

JMB militant arrested in Nilphamari

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Nilphamari

Police yesterday arrested a member of the outlawed Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB), a militant organisation, from a village in Jalhdaka upazila.

Jalhdaka police rounded up Mashhur Rahman, 40, an assistant teacher of local Rahmania Madrassa in a raid on a house at Purba Khutamura Choupathia village in the morning.

Son of Khalilur Rahman at the same village, Mashhur is an active member of JMB, said Jalhdaka Police Station Officer-in-Charge (OC) Norendra Nath Sarkar.

He was arrested on the basis of information provided by 13 JMB men arrested in Nilphamari, Rangpur and Lalmonirhat districts during last two months, the OC said.

A large number of 'Jihadi' books, leaflets and important letters were recovered from Mashhur's possession, he added.

The arrestee was being interrogated at Jalhdaka Police Station.

8 Shibir men sent to jail

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

Eight activists of Islamic Chhatra Shibir (ICS) arrested in connection with Sunday's clash have been sent to jail yesterday. They were allegedly involved in attack on Talamiz-e-Islamia, a student front of Anjuman-e-Al-Islah.

Two Talamiz workers were injured in the attack that took place on the first day of Dakhl Examination at Moulvibazar Town Kamil Madrassa.

The ICS activists sought bail but the court rejected their prayers and ordered to sent them to jail.

Fertiliser shortage worries Moulvibazar farmers

Boro saplings threatened for scanty supply

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

Boro farmers in Rajnagar upazila under Moulvibazar district are worried as supply of fertiliser is too scanty to meet their requirement.

Boro saplings are now turning reddish for want of fertiliser, said farmers of Kawadighi Haor areas in Rajnagar upazila.

Planted saplings of Boro, the only crop of the haor area, will be damaged if fertiliser cannot be applied within four or five days, they said.

Meanwhile, Moulvibazar Deputy Commissioner's Office yesterday received a

letter from the ministry concerned that informed about allocation of 500 tonnes of fertiliser to meet the urgent need for the district.

During a visit to Azader Bazaar in Rajnagar upazila on Tuesday, this correspondent saw over two hundred farmers standing in queue in front of a dealer's outlet. They were holding token for fertiliser given by Upazila Agriculture Office.

Farmers, who were lucky enough to get fertiliser from the dealer, said the amount was much less than requirement.

"I got only 25 kg of fertiliser after three days, but I need 300

kg," said Abdul Kadir of Paschimbhag village.

Tauhid Ali, fertiliser dealer at the outlet in Azader Bazaar, said, "Only 10 tonnes of fertiliser have been supplied to my outlet whereas the demand is 50 tonnes. I sold fertilisers to 100 farmers till Tuesday noon and 150 more farmers will get fertiliser from my existing stock."

"Only 175 tonnes have been supplied so far whereas the demand for fertiliser in this upazila in the current month is 420 tonnes," said Rajnagar Upazila Nirbahi Officer Safayat Mahbub Chowdhury.

"Total demand for fertiliser in Moulvibazar district is 1,734 tonnes but only 400 tonnes have been supplied till Tuesday. Arrangement has been made through the ministry to get 500 tonnes more from Ghorashal," Laxmi Kanta Pandit, deputy director of Department of Agriculture Extension in Moulvibazar, said.

Of the amount, 200 tonnes will be provided for Sadar and Rajnagar upazilas each while Srimongal upazila will get 100 tonnes, he said.

He said they have target of Boro cultivation on one lakh 25 thousand 970 acres of land in Moulvibazar district.



Boro farmers waiting in a long queue for fertiliser in front of a dealer's outlet at Azader Bazaar under Rajnagar upazila in Moulvibazar district on Tuesday.



PHOTO: STAR

Punish terror Khela, Jhenidah men demand

Hundreds of people in Jhenidah yesterday formed a human chain demanding exemplary punishment to hardened criminal Khelafat Hossain alias Khela who allegedly terrorised the district town during the four-party rule. Khela, arrested on February 11, was involved in murder, extortion, looting, tender scam, vandalism, land grabbing, market capture and many other crimes, locals said. He was arrested several times earlier but 'mysteriously' freed every time, they said. Sadar Police Station OC yesterday said there are cases for murder and extortion against 'infamous criminal' Khela.

Shrimp trader murdered

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Saikhira

Unidentified criminals Tuesday night killed a shrimp cultivator at village Sreeula in Assassuni upazila.

Police said Babar Ali Moral, 70, went to a local mosque for offering evening prayers on Tuesday and since then he went missing.

