

Jamaat asks people to join party to 'protect Islam'

Move follows Shibir bid to woo supporters in Rajshahi

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

After Islami Chhatra Shibir, now the Jamaat-e-Islami has started persuading people in Rajshahi city and elsewhere in the district to become its supporters to 'protect Islam'.

Jamaat leaders and activists, divided into four groups, are visiting different areas of Boalia and Shah Makhdum police stations in the city and Puthia and Bagmara upazilas to woo people to join the party.

Some people of these areas have

already informed police and journalists about Jamaat's fresh move to increase the number of supporters in the name of 'protecting Islam'.

According to Jamaat leaders, they are visiting the areas as part of the party's month-long countrywide mass contact programme for inviting people toward Islam. The programme began on April 1.

"We are only conveying Dawat (invitation) of Islam to people, not recruiting members", Abul Kalam Azad, general secretary of Rajshahi

Jamaat, told The Daily Star. He asked, "If anyone joins us willingly, what is the problem?"

Besides, Jamaat posters are seen in different areas of the city with a call for joining Jamaat-e-Islami to establish a society based on justice and free from poverty and terrorism.

A businessman from Puthia said three Jamaat men went to him on Sunday and urged him to join their party to 'save Islam'. "Islam and country's sovereignty are now at stake," he quoted Jamaat men.

"There is nothing to be worried about Jamaat activities as we are keeping a watch" said Akramul Hossain, assistant commissioner of Special Branch of Rajshahi Metropolitan Police (RMP).

SM Hafizur Rahman, additional commissioner of RMP, said none is yet to make any complaint regarding Jamaat's fresh campaign.

"We are investigating the allegation against Islami Chhatra Shibir that they are wooing kids to join the Jamaat's student wing."

Shahina was cheated, raped and killed by 'fiance'

AMANUR AMAN, back to Kushtia from Jayantihajra

A college girl died at Kushtia General Hospital on Monday after fighting for life since Thursday when she was set afire after rape by her so-called fiance.

The victim Shahina, was an HSC examinee from Kushtia Government Girls College this year.

Following failed attempt to pass off the horrific incident as self-immolation, people from all walks yesterday joined a human chain at Jayantihajra village in Khoksa upazila under the district, demanding immediate arrest of alleged killer Injamamul Haq Tuku and his accomplices.

Tuku of Uthli in Khoksa upazila and Shahina, daughter of Shahidul Islam of adjacent Jayantihajra village, had affairs for several years and were planning to get married, sources said.

Tuku is an army member posted at Comilla Cantonment.

Sahina's family sources said Tuku recently denied his relation with her and was trying to marry elsewhere.

As Sahina protested the matter, Tuku asked her to come home over cell phone.

Accordingly, Sahina went to her home from Kushtia Government Girls College hostel on March 28 and Tuku also went home the same day with a month's leave, the victim's family members said.

Tuku went to Shahina's village on Thursday and asked her to come out of home at midnight.

"Hearing scream of my daughter, we came out to see her crying in pain at a short distance from our house. Shahina said that he (Tuku)



and Children Repression Prevention Court in Kushtia, visited the girl at her home.

"Sahina told me that Tuku and his two accomplices raped her and set fire on her after smearing kerosene on her body," said upazila Chairman Sadar Uddin Khan.

Advocate Dulal said, "The girl told of setting fire on her body after rape."

"Shahina said she was set ablaze after rape when I asked her how the incident happened," said Dr Abdus Sabur Khan, medical officer of Khoksa Upazila Health Complex, who treated the girl on the night of incident.

Shahina, who did not speak since Saturday, died at Kushtia General Hospital on Monday evening.

Shahina's father Shahidul Islam on Friday filed a case with Khoksa Police Station accusing Tuku, his cousin Mohabbat Ali and another person.

Police said the accused are absconding.

Khoksa Police Station Officer-in-Charge Atiar Rahman said they will take action after investigation.

had cheated her and finished her. Her whole body was burning," said Sahina's father Shahidul, a retired member of the BDR.

