

SNAPS AND SNIPPETS

Two killed in land disputes

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Netrakona

Two persons were killed and 35 injured in two incidents of clashes in Mohongonj and Khalajuri upazila yesterday, police said. Mahbubul Haque, 35, was killed and 20 hurt at Kuchirgoan village under Mohongonj in a land dispute with people of Badiarchor. Khalilur Rahman, 50, was killed and 15 others injured as villagers of Rasulpur and Jogannathpur of Khalajuri upazila clashed over a khas land.



PHOTO: BANGLA CHOKH

WHIM OF NATURE: A few weeks after the end of budding period, a mango tree near Ishwardi Railway office bears green mangoes and buds at the same time.

Three get life for rape

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chawabganj

A Chapainawabganj court yesterday sentenced three people to life imprisonment for raping a woman. The convicts are Sababuddin, 40, Mahtab, 50 and Shafiqul Islam, 45, of Dhaingar village under Sadar upazila. Shafiqul Islam is absconding since the incident. Halima Khatun, 20, of Dhaingar village was raped by the convicts while she was returning to her house from neighbouring village Mohipur on August 22, 1999.

BCL leaders resign en masse

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sirajganj

Twenty-seven district unit leaders of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) yesterday resigned from their posts. In a press release, they said that they had sent resignation letters to the central committee of the organisation to register protest against what they said irregularities and whimsical activities of their local president and secretary.

Retrenched staffs reinstated

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

Barapukuria Power Plant authority yesterday reinstated 53 workers out of 56 retrenched workers following a series of protests including rallies and processions. Earlier, the 56 staffs of the plant were sacked on April 1 without any prior notice. The workers, however, alleged that the authority curtailed their salaries by about 15 per cent.

DB men face bribery charge

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kurigram

A sub-inspector (SI) and a constable of the Detective Branch (DB) of Police were yesterday closed to Kurigram police lines on bribery charge. Police and locals said SI Habibur Rahman along with constable Motahar Hossain was an Indian citizen named Hazrat Ali at border village Anantapur under Nageswari upazila in the morning. Locals surrounded the DB men, alleging that the two released the Indian citizen after taking Tk 20, 960 and Indian rupee 4,000 from him. On information, BDR personnel from Anantapur BOP rushed to the spot, rescued the DB men and later handed them over to the police.

Position Announcement

An International Oil Company for its Bangladesh office invites applications for the following posts from Bangladeshi national candidates who fall in the bracket of following criteria:

1. Maintenance Supervisor

Responsibilities include:

- Establish and populate Company's chosen CMMS system.
- Review and update job cards for all maintenance tasks.
- Review and update PM schedules to optimize frequency.
- Review sparing philosophy and order spares, materials & consumables as required.
- Schedule work to balance maintenance of equipment design integrity with production requirements.
- Supervise and assign the work of maintenance personnel.
- Inspect maintenance work for completeness.
- Keep time cards and other routine records.
- Plan and coordinate shut-down maintenance programs.
- Provide technical input, review & approval of minor facilities projects.

Qualification and Experiences:

- BSc in Mechanical Engineering.
- High standard of computer literacy.
- Excellent communication skills in written and spoken English.
- Must have 5 to 10 years of experience in process equipment maintenance in this field of work, preferably with an international company engaged in Oil & Gas production operations.

2. Production Technician:

Responsibilities include:

- Monitor all production systems and equipment for incipient problems, potential or occurred failures, leaks and fugitive emissions.
- Perform equipment line-out, pre-start, running and shutdown inspections and checks to ensure all conform to design integrity.
- Take pro-active correction action and control where necessary.
- Carry out fluids sampling and analysis.
- Carry out corrosion & erosion monitoring checks, records and evaluates data.
- Prepare routine and special reports as required.
- Apply all EHS policies and procedures actively working to continually improve safety on-site.
- Carry out first-line maintenance of equipment.
- Maintain accurate records of daily operations.
- Identify and minimize environmental hazards.

Qualification and Experiences:

- BSc or Diploma in Chemical Engineering.
- High standard of computer literacy.
- Excellent communication skills in written and spoken English.
- Must have 2 to 5 years of experience in this field of work, preferably with an international company engaged in Oil & Gas production operations.

