination Committee Sheikh Ashrafuzzaman and Regional Commercial head of Banglalink Babul Huq were present as special guests.

Bangalink, a private telecom operator, sponsored the boat race.

Thousands of people from all walks of life gathered on both sides of the river to enjoy the race. They greeted the teams with thunderous applause.

Road crashes kill 4, injure 29

METRO DESK

At least four people were killed and 29 injured in separate road accidents in Benapole and Dinajpur and Munshiganj yesterday.

A correspondent from Benapole adds: Two people were killed and one was critically injured in a road accident at Navaran old market area on Jessore-Benapole road yesterday.

The dead was identified as Md Tazul Islam, 32, of Phulbari 40 Battalion.

Two other critically injured BDR men were treated at Dinajpur Medical College Hospital.

Locals said the accident occurred when a speeding bus collided head-on with the BDR pickup van at Barokona village

under Phulbari upazila leaving one BDR man dead on the spot.

Meanwhile, 26 people were injured in a road accident on Phulbari-Rangpur road in Phulbari yesterday.

Police sources said the accident occurred when a Rangpur-bound bus collided head-on with a truck at Kholahari crossing at 10.45am leaving at least 26 people injured as the bus fell into a roadside ditch.

The injured were rushed to different hospitals and clinics.

A correspondent from Munshiganj adds: A teenage girl was crushed under the wheels of a Dhaka-bound bus at Srinagar upazila in Munshiganj yesterday.

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2 timber traders arrested for giving bribe

BSS, Niganj

Members of the Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) yesterday arrested two timber traders from Adamjee Nagar area in Narayanganj while trying to give bribe to the Rab members for releasing a truck seized by them.

The arrestees were identified as Shaiful Islam, 40, of Sardarpara village in Munshiganj and Ruhul Amin, 45, of Maheshpur village.

Sources said the Rab members seized the truck loaded with illegal segun teak from Dhaka-Chittagong road near Siddingpur on October 9 while coming towards Dhaka.

The timber traders were arrested when they were trying to give Tk 30 thousand to Rab members as bribe to get release of the seized truck, the sources said.

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DU Vice Chancellor Prof SMA Faiz along with Rezaur Rahman, chairman of the AF Mujibur Rahman Foundation and elder son of AF Mujibur Rahman, lay the foundation stone of 'AF Mujibur Rahman Math Building' at Dhaka University yesterday.

40 hurt as villagers clash in Ctg

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

At least 40 people were injured in a two-day clash between two groups of villagers at Satkania upazila of the district over their supremacy in the area.

Of them 10 were admitted to Chittagong Medical College and Hospital (CMCH).

The injured are Nur Mohammad, Abul Shamsul Islam, Ilias, Nasir, Abul Malek, Sabir Ahmad, Nur Nabi, Ahmad and Alamgir.

Police arrested 13 people in this connection.

They are Tajul Mulluk, Mizanur Rahman, Md Kamal Uddin, Nurul Amin, Ahmad Nabi, Lokman, Nasir Uddin, Mohammad Sohel, Mansur Ali, Joynal, Rubel, Bashir and Nazim Uddin.

Sources said around eight

rounds of bullets were traded between the two groups during the clash.

Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) Parimal Sarkar and Assistant Superintendent of Police (ASP) Kazi Helal visited the spot yesterday.

Police said the clash was the outcome of a long-standing dispute between the two local traders Sultan Ahmad and Mohammad Musa alias Musa Sawdagar of Char Khagaria village over the occupation of a land three months back.

Sources said during a mediation of the conflict, local UP Chairman Ahmadur Rahman Badsha supported Musa while Badsha's younger brother and former chairman Nur Mohammad backed Sultan.

At that time, an altercation over the management of a local mosque

Kaderia Jame Mosque also developed.

Supporters of both the groups carrying bamboos and lethal weapons got involved in a clash on Friday night which lasted till yesterday morning.

During the clash they also exchanged bullets, sources said.

When contacted Officer-in-Charge of Satkania Police Station Abdul Wadud said the clash erupted over the occupation of land, management of mosque and expansion of supremacy in the area.

He said a huge number of police was deployed in the area to control the situation while filing of a case was under process.

Police were also searching for the people involved in firing and trying to recover the arms, he added.

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