She was rushed to Khoksa Upazila Health Complex where doctors referred her to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH). But the DMCH authorities on Friday declined to admit the girl, saying that her condition was beyond treatment.

Khoksa upazila Chairman Sadar Uddin Khan, Upazila Nirbahi Officer Md Daud Miah and Jayantihajra UP Chairman advocate Akram Hossain Dulal, also special public prosecutor at Women



People from all walks of life join a human chain at Jayantihajra village in Khoksa upazila under Kushtia district yesterday, demanding immediate arrest of the rapists of college girl Shahina.

Dockers call off hartal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Dockers have called off today's half-day hartal (strike) in Mongla upazila and port areas and cancelled its all other programmes.

The decision was taken at 11:30 p.m on Monday following a meeting at the Port Authority Office.

General secretary of Mongla Samik Sangha Shahabuddin Ahmed told this correspondent yesterday that they called off their hartal programme following assurance that the five-point demand including the issue of 4000 sacked dockers would be resolved after a meeting with the new Chairman of MPA who is expected to join next week.

RDA traders observe strike

RU CORRESPONDENT

Hundreds of traders at Rajshahi Development Authority (RDA) market under the banner of General Businessmen's Association observed a half-day hartal (strike) yesterday demanding fulfillment of their 11-point demand.

The demands include withdrawal of extra rent from shops, closure of student messes, political party offices and clinics at the market, setting up of fire fighting equipment, ensuring smooth supply of power and pure drinking water, withdrawal of decision to build a multi-storied building in the market and immediate removal of RDA Chairman Tapon Chandra Mojumder.

Agitating businessmen also staged a two-hour sit-in demonstration in front of the market. Later, a rally was held where the businessmen protested the RDA bid for inviting tender for construction of a multi-storied building demolishing south portion of the market without consulting them.



Unscrupulous people have occupied and filled up a part of Telikhali Chhara, changing course of the natural water outlet flowing through Sylhet city.

ILLEGAL STRUCTURES ALONG 'CHHARA'

Fund crisis, threats to SCC men halt demolition drive

IQBAL SIDDIQUEE, Sylhet

The Sylhet City Corporation (SCC)'s bid to remove illegal structures from along the banks of 15 natural streams (locally called chhara) has been facing much resistance and threats from the grabbers.

Meanwhile, the city dwellers are worried that they may face another spell of waterlogging this year also as the rainy season approaches.

Acting Chief Engineer of the SCCAKM Luthfur Rahman told The Daily Star that SCC employees recently got several threats as they started marking the original alignment of

the canals for recovering those from the illegal occupants.

"If things continue this way it would be hard to attain success", said Chief Executive Officer Kazi Abdul Nur. However, we would try our best to recover the occupied banks of the streams to resolve the waterlogging problem in the city, he added.

The SCC, however, could not do much as there was fund crisis to continue work, the Chief Engineer admitted. Sources said Tk11 crore project for recovering the streams had been lying pending with the ministry of LGD for about a year.

The SCC sent the project last year and after several queries, the project would now be sent to the Planning Ministry for final approval for funds, an official said. He also feared that it may not be possible to implement the main component of the project during the current fiscal.

A good number of illegal structures had already been erected or raised along both banks of the natural streams/canals. Besides, a good number of private houses had laid their outlet lines of the toilets on the streams polluting the environment, causing health hazard to the people around. On the

other hand, many influential people had already occupied lands along banks narrowing the streams.

Indiscriminate grabbing of banks of the streams had narrowed the streams at many points and changed their routings at some places. There had been demands for evicting those unauthorised and illegal structures for long.

Especially, due to shrinking of those natural streams, the city people suffer from acute water logging on a heavy or medium rainfall during the monsoon.

Different organisations also raised the demand for measures against the illegal occupation during the last regimes. Things even got political cover at times, locals said.

But all went in vain due to the over politicisation of the serious public issue. The SCC authority as well as the district administration simply failed to go ahead with the programme for evicting the illegal structures along the canal banks during the last AL, BNP led regimes, they alleged.