3. Instrumentation Technician

Responsibilities include:

- Inspects, tests, adjusts, and repairs electric, electronic, mechanical, and pneumatic instruments and systems.
- Inspects meters, indicators, and gauges to detect abnormal fluctuations.
- Tests accuracy of flowmeters, pressure gauges, temperature indicators, controllers and other recording, indicating or controlling instruments to locate defective components in system, using test equipment.
- Traces out and tests electronic solid state circuitry and components to locate defective parts in analog and digital, protection, using test equipment, schematics, and maintenance manuals.
- Removes defective instruments from system, disassembles and cleans instruments, and replaces defective parts.
- Reassembles instruments and replaces instruments in system.
- Lubricates instruments and replaces defective wiring and tubing.
- Calibrates readings on instruments according to standards and adjusts phasing and aligns stages to ensure accuracy of recording and indicating function.
- Records calibrations made, parts and components used, and inventory of parts on hand.
- Prepares schematic drawings, sketches, and reports to reflect changes or alterations made in instruments, circuits, and systems.

Qualification and Experiences:

- BSc or Diploma in Chemical Engineering.
- High standard of computer literacy.
- Excellent communication skills in written and spoken English.
- Must have 2 to 5 years of experience in this field of work, preferably with an international company engaged in Oil & Gas production operations.

Remuneration:

Salary and other benefits will be highly competitive and negotiable.

* Interested persons having required qualification and experiences are requested to send application along with C.V. and one copy of recent photograph (pp size) to The Advertiser, Banani P O Box No. 9075, Dhaka-1213 by 9th May 2009. Please mark the envelopes with the position applied for.

21 Hizb-ut Towhid men remanded

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

Chief Judicial Magistrate's court of Kushtia yesterday placed 21 Hizb-ut Towhid men on four days remand.

Earlier, on Wednesday last the same court remanded 10 others including the outfit's regional chief Mahbubur Rahman for four days.

Police said they gathered important information about the activities of the militants during interrogation.

A team of Kushtia Sadar police led by Officer-In-Charge (OC) Babul Uddin Sadar raided Pather Disha office of Hizb-ut Towhid at Barabazar in the town and arrested 31 when they were holding a secret meeting there.

Police seized books, leaflets and two types of powder, use of which is yet to be known.

Police filed a case against the arrestees with Sadar police station on April 19.

According to police, Hizb-ut Towhid is one of the 29 Islamic organisations allegedly involved in militant activities across the country.

CYCLONE, TIDAL SURGE KILLED 1.4 LAKH ON THIS DAY IN '91

Promises to protect people gone with the wind

A CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar

Eighteen years after the April 29, 1991 cyclone and tidal surge that left a trail of destruction in the coastal areas, arrangement for protecting people from such calamities sees very little improvement.

"I grabbed a coconut tree when I was being carried away by a high tidal wave. As strong wind uprooted the tree I held a piece of floating bamboo and managed to save my life," said Md Yahiya Khan Kutubi of Chhaderghona village under Uttar Dhurung union of Kutubdia upazila in Cox's Bazar.

He lost 14 close relatives including his two sisters, grandfather, grandmother, aunt and uncle on that fateful night.

Around 1.38 lakh people lost their lives as the cyclone with speed of 225-kilometre per hour accompanied by 35-feet high tidal surge battered 257 unions in 20 upazilas of 15 coastal districts at

midnight on that day.

Cox's Bazar, Moheshkhali, Kutubdia, Anwara, Banskhali and Sandwip were among the most affected areas.

If a cyclone of that intensity or tidal surge of that height hits now, the number deaths would be higher as the situation regarding protection of people from cyclones and tidal surges have remained almost the same in the coastal areas of Cox's Bazar, said several locals.

"The cyclone in 1991 washed away 21 kilometre of 40 kilometre embankment around the island. Of it 17 kilometre is still open. Of the 92 cyclone shelters, 50 have become unfit for use due to lack of renovation and maintenance," said Shahriar Chowdhury, chairman of Dhurung union under Kutubdia upazila.

"The mangrove forests built to protest the coasts have been destroyed to make shrimp enclosures. Several villages are inundated if the normal tide of the sea gets a little higher," Moqbul Ahmed, chairman of Dhalghata union in Moheshkhali, said.

Water Development Board (WDB) and local sources said, the 1991 cyclone washed away about 150 kilometre embankment of the WDB in Teknaf, Moheshkhali, Kutubdia and other coasts. About Tk 150 crore has been spent during the last 17 years to repair the embankments, but the progress is very little.

A WDB official requesting anonymity said, "Of about 460 km embankment in eight upazilas of the district, 55 km are risky. Seventeen kilometre embankment is now open. Tidal water enters through the areas and inundates more than 50 villages."

After the 1991 cyclone, 534 shelters were constructed in different coasts in eight upazilas of the district but 154 of them have now become unfit for use, sources said.

Additional deputy commissioner (General) of Cox's Bazar, Md Omar Faruk said efforts are on to repair and renovate the unfit cyclone shelters and construct 277 more shelters.