Local people found the body of the victim in a bush at village Sreeula early morning yesterday.

Earlier, a gang of miscreants occupied Moral's shrimp enclosure at Sreeula following a dispute between the victim and another person of the same village on February 16, sources said. The murder is a sequel to the dispute, police suspect.

Fake medicine company shut

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

A mobile court here yesterday sealed off a fake pharmaceutical company and arrested four people including its so-called managing director.

A large quantity substandard vitamins, anti-worm medicine and cough syrup branded as V-tech, Bio-tech, and Masulset worth Tk10 lakh were seized from there.

Later, the court realised Tk 50 lakh as fine in its owners and released the four giving bonds.

Administrative magistrate ATM Mahbubul Karim led the mobile court with the help of Rab personnel.

Table with 3 columns: Sr. No., Name, and Address. It lists various individuals and their details.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Department of Immigration & Passports, Passport Bhaban, E-7, Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207

Invitation for Re-Tenders. A detailed table with 29 rows containing information about the tender process, including dates, locations, and contact details.

SCC organogram finally okayed after 4 years

IQBAL SIDDIQUEE, Sylhet

At long last, the ministry of LGRD has approved the organogram of Sylhet City Corporation (SCC), four years after submission of the same.

However, the approved organogram allows a 650-strong manpower for 31 departments and sections of the SCC while the SCC had proposed for 850 staff to manage matters related to over 6 lakh city dwellers.

A letter from the LGRD ministry confirming approval of the organogram reached the SCC one week ago.

"We got an organogram within a few weeks after this government's assumption to power whereas things remained hanging for years due to political reasons. Now I would continue pressing for raising the number of manpower," said city Mayor Badar Uddin Ahmed Kamran.

Although the then BNP government announced the country's 6th administration division Sylhet in 1994, things proceeded very slowly.

Following a gazette notification declaring Sylhet City Corporation on July 16 of 2002, and the then chairman of Sylhet pourasava, Badar Uddin Ahmed Kamran took over as the first mayor of SCC on July 28.

Kamran, an Awami League leader, also became the first elected mayor of SCC in March 20 polls in 2003 defeating the then district BNP chief MA Haque. Kamran was re-elected in the August 4 polls last year.

The former pourasava staff were too insufficient to cope with the increased workload for extended areas in the city corporation but the ministry concerned took no initiative to raise the number of SCC staff.

The city corporation in phases temporarily appointed 431 staff members for smooth running of their works.

In December 2007, the LGRD ministry asked the SCC authorities to stop payment of salary and other benefits of some 431 staff, terming their appointment 'illegal and unapproved'.

The SCC fell into crisis as the employees went on strike immediately. Later, following filing of a writ petition by the employees, the High Court issued injunction on the government order for stopping payment of salary and other benefits. But things remained in balance as the LGRD ministry did not approve the SCC organogram proposal that was sent on February 10 in 2005.

Under the organogram, the SCC will now get a magistrate, planner and a PRO along with others in the SCC.

Fake examinees flee scene

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

Fifty-six fake Secondary School Certificate (SSC) examinees under Jessore board fled examination hall and did not turn up yesterday at Daulatpur (D-pur) centre.

Thirty-five of them were giving proxy at the centre on Tuesday as examinees from Kamalpur High School while 21 others as examinees from Kalyanpur High School.

Two headmasters, Abdus

Samad of Kalyanpur High School and Ahsan Habib of Kamalpur High School were allegedly involved in the incident. The two are also absconding, officials said.

The fake examinees sat for examinations showing copies of general diaries (GDs) filed at different police stations in Kushtia, Pabna, Meherpur and Chuadanga saying they lost original registration cards.

Invigilators, who noticed the matter while signing the answer scripts of examinees,

informed about it to the respective centre-in-charge and he brought it to the notice of Daulatpur Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO).

The UNO called a meeting of headmasters and teachers of the schools where the two headmasters did not turn up sending bad news. The UNO informed Jessore board chairman who in turn sent a school inspector to detect irregularities.

When contacted, the UNO said he asked police to arrest the teachers involved in the incident.



PHOTO: COURTESY

Businessman and noted social worker Nazrul Islam Shikder giving away stipend money to poor and meritorious students of Uliana Coronation High School in Mehendiganj, Barisal, on Saturday.

Advertisement for SALVO, featuring a logo and text in Bengali and English. It mentions '50th Anniversary' and 'Alliance Française de Dhaka'.

Advertisement for the National Curriculum Framework and Textbook Board. It includes the board's name, address, contact information, and details about the curriculum framework and textbooks.