However, after the One-Eleven, things got a major change. The SCC detected some of the illegal structures on field survey and marked those with red signs while asking the landowners for

voluntarily removing the grabbed portion within a specific period.

A good number of people vacated their occupied lands in some areas. But things remained almost unchanged as works had to be suspended due to fund shortage.

Although every year parts of the city badly suffer due to water logging, in 2001 about 80 per cent area in the city went under water due to the floods as almost all the natural streams had been narrowed down by indiscriminate grabbing.

The district administration and Zila Parishad on emergency basis took a programme at the instruction from the then Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman as the situation took a serious turn on the following year too. Some portions of Malnichhara and Goalichhara were recovered at the very beginning, but things stopped within a few days for unknown reason.

Last year also, Tk25 lakh was spent for the streams/narrow canals named-Goali Chhara, Gaviar Khal, Malnichhara, Ratnar Khal, Nochai Chhara, Mongoli Chhara, Kalibari, Haldi Chhara, Ghogini Chhara, Ratan Moni Khal Basu Khal, Bhubi Chhara, Jumi Chhara and Dhopa Chhara.

17 sued in Mymensingh, Khulna for '71 killing

STAR NATIONAL DESK

Seventeen collaborators of Pakistani occupation forces have been sued for allegedly killing 17 people, including four freedom fighters, in Mymensingh and Khulna in 1971.

A case was lodged with a Mymensingh court yesterday accusing 13 people for allegedly killing nine people in Phulpur upazila during Liberation War in 1971, reports our correspondent.

Parimol Chandra Das, son of slain Jogesh Chandra Das of West Baghai village in Phulpur upazila, filed the case.

The accused are Abdul Motalab Khan, Abu Siddique, Umed Ali, Daud Hafiz, Shahar Ali, Bonu Miah, Abu Bakar, Basir Maker, Mahmud Mandal, Anwar Hossain Bihari, Shamsul Haque Talukder, Hafiz Uddin and Raisuddin Talukder. They all hail from different villages of Phulpur upazila.

In the case, the complainant stated that the accused attacked West Baghai village on August 4, 1971 and picked up Jogesh Chandra Das, Upendra Chandra Talukder, Dharendra Chandra Talukder, Narendra Khatriya, Nigendra Khatriya, Bajendra Khatriya, Dharendra Khatriya, Abinash Das and Ramani Badra from their respective houses.

He further said the anti-liberation forces took the nine to a bridge near the Kangsha river

in Phulpur, killed them and threw the bodies into the river.

Accepting the case, Magistrate Lutfur Rahman of the Judicial Magistrate's Court asked the police station concerned to take legal steps against the accused after proper investigation.

According to our staff correspondent from Khulna, Ehteshamul Huq, son of martyred freedom fighter Aftabuddin Sheikh of Bhandarkot village under Batiaghata upazila of Khulna district, yesterday filed a petition case with Chief Judicial Magistrate's Court accusing four 'rajakars' of killing his father during Liberation War in 1971.

After hearing the petition, senior Judicial Magistrate Begum Rozina Akter asked the officer-in-charge (OC) of Batiaghata Police Station to record a case against the accused after investigation.

The accused are Musa Behara, 75, Insan Ali Sheikh, 60, Amir Behara, 60, and Shahadat Biswas, 65.

In his petition, the complainant stated that the accused picked up his father Aftabuddin Sheikh from a paddy field at Bhandarkot village under Batiaghata upazila on August 28, 1971.

He further said the collaborators confined his father at Bhandarkot Rajakar camp till evening and then took him to a road near the camp and killed him.

FANCY'S SUICIDE

PM's Office orders probe

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Thakurgaon

The district administration has initiated quick investigation into the suicide of rape victim teenaged orphan girl Fancy following instruction from the Prime Minister's Office.


As Prime Minister's Private Secretary-1 ordered Thakurgaon Deputy Commissioner (DC) Miah Abdullah Mamun to investigate the matter and send report as early as possible, the DC sent Additional District Magistrate (ADM) Abdul Mannan to the spot at Chandanchahat village under Ranishankoil upazila of the district on Monday.