"Mangrove forests work as safety to the people of coastal areas during cyclone or tidal surge. Although Coastal Forest Department created mangrove forest spending huge amount of money every year some influential people destroy it for making shrimp hatchery and salt fields. In this way lakhs of people are pushed into danger and risk," said Cox's Bazar Environment Movement President Sharmin Afroz Resmin.

Alongside forestation in the coastal area, adequate number of cyclone shelters should be constructed and risky and unfit centres should be renovated at an urgent basis, environmental scientist Dr Ansarul Karim said.

RMC frees two hostels from Shibir control

RU CORRESPONDENT

Rajshahi Medical College (RMC) authorities with the help of police launched drives at Shaheed Pinku and Shaheed Kazi Nurunnabi hostels on Monday night and freed 35 rooms from the control of Islami Chhatra Shibir.

After the drive, Shibir cadres exploded a bomb on the premises of Shahid Kazi Nurunnabi Hostel and then staged a demonstration in the city's Laxmipur area.

Campus sources said the authorities rearranged seats at the two hostels and hung lists of fresh allottees at the main gates.

Earlier on the day, a group of Shibir activists, led by college unit President Abu Talha, met RMC Principal Prof Abdul Hannan at his office and asked him not to rearrange seats at the two hostels.

They also threatened to

paralyse the college if the authorities take any move to rearrange seats at the hostels.

Meanwhile, classes at RMC resumed yesterday after 45 days of unscheduled closure. Attendance of students in classrooms was thin on the first day.

Shibir RMC unit alleged that the college authorities cancelled allotment of 80 seats at the two hostels and distributed the seats among the BCL cadres.

Some assistant hostel superintendents of Shaheed Pinku and Shaheed Kazi Nurunnabi hostels alleged that Shibir cadres threatened them with death for canceling the seats of their cadres.

They (assistant hostel superintendents) informed the police high officials about the threat, sources said. A large number of police have been deployed on the campus.

Ctg CNG-run 3-wheeler on strike

CU CORRESPONDENT

Agitating CNG-run auto-rickshaw drivers kept their three-wheelers off the road in the port city for the second day yesterday.

Due to the strike, commuters have been facing serious shortage of vehicles and were seen waiting at all the stops in the city yesterday.

Several hundred drivers went on rampage and vandalised over 50 vehicles during the wildcat strike on Monday demanding an end to, what they said 'police harassment'. The drivers also locked into a clash with automobile traders on Sheikh Mujib Road that left at least 30 people injured, including police.

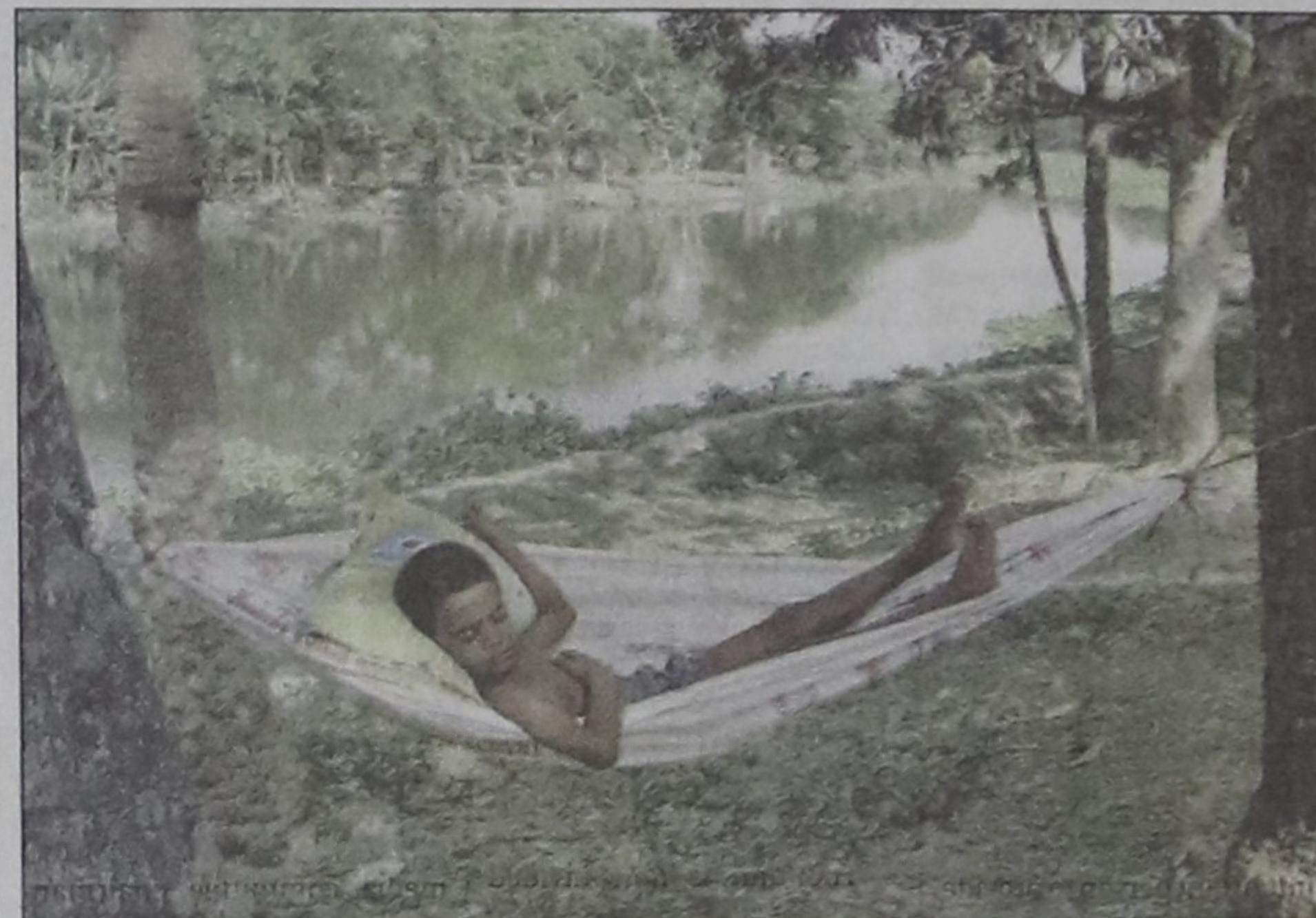
Chittagong Metropolitan Auto-rickshaw and Auto-tempo Workers Welfare Union General Secretary Harunur Rashid told The Daily Star over phone that they didn't enforced the strike but the drivers willingly continued it.

