NATIONAL

CONFLICT WITH UPAZILA CHAIRMAN

UNO confined to office, 'forced' to apologise

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Thakurgaon

Hundreds of people confined the upazila nirbahi Officer (UNO) of Atwary upazila in Panchagarh to his office for four and a half hours yesterday protesting his alleged move to lock the upazila chairman's office room and his motor garage.

The agitators also vandalised the furniture of the UNO's office and demanded his removal 'in 24 hours.'

Sources said the UNO was 'forced' to apologise for his conduct and freed.

Joint secretary of upazila Awami League Sajjad Selim and officer-in-charge (OC) of Atwary Police Station Md Monzur Hossain told this correspondent over cellphone that the supporters of upazila chairman Touhidul Islam, also general secretary of Awami League (AL) upazila unit confined UNO Rashedul Hasan to his office from 12:30pm to 5:00pm.

Contacted, the UNO said the incident office where OC of Atwary Police Station, home, my driver kept the vehicle at the ferred soon. fisheries officer Ohiduzzaman and some office at about 10:00pm. Sometime after others were present. All of a sudden, the that the chairman's office and motor supporters of the chairman besieged the office and vandalised doors, windows and

Uncle of a victim in Rajshahi sued 56 JMB men on

charge of killing his nephew while a Khagrachhari

court sent a suspected militant of the outfit to jail

reports: A case was lodged with a Rajshahi court

yesterday accusing 56 JMB militants of murder-

ing Abu Taleb and dumping his body to an

and the court directed the officer in-charge

(OC) of Bagmara to take legal steps in this

ers in Bagmara -- Abdus Sattar BSc of Sakoa and

Lutfar Rahman of Majhgram -- and the outfit's

area commanders Mostafizur Rahman alias

ameer Abdul Majid Khan and his son Anwar

Hossain, a Shibir adherent at Rajshahi

kidnapped Abu Taleb from his home at Sajuria

University are also among the accused.

Goalkandi Union Parishad (UP) Jamaat

Amjad Hossain alleged that the accused

'Killer' Mostak and Mamun Muhuri of Polash.

Taleb's uncle Amjad Hossain filed the case

The accused include two alleged JMB advis-

Our Staff Correspondent in Rajshahi

STAR NATIONAL DESK

unknown place in 2004.

regard.

rejecting his bail prayer yesterday.

he said.

garage as per government rule but denied putting the chairman's room under lock and key. He said the upazila conference room is needed everyday for different purposes including meetings but it is now being used as chairman's office.

ters was repaired recently at a cost of Tk 4 lakh. The chairman and vice-chairman are supposed to sit there.

A letter was issued to the chairman to leave the UNO office but he ignored, the UNO said. He pointed out that Tk1.5 furniture.

Contacted, Touhidul told this correspondent that he had been using the jeep of upazila office since his takeover as district administration officials held a chairman.

garage were locked as per UNO's order".

Sources said, when the chairman

village on April 14, 2004. The next day, the

abductors brought Taleb to his home in seri-

ously injured condition and demanded Tk

but as they failed to arrange the rest, the JMB

men took Taleb to Hamirkutsa torture camp

and since then Taleb's body remained

In Khagrachhari, the Chief Judicial

Militant suspect Shamsul Islam was

Magistrate's Court yesterday sent a suspected

member of the JMB to jail rejecting his bail

arrested by police on Tuesday from his resi-

dence at Shantipur village in Matiranga

Mamun passed the order when police placed

the suspected militant said, the arrestee was

innocent and a simple villager. But court

inspector Mohammad Nazmul Islam said the

bail prayer was rejected as the man gave shelter

Senior Judicial Magistrate Abdullah Al

Advocate Abdul Momin, who sought bail for

upazila, according to our correspondent.

the accused before the court.

to the militants on his land.

Taleb's family managed a sum of Tk 35,000,

75,000 ransom for his release.

untraced, said the case.

56 Bagmara JMB men sued

on charge of murder

Bail prayer rejected in Khagrachhari

furniture. "They also tried to assault me," came to his office yesterday morning, he found the office and garage locked. He The UNO said he shut the motor went to the UNO to know the reason and the UNO replied that he seized the vehicle as per government rules.

The chairman said, on hearing the news, people from different areas of the upazila crowded the office premises and staged demonstration and confined the He said the upazila chairman's quar- UNO to his office. He, however, denied ransacking of the UNO's office.

On information, lawmaker of Panchagarh-1 constituency Mozaharul Haque Prodhan, Additional Deputy Commissioner (General) Zahurul Haque, Additional Deputy Commissilakh was also sanctioned for his office oner (Revenue) Nazrul Islam and other officials of the district administration rushed to the spot.

At about 4:00pm, the lawmaker and meeting at the UNO office. Following an "Last night I came out of the upazila hour-long meeting, the lawmaker told the took place when a meeting was on at his office at 9:00pm. Dropping me at my agitators that the UNO would be trans-

> Touhidul told people that the UNO apologised to him and the lawmaker for the incident. At this, the agitators freed the UNO at about 5:00pm.



