

COLOURFUL RALLIES, PROCESSIONS, DISCUSSIONS IN DISTRICTS

Indigenous communities cry for constitutional recognition

STAR NATIONAL DESK

Leaders of indigenous communities in different districts have reiterated their demand for constitutional recognition of the indigenous people and ensuring their fundamental rights.

At discussions marking the International Day of World's Indigenous People yesterday, they also emphasised primary education through mother tongue and protecting traditional culture and heritage of the indigenous communities.

Adivasi people played a significant role during the Liberation War in 1971 but they are yet to be given constitutional recognition, speakers said at a discussion on the premises of Rangamati

Municipality office, reports our correspondent.

Social, economic and political rights of the indigenous people are yet to be established and many indigenous families were evicted from their ancestral land and homesteads as outsider Bangalee settlers grabbed their lands, indigenous leaders said.

Congratulating the present government for taking initiatives for implementation of the CHT Peace Accord, speakers said lasting peace in the hills is not possible without full implementation of the deed.

Nikhil Kumar Chakma, chairman of Rangamati Hill District Council inaugurated the rally through releasing

pigeons and addressed the meeting as chief guest.

PCJSS leader and member of CHT Regional Council Ushatan Talukder, BNP district unit convenor Dipen Dewan, former RHDC chairman and district AL vice-president Chingkiev Rouaza addressed, among others.

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Earlier, a mammoth colourful procession paraded main thoroughfares in Rangamati town.

In Khagrachhari, Biswa Adivasi Dibosh Ujapon Committee organised a discussion with Jana Sanghaty Samity (JSS) central committee leader Sudhakor Tripura in the chair, reports our corre-

spondent.

Indigenous people in CHT and other parts of the country are facing repression and discrimination, Refugee Taskforce Chairman and lawmaker from Khagrachhari constituency Zatintra Lal Tripura said in his address as chief guest.

He hailed the government for forming different committees to implement the CHT Peace Accord, forming Land Commission to solve land disputes in CHT, activating the taskforce to rehabilitate refugees and withdraw some army camps from CHT.

CHT Regional Council Member and JSS leader Sudha Sindhu Khisha urged the government and the chairman of Land Commission to dis-

pose all land dispute cases before survey of the CHT land.

Our Staff Correspondent reports from Rajshahi: A procession of indigenous people including men, women and children paraded the roads of Kakonhat municipality in Godagari upazila yesterday.

Later at a discussion on the municipality office premises, they demanded formation of a separate land commission for the indigenous people of plain land, ensuring primary education in their mother tongue, quota in jobs and putting an end to atrocities on them.

Nine NGOs -- Karitas, Ekota, Ashwas, Jaitun, Manwa Nattya Dal, Titas, ESCDE, ASASUS and Shacheton Sharik -- organised the programme.

Kakonhat municipality Mayor Abdul Majid was chief guest at the meeting presided over by Astha Network President Ganesh Mardi while Jatiya Adivasi Parishad President Anil Marandi, spoke, among others.

International Day of the World's Indigenous People was observed in Thakurgaon with a call to recognise constitutional and land rights for indigenous people, reports our correspondent.

Thakurgaon District Adivasi Parishad in cooperation with Eco Social development organisation, RDRS Bangladesh and Karitas organised a discussion and cultural programme at the district Shilpakala Academy Auditorium.

At the discussion with National Adivasi Parishad President Surja Murmu in the chair, speakers also demanded mother tongue-based primary education for indigenous children and indigenous people's quota in higher education and government service.

Our Chapainawabganj Correspondent adds: A daylong programme was held in Nachole under the leadership of Chapainawabganj district marking the International Day of the World's Indigenous People yesterday.

Brig Gen (ret'd) Enamul Haque, state minister for power, energy and mineral resources, inaugurated the programme while public representatives and indigenous leaders were present at the function presided over by Hingu Murmu.

Organisers of the discussion at upazila parishad ground, Upazila Lahanti Akhra, Adivasi Academy, Adivasi Samajik Sangothon submitted a memorandum with 20-point demand to the prime minister through the state minister.

Manobadhikar Bastobayan Sangstha Pabna district unit organised a procession and a discussion meeting in the town marking the occasion.

At the discussion presided over by organisation President advocate Abdul Matin, speakers demanded proper steps for establishing the rights of indigenous people, reports our correspondent.



Residents of Pabna town join a human chain yesterday demanding steps to save Ichhamati River from the clutch of grabbers.

Save Ichhamati from encroachers' grip

Human chain in Pabna town demands

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

A human chain was formed in Pabna town yesterday demanding immediate steps of the government to save Ichhamati river from the grip of encroachers.

Organised by Sushashoner Jonno Pracharavijan (SUPRO) Pabna district unit, teachers, students, businessman and representatives from non-governmental organisations (NGOs) joined the human chain in front of Pabna Press Club in the morning.

Addressing a rally at the venue, the speakers urged the authorities concerned to remove illegal structures from the banks of the river flowing through the district town.

They said encroachment on the river continues unabated despite strong protests from different bodies. The authorities concerned are yet to take any steps to save the river, they alleged.

Besides, they said, the encroachers have also made false documents in favour of their

illegal occupation.

Later, a memorandum was submitted to the deputy commissioner demanding removal of illegal structures from the banks of the Ichhamati.

The district administration, Water Development Board and Zila Parishad conducted a joint survey in 2003 and identified 285 illegal structures. But no steps were later taken to remove those. The last caretaker government had started demolishing the structures, but could not complete the task.