Deputy Commissioner of the traffic department Moynul Islam could not specify any step taken to sit in any meeting with the union leaders or mitigate the public sufferings till filing of the report at 6.00 pm yesterday.

"We hope they will bring the vehicles on road soon," said Moynul, adding, "none would be allowed to keep the city commuters hostage."

The union leaders held a press conference at Chittagong Press Club at 5.00 pm but failed to clarify their stance on observing the strike.

Twenty-seven people have been arrested while seven cases filed with city's Kotwali, Khulshi, Double Mooring and Halishahar police stations in this connection.



For a lull from the searing heat, a child sleeps on a 'cradle of cloth' hanging from two trees yesterday. The photo was taken from the bank of Bhairab River in Jessore, the district that saw the country's highest temperature for two days.

22 hurt in clash over tender submission

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sirajganj

At least 22 people were injured, two of them seriously, in a clash between two factions of pro-Awami League contractors over submission of tender at the Water Development Board (WDB) office here yesterday.

Of the injured, 20 were admitted to local hospital and clinics.

The clash ensued at about 12:00 noon over submission of tender for a Tk 6 crore work, police and WDB officials said. Both the groups used lethal weapons and chased each other.

Police brought the situation under control charging batons.

The WDB officials postponed submission of tender after the incident.

Invitation for Bids (IFB)

AGRANI BANK LIMITED

Head Office, Dhaka, Bangladesh

Enterprise Growth and Bank Modernization Project IDA Credit No. 3917-BD

Procurement of UPS, Air-Coolers and Generators for Agrani Bank Limited

01	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Finance
02	Agency & Procuring Entity Name	Agrani Bank Limited
03	Procuring Entity District	Dhaka
04	Invitation for & Ref No	i) Ref No. IT/TENDER/UPS/215/09: Procurement of Goods(300 On-line and 869 Off-Line UPS) for 300 Branches, 52 Zonal Offices, 30 Head Office Divisions, 7 Circle Offices of Agrani Bank Limited. ii) Ref No. EET/TENDER/AC/237/09: Procurement of Air-Coolers (2 ton capacity-90 units split type and 2 ton capacity-60 units window type) for 150 branches of Agrani Bank Limited. iii) Ref No. EE/TENDER/Generator/236/09: Procurement of petrol generators (207 Units).
05	Date	26/04/2009
06	KEY INFORMATION	National Open Tendering Method
07	FUNDING INFORMATION	Government Fund
08	Development Partners (if applicable)	International Development Association (IDA)
09	Project / Program Name (if applicable)	Enterprise Growth and Bank Modernization Project
10	Packages No	Description of goods & related services Location to submit Tender security (Tk) Completion (days)
	G-7.3(AB)	Supply, Installation and commissioning of On-line and Off-Line UPS for Agrani Bank Limited at different places (300 Online & 869 Offline) DGM, IT Division Agrani Bank Limited, Head Office, 9/D, Diluksha C/A, Dhaka-1000 3.0 (three) Lac 180 Days