Construction work of the 21-story World Trade Centre in progress in Agrabad Commercial Area in Chittagong.

CONSTRUCTION OF CTG WTC GATHERS SPEED

Space booking likely to start next month

SHAHIDUL ISLAM, Chittagong

Construction work of the 21-storey World Trade Centre (WTC) in the port city has started gathering speed and booking for its space is likely to begin after the Eid-ul-Azha.

Concord Engineers and Construction Ltd is constructing the WTC on 75 kathas of land in busy Agrabad Commercial area at cost of Tk 141 crore with the financial assistance from Chittagong Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCCI), the apex body of Chittagong businesses community.

The business leaders in the port city hoped that the WTC would boost up trade and business, enhance tourism and five-star hotel with 240 rooms, two swimattract a large number of investors.

Construction work on the project began in May 2006, which is scheduled to complete by November this year.

Construction Ltd is most likely to miss the deadline as it has so far completed work of the three-storey basement only. MA Salam, senior vice president of the chamber, told The Daily Star they will proud owner of country's first WTC. It will

by the end of November. "Work of the ground floor will be

completed this month (October) while the first floor in November. Then we will (WTCA) as its member," he said. call tender for booking," he said.

MA Salam said the first eight floors will be known as main WTC building and the remaining floors will house a five-star hotel. The basement and ground floor is

floors is 40,000 sqft, said project engineer Nasiruddin Chowdhury. The height of the WTC would be 90.70

44,000 square feet while the remaining

metres, he said. Nasiruddin said the WTC will house a

ming pools, roof-top helipad, threestorey basement with parking accommodation to 400 vehicles, an internationalstandard convention centre, one modern But Concord Engineers and IT (information technology) centre, one permanent and one temporary display or exhibition centre for products of local enterprises and business houses.

Salam said, "We are going to be the

hopefully float tender for booking space definitely help make Chittagong the commercial capital of the country in true sense."

"We pay an annual fee of US\$ 7,500 to the Word Trade Centre Association

"The WTC would cater the need of an international-standard convention centre that the port city lacks seriously," the chamber leader said adding the WTC is expected to encourage flight operations of renowned airlines like Emirates and Etihad to and from Chittagong Shah Amanat International Airport.

'Whenever we try to attract Emirates" or Etihad, they instantly point out absence of the world-class accommodation and a five-star hotel in Chittagong. The WTC will undeniably fulfil their demand and be able to attract substantial number of foreign investors and businesses here," he said.

Salam further said: "The WTC will encourage us to take bigger projects such as special industrial zone or export processing zone (EPZ) under private entrepreneurship that we have seen in Turkey during our recent visit there".



PHOTO: STAR

Students of Panishara Shuratjan Secondary School and locals jointly formed a human chain in front of Jessore Press Club yesterday demanding punishment to the killers of Shaon, a student of the school.

Human chain in Jessore

A CORRESPONDENT, Jessore

Students of Panishara Shuratjan Secondary School and locals jointly formed a human chain in front of Jessore Press Club yesterday demanding punishment to the killers of Shaon, a Class VII student of the school. Earlier, at a press conference at the press club, Ahsan Habib, father of Shaon read out a statement. Later, they submitted a memorandum to the deputy commissioner (DC) in this regard. Shaon was murdered by some local criminals on October 20, 2008.

Acid attack on housewife

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

A housewife received serious burn injuries when criminals threw acid on her at village Kalijoga in Kaliganj upazila Wednesday night. Victim Sharifa Begum, 36, wife of Nawsher Ali is now fighting for life at Kaliganj Upazila Health Complex. Police arrested Abdus Sattar Tarafdar, 48, son of Biju Tarafdar of the same village for his alleged involvement in the incident. Quoting locals police said, Sharifa received burn injuries in her face, hands and chest. The victim later filed a case with Kaliganj police station accusing four people.

Woman murdered

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

A woman was murdered allegedly by her husband on Wednesday night at their rented house at Chhoto Mirzapur Road in Khulna town. Police said, victim Burhi Begum's husband Shagor alias Roni, a vegetable vendor, fled immediately after the murder. Shagor, who hails from Pirojpur district, had rented a room in June. The couple often locked in quarrel, the neighbours said. The body was recovered by police at 10:30 pm who later sent it to hospital for autopsy.

Five bombs recovered

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chapainawabganj

Members of the Rapid Action Bangladesh (Rab) recovered five bombs from Chawkalampur village under Sadar upazila on Wednesday.

On a tip-off, a Rab team went to the village at about 6:30 pm and recovered the bombs from a mango orchard.

The bombs, found in an abandoned state, were later handed over to Sadar police at night. However, none was arrested in this connection.

Fake fertiliser seized, trader sentenced

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gaibandha

A mobile court yesterday seized 418 bags of spurious fertiliser from the godown of a trader at Kaiyaganj bazar under Gobindagnaj upazila.

The manufacturer of fake fertiliser, Zahedul Islam, was arrested and on the spot sentenced to eight months' imprisonment.

Led by executive magistrate Abdul Kader, the team included Rab-5 men, police and officials of the Agriculture Extension Department.