The ADM took statement from different persons in the area.

"I found the news true and submitted a report to DC last [Monday] night," the ADM told The Daily Star yesterday.

On Monday, The Daily Star ran a report titled 'Fancy takes her life fearing mockery of justice'.

On Wednesday last, Fancy, 19, a rape victim orphan girl of Chandanchahat village under Ranishankoil upazila in Thakurgaon committed suicide as she was prevented from taking shelter of law in the name of so-called village arbitration.



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BID NOTICE FOR SUPPLY OF DIESEL GENERATING SET

Scaled Bids are hereby invited from bonafide Suppliers of Diesel Generating sets for Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of a Diesel Powered Generating Set of capacity in the range of 600KVA (600 – 650 Prime Rated) on a turn key Project. Only prime movers and alternators made in USA, UK, Japan and Germany will be accepted.

Technical and Financial Bids have to be submitted in sealed envelopes separately. The Financial Bid must be CFR Chittagong price in US Dollars for supply from overseas and/or Bangladeshi Taka for supply from Ready Stock. The Bid must be accompanied by an Earnest Money of Tk.200,000.00 (Two Lacs). No Bid will be accepted without the Earnest Money.

Interested Suppliers may obtain the Bid Schedule containing terms and conditions on payment of cash Tk.2,000.00 (non refundable) from the Accounts Office of IUT on recommendation of Head EEE Department. The schedule will be sold from **09 April to 20 April 2009** on all working days during office hours (Sunday to Thursday).

Bids will be received upto **12:00 noon on 04 May 2009** in the Bid Box to be kept in a designated place on the IUT Campus. The Technical Bids will be opened immediately thereafter in the presence of the Bidders if any. Financial Bids will be opened after scrutiny of the Technical Bids on intimation to the technically fit Bidders only.

The authority of IUT reserves the right to accept or reject any Bid without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Chief of Planning and Development


REQUEST FOR Proposal (RFP)

Procurement of Datacenter for ASICT

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Bangladesh seeks proposals from interested, registered, and well qualified organizations for "Delivery, deployment, configuration, testing and commissioning of servers and other related peripherals for the Web-based Software Applications of ASICT" under the project "Assistance to SICT (BGD 04/005)".

Submission of Proposal: The envelope should state "Delivery, deployment, configuration, testing and commissioning of servers and other related peripherals for the Web-based Software Applications of ASICT" and should be marked as 'Confidential' and addressed to the **UNDP Procurement Unit, IDB Bhaban (12th Floor), Begum Rokeya Sharani, Agargaon, Dhaka-1207**. The deadline for submission of Proposal is **April 22, 2009 (Wednesday) 11:00 AM in the Bid box in IDB Bhaban (12th Floor), Begum Rokeya Sharani, Agargaon, Dhaka-1207**.

All interested firms may request the Bidding Documents from procurement.bcp@undp.org by formal request to UNDP that will register firm on the list of participants, so that any correspondence, questions regarding the bidding documents and their respective answers can be sent to all bidders.



UNDP
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786 (To Him we belong, to Him we return)



We Mourn

We are deeply shocked and grieved at the untimely demise of **Dr. Syed Khawja Moinul Hassan**, Ex- Professor of English Department of Dhaka University due to massive cardiac failure on April 4, 2009 (Innallillahi wa innaa lihi rajeun).

We express our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family. His sudden demise is a great loss to the family and friends. His ever smiling face, humility, amiable personality and brilliant interaction will remain with us forever.

On this sad occasion a "Milad Mahfil and Isal-e-Sawab for the departed soul" will be held after Asr Prayer at Gulshan Jame Masjid, Gulshan Avenue-1, Dhaka-1212 on 12th April, 2009 (Sunday). Well wishers, friends and admirers are requested to attend & pray to Allah Subhana Wataalaa for eternal peace and salvation of the departed soul.

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