

Mindless beautification to kill B'baria canal

Say protesters in series of programmes, demand excavation and removal of encroachers

SHEIKH MD SHAHIDUL
ISLAM, B'baria

Residents of Brahmanbaria town and environmentalists have continued different protest programmes to stop the mindless beautification project on Brahmanbaria canal flowing through the town and protect it from encroachers.

Following a series of programmes during the last one week, several organisations under the banner of Sachetan Nagorik Samaj yesterday arranged a long human chain in the town demanding cancellation of the 'harmful project'.

They also brought out a procession in the town and held a protest meeting on the bed in a dried up portion of the canal.

Terming the project as harmful for environment and agriculture in the area, 14 union parishad chairmen in the eastern areas of Brahmanbaria Sadar upazila have urged the pourasabha authorities to revise it after consultation with environment specialists.

According to a report of Brahmanbaria survey office, earlier the width of the canal was between 60 feet (about 20 metres) to 120 feet (about 40 metres) while a recent survey report of Brahmanbaria Pourasabha said the width has now come down to between 17 to 29 metres.

The situation has arisen due to sedimentation, leaving garbage and illegal occupation by encroachers on both banks of the canal.

The Tk 6 crore 86 lakh 'beautification project' of Brahmanbaria Pourasabha on 4.81 kilometres along both banks of the canal includes setting up of a 1.5-metre wide footpath and flood protection wall along each side of the canal.

They suggested that the natural canal flowing across Brahmanbaria town be excavated and kept open for navigation and easy flow of rain and flood water.

When contacted, Brahmanbaria Pourasabha Mayor Md Hafizur Rahman Molla said, "A portion of Brahmanbaria town canal has been temporarily filled with sands from Titas River as the project has several positive aspects. The width of canal will remain unchanged as in the previous record while smooth navigation through it will be ensured."

Demanding protection of the canal from encroachers, several socio-cultural organisations including Brahmanbaria Poribesh Bachao Andolan, Titas Bachao Andolan, Five Star Club, Brahmanbaria Zila Nagorik Committee,



Pardon me for my past mistakes, says Minu

STAFF CORRESPONDENT,
Rajshahi



forget our wrong decisions and unite to face the wrongdoings of the AL-led government", said Minu.

District BNP President Azizur Rahman chaired the meeting.

Meanwhile, BNP candidates lost to grand alliance candidates in all six constituencies of Rajshahi while six upazila chairmen out of nine were elected on party tickets.

The upazila chairmen are Abu Sayeed Chand at Charchhat, Emran Ali Mollah at Tanore, Shamimul Islam at Mohonpur, AAM Wayezul Islam at Putia, Bayezul Islam at Bagha and DMD Ziaur Rahman at Bagmara.

"Pardon me for all my mistakes. I hope you all will alliance with Jamaat-e-Islami, engaging in corruption and creating intra-party rivalry through arbitrary choice of candidates for contesting the general elections."

"Pardon me for all my mistakes. I hope you all will

6 abductors get 10 years RI

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Chauhaganj

A Chapainawabganj court yesterday sentenced six people to 10 years rigorous imprisonment (RI) for abduction and extortion. The court also fined Tk 5,000 each, in default, to serve one more year in jail.

The convicts are Abdul Manan, Imrul, Yousuf Ali, Md Rana and Qayum of Ghat Nagar and Babu of Prashadpur Mardhshapara under Gornostapur upazila.

According to the prosecution, a gang of abductors led by Qayum kidnapped Abdul Latif from Mokrampur Ghat of Gornostapur upazila when he was going to Rahampur Bazar at Putia, Bayezul Islam village from his residence at Ghatnagar on June 15, 2001. The abductors kidnapped him to extort TK 30,000.

Ministers, MPs in Tangail vow to stop corruption, tender snatching

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

Jute and Textile Minister Abdul Latif Siddiqui, Food and Disaster Management Minister Dr Abdur Razzak and three lawmakers elected from Tangail district at a rally here yesterday vowed to resist criminal acts and tender snatching in the district in name of politics.

They also vowed to make the district as cultural capital of the country through united efforts and fulfil their election pledges made to the voters.

The rally held at Tangail

Shaheed Smriti Poura Udyan in the town was addressed, among others, by Jatiya Party lawmaker Mohammad Abul Kashem, AL lawmakers Ekabar Hossain and Shawkat Momen Shajahan, district AL General Secretary Fazlur Rahman Faruque, district AL senior leader Atuar Rahman Khan, Organising Secretary of Jubo League central committee Mamunur Rashid Mamun, Organising Secretary of Swebchasebok League Hasan Imam Khan Shohel Hazari and district Chhatra

tants and fundamentalists in Tangail district.

He said the people have voted the Awami League led grand alliance to power as BNP-Jamaat government looted hundreds of crores of taka during its five-year rule.

"We don't want to face the same fate what the four-party alliance faced in December 29 general election," the minister said.

All upazila chairmen and vice-chairmen elected on AL tickets from the district were also introduced in the meeting.



Students of Barisal Polytechnic Institute having hot exchanges with police during their Barisal-Dhaka highway blockade yesterday, left, and tyre burning on the road. The students were protesting delayed publication of and 'faults' in their final examination results and demanding re-examination of their answer scripts.

PHOTO: STAR

Five to die in Sabina rape, murder case

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

A Kushtia court yesterday sentenced five people to death in the sensational Sabina rape and murder case. The incident occurred at Lalor Nagar village in Daulatpur upazila in 2004.

Judge at the Women and Children Repression Prevention Court Akbar Hossain gave the verdict. The convicts are Sukur Ali, Kamrul, Senu, and Asanur Rahman of Lalor Nagar village.

According to prosecution in brief, Sabina, 14, went to see television at a neighbour's house in the evening of 23, March, 2004. The gang abducted the girl from the house and took her to a nearby bush and raped and then slaughtered her.

Abdul Aziz, father of the girl

Type : NISSAN SUNNY MOTOR CAR
Registration : DHAKA-METRO-KHA-11-9752
Year Mfg : 2003
C.C : 1300
The last date for submission of quotation is 9th February 2009 till 12.00 P.M. For tender schedule and further details please contact

Mohammed Khanam
Executive Director
Claims Dept
Phn: 9560005 Ext. 216

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