Later, the seized fertiliser was dumped in the Katakhali River.

3 accomplices of Rasu held in Tongi

Chandpur Law enforcers from Chandpur, with self-confessed serial killer Rasu Khan in their team, conducted a drive in Tongi under

A CORRESPONDENT,

Gazipur district early yesterday and arrested his three accomplices. Police took Rasu to Bastuhara, Kaliganj and Nirashpara areas in Tongi and

picked up grocer Manik, his wife Sufia and 'human trafficker' Basu Dey from Nirashpara. Rasu had earlier mentioned the names of the three

in his statement before the court under Section 164. Police also collected the address of a woman named

Mehedi who was killed by Rasu in March this year in Sapdi area under Chandpur Sadar upazila. Mehedi's body was recov-

ered from a pond in Sapdi area on March 13, investigation officer Hossain Sarker said. Chandpur Additional Police

Superintendent TM Mozahidul Islam, Gazipur Additional Police Superintendent Zihadul Kabir, Officer-in-Charge of Tongi Police Station Tapan, ASI of Chandpur Model Police Station and investigation officer (IO) of Kohinoor killing case Abdur Rahim, Puran Bazar police outpost in-charge Hossain Sarker, Investigation officer (IO) of Sahida murder case SI Nazrul Islam and SI Mir Quasem of Faridganj Police station joined the drive.

Faridganj police arrested Rasu Khan at Nirashpara in Tongi on October 7 in connection with a theft case.

Feud in Rangpur BNP rife Bandarban over new unit bodies

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur

Internal feud has taken a serious turn in the district unit of BNP as a number of local leaders have taken stand against convener Ashraf Hossain Borda and his adherents over formation of different upazila and municipality unit committees.

The district unit convener aided by several joint conveners formed the upazila and municipality committees ignoring party constitution, said Borda'a rivals.

BNP activists led by Sirajul Islam Siraj, Rebeka Sultana Fancy, Nazmul Islam and Kazi Mohammad Tareque demonstrated in front of Borda'a Guptapara house on Monday evening when a meeting with 13 joint conveners and 22 executive members was going on there, party sources said.

The agitating leaders and activists called upon the convener and joint conveners to postpone the meeting as majority of the executive members were absent. When police arrived there, the demonstra-

tors left the place.

From a meeting held at the party office the same night, the aggrieved leaders gave a 72hour ultimatum to the district BNP convener to hold a meeting with all members of the unit. "Borda along with some of the joint conven-

ers formed eleven upazila and municipality committees with the members loyal to him, said Kazi Mohammad Tareque. Contacted, Ashraf Hossain Borda denied the

allegation and said all the upazila and municipality unit committees were formed following the party constitution.

He claimed that all members of the district unit except a few supported the newly formed upazila and municipality committees.

Some people might be annoyed for not entertatining their unwanted request regard-

ing formation of the unit committees, he said. After the BNP central committee dissolved

Rangpur district unit committee in April this year, a 72-member convening committee was formed with Ashraf Hossain Borda as convener. The convening committee was asked to form all upazila and municipality committees in the district by November before council of the district unit.

BNP leader arrested OUR CORRESPONDENT,

Bandarban

Bandarban District BNP Joint Convener Advocate Kazi Mohatul Hossain Jotno was arrested at District Collectorate Bhaban yesterday in a case for assaulting an indigenous woman.

Police said they arrested the BNP leader at around 5:30pm after indigenous woman Shelly Pru Marma of the town filed the case with Bandarban Sadar Police Station in the afternoon.

Jahangir Alam, officer-incharge of Bandarban Police Station, said Shelly in her case statement alleged that Advocate Jotno assaulted her when she went to his chamber to discuss a case issue in the morning.

Shelly said Jotno has been conducting her three cases for over three years. He called her at his chamber yesterday morning and gave a proposal of compromise with her opponents.

The complainant further said as she refused to do so, the lawyer assaulted her. BNP leader told newsmen that no such incident occurred at his chamber.

Following her complaint, Bandarban Sadar Police Station recorded the case under Women and Children Repression Prevention Act.

Prime accused in Bithar murder case held DB Inspector Mamun Khan, investi-Mesbah Hossain Buruj, also a con-

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Police on Wednesday night arrested Jubo League leader Mesbah Hossain Buruj, prime accused in Khulna City Corporation (KCC) ward councillor Shahid Iqbal Bithar murder case, in front of Ramna Police Station in the capital.

He was brought to Khulna Metropolitan Police (KMP) headquarters at 3:30pm yesterday for quizzing.

tractor of Khulna, went into hiding immediately after Bithar was gunned down on the night of July 11 this year at Musalmanpara under Khulna Sadar Police Station. Five extremists arrested in connection

with the murder made statements before the court under Section 144 of CrPc naming Buruj as one of the main masterminds behind the killing.

gation officer (IO) of the murder case, said Buruj was directly involved in providing all logistic supports to the killers. He said some other local leaders of the

ruling party, who were also aware of the killing plan, will also be picked up. DB police will produce Buruj in the

Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court Today, seeking remand for him.

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