Land officials said a fresh survey is going to identify the illegal structures. On completion of the survey, the government will take steps to remove those, they added.

Meanwhile Pabna Pourasava has taken a step to dredge the river in 4-km area of the district headquarters to ensure smooth water flow. Sources in the municipality engineering department said Tk 2.82 crore has been sanctioned for this purpose.



International Day of World's Indigenous People in pictures:

1. A large procession of indigenous people marching through the streets of Rangamati hill town. 2. A colourful procession of indigenous people parades thoroughfares in Khagrachhari hill town. 3. Indigenous people join a procession organised by nine NGOs at Kakonhat municipality in Godagari upazila of Rajshahi. 4. Jatiya Adivasi Parishad organises a colourful procession in Thakurgaon town. 5. Indigenous girls present their traditional dance at Nachole in Chapainawabganj district.

PHOTO: STAR



Residents of Kashipur union in Narayanganj barricade Dhaka-Munshiganj road yesterday demanding steps to solve gas crisis in the area.

Chittagong Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (CVASU) Invitation for Tender (IFT)

Invitation Reference Memo. No. CVASU/ED/DPU-33/IFT/03 Date: 03-08-2009

1	Name of Ministry	Ministry of Education.
2	Agency & procuring entity name	Chittagong Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (CVASU).
3	Procuring entity district	Chittagong.
4	Invitation for	Works & Goods.
5	Procurement method	Open Tendering Method (NCB).
6	Budget & fund source	GOB (Development).
7	Programme name	Development of Public Universities Project (CVASU Component) for package No. PVW-4; PVG-1 & PVG-6.
8	Tender package No.	PVW-4; PVG-1 & PVG-6.
9	Tender publication date	03-08-2009.
10	Tender last selling date	31-08-2009 up to 3:00 pm.
11	Last date & time for submission of tender	01-09-2009 up to 12:00 noon.
12	Tender opening date and time	01-09-2009 at 3:00 pm.
13	Name and address of the offices selling tender documents	Principal: Office of the Chief Engineer, Chittagong Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Khulshi, Pahartali, Chittagong-4202. Other: Office of the Divisional Commissioner, Chittagong.
14	Receiving tender document	(i) Office of the Chief Engineer, Chittagong Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Khulshi, Pahartali, Chittagong-4202. (ii) Office of the Divisional Commissioner, Chittagong.
15	Place of tender opening	Conference Room, Chittagong Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Khulshi, Pahartali, Chittagong-4202.
16	Brief description of works & goods	PVW-4: Vertical Extension of Admin Building (3rd Floor). PVG-1: Supply of stationeries. PVG-6: Supply of photocopier machine.
17	Eligibility of tenderer	Tenderers enlisted in any government, semi-government or autonomous organization having similar work experience of at least Taka 1.25 crore for PVW-4; Taka 3.00 lac for PVG-1 and Taka 7.00 lac for PVG-6 each in a single work order during last five years.

Name, description, location and price etc of tender document

	Package No.	Name of work	Location	Price of tender document in Taka	Tender security in Taka	Completion time (days)
18	PVW-4	Horizontal Expansion and Vertical Extension of Administrative Building (3 rd Floor) at CVASU	Pahartali, Chittagong	4000.00	400000.00	270
	PVG-1	Supply of stationeries for CVASU	Pahartali, Chittagong	500.00	7000.00	15
	PVG-6	Supply of office equipments	Pahartali, Chittagong	750.00	18000.00	30
19	Name, designation and address of the official inviting tender	Shah Md Zillur Rahman, Chief Engineer (In-charge), Chittagong Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Khulshi, Chittagong-4202; Phone No. 659093, 659492 Ext: 114, Fax No: 031-659620.				
20	Tender security is to be submitted in the form of Pay-Order/Bank Draft/Bank Guarantee (Form W-3) of any scheduled bank in favour of Chittagong Veterinary and Animal Sciences University.					
21	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.					
GD-3669			Chief Engineer (In-charge)			

SNIPPETS

Railway lines barricaded

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Brahmanbaria

Thousands of villagers barricaded railway lines at Pagachang Railway Station yesterday demanding a stop of Titas commuter train at the station. As a result, Dhaka bound Titas commuter train could not start in time. Bhairab bound Balla local train was also halted at Akhaura railway junction. Sylhet bound Parabat Express was delayed at Brahmanbaria and consequently, railway communication through Dhaka Sylhet, Dhaka Chittagong and Dhaka Noakhali snapped for about five hours.

Businessman murdered

A CORRESPONDENT, Feni

Chhagalnaiya police yesterday recovered the body of businessman Abdul Latif, 30, from Uttar Kuhuma. Police and locals said, residents of the area saw the body lying beside Muhuriganj Road and informed police. Police recovered the body with a towel tied around the neck. Abdul Khaleque, a resident of Ramgarh Masterpara in Khagrachhari identified the body as of his son Abdul Latif. He said Latif had business in Ramgarh. He said they had land dispute with one Hafez Ahmed of the area who beat Latif on Friday. Injured Latif was admitted into Ramgarh hospital and released on Saturday. In the afternoon, Latif went to the market but never returned. Abdul Khaleque yesterday filed a murder case with Chhagalnaiya police station.

Foreign liquor seized

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Chittagong

Members of Bangladesh Coast Guard seized 2,500 bottles of smuggled foreign liquor worth around Tk 25 lakh from two mechanised boats at Gohira near Parki beach under Anwara upazila yesterday morning. The coast guards fired 10 shots to stop the boats. However, sensing presence of the Coast Guard the smugglers managed to flee leaving the boats on the spot.

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