



The third Karnaphuli Bridge, scheduled to open for traffic in October, still remains inoperative as the approach road is yet to be complete.

PHOTO: ZOAER HOSSAIN SIKDER

Implement CHT accord fully, demands PCJSS

STAR NATIONAL DESK

The leaders of Parbatya Chattagram Jana Sanghati Samity (PCJSS) and its front organisations have reiterated their demand for full implementation of Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) Peace Accord and withdrawal of all the remaining temporary army camps from the region.

On the 26th death anniversary of PCJSS founder president Manabendra Narayan Larma (MN Larma), PCJSS organised a memorial meeting at Shilpakala Academy in Rangamati town, reports our correspondent.

Recalling the role of MN Larma, speakers said the indigenous people will always remember him for his valiant role in the struggle for establishing the rights of indigenous people in CHT.

They urged the present government to pull out all

remaining temporary army camps from CHT for full implementation of CHT accord.

The PCJSS men placed floral wreaths on the temporarily built memorial of MN Larma on the premises of Shilpakala Academy.

PCJSS Rangamati district unit President Gunendu Bikash Chakma presided over the meeting.

Sajib Chakma, assistant publicity secretary of PCJSS, read out a paper recalling MN Larma's contribution to the jhummo (indigenous) people in CHT.

Earlier, hundreds of people including leaders and activists of PCJSS and Pahari Chhatra Parishad and Mohila Samity from different upazilas in the district took part in a mourning procession from Banarupa Petrol Pump to Shilpakala Academy.

Our Khagrachhari corre-



Manabendra Narayan Larma

spondent adds: Khagrachhari district unit of PCJSS yesterday organised a discussion at Larma Square in Khagrachhari Sadar upazila to recall the contribution of PCJSS founder president Manabendra Narayan Larma.

Thirteen indigenous communities in CHT got organised for their basic rights and

Chittagong Hill Tracts Peace Accord signed on December 2 in 1997 between the government and leading indigenous forum PCJSS was the outcome of the struggle launched by Manabendra Narayan Larma, speakers said at the discussion.

As a man, MN Larma was very simple, honest and friendly and his dream was to build a society free from discrimination and exploitation, they said.

Councillor of CHT Regional Council Suda Sindhu Khisha attended as chief guest at the programme presided over by district JSS Secretary Sudakor Tripura.

Manabendra Narayan Larma, also the elder brother of present PCJSS President and CHT Regional Council Chairman Jyotirindira Bodhipriya Larma alias Santu Larma, was killed on November 10 in 1983 by a group of defectors from his party.



Threatened by erosion, this ramshackle bridge at Nabinagar in Sunamganj municipality poses risk for the commuters.

PHOTO: BANGLAR CHOKH

No pry schools in 144 out of 307 Daudkandi villages

Nearly half of children deprived of schooling

ZAKIR AZAD, Comilla

Thousands of children are deprived of schooling as there is no primary school in 144 of the 307 villages of Daudkandi upazila under Comilla district.

There are 77 thousand children of school going age in Daudkandi upazila but only 40,721 of them are admitted to schools, said a teacher of Subal-Altah School in the upazila.

As many gardenias find it difficult to send their kids to

far away schools the children are being deprived of education while many children are engaged in household and other works.

Upazila primary education office sources said the each of the 144 villages without any primary school has on an average 1205 people.

Most of the villages are poverty-stricken and no primary school has been established there under private or non-government initiative too.

The upazila consisting of one purasabha, 15 unions and 307 villages has a population of 3 lakh 70 thousand 60 but sufficient primary schools have not been established here, Moulana Motiur Rahman, principal of Pipiakandi Madrasa, said.

"Thirteen more primary schools should be established in Zinlatoli union as every village needs at least one primary school," said Zinlatoli Union Parishad

Chairman Afzajul Rahman.

According to government rules, one primary school is to be established in a village of 2000 people with 200 children of school-going age, Upazila Education Officer Md Monirul Islam said.

Upazila Nirbahi Officer Saifuddin Ahmed said steps are being taken to establish primary schools in villages without any such institution.

12 injured as Raozan AL, BNP clash

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

At least 12 people were injured as the activists of ruling Awami League (AL) and opposition BNP clashed in several areas of Raozan upazila yesterday afternoon.

Sources said, the clashes occurred while BNP Raozan upazila unit was preparing to hold its scheduled conference at local Salima Quader Community Centre at Gohira.

The trouble ensued when local unit of Awami League decided to hold a rally and stage demonstration just beside the conference venue to protest recent attack on AL lawmaker Fazle Noor Taposh.

The ruling partymen forced the BNP unit to shift its conference venue to BNP leader and former lawmaker Giasuddin Quader Chowdhury's house premises.

The AL activists also attacked the conference bound BNP leaders and activists triggering clashes at different points of Chittagong-Rangamati Road at Gohira, Choumuhini, Satterghat, Urkirchar under Raozan upazila, said the local sources and witnesses.

The clashes continued for

several hours from 9:30am leaving more than 12 people injured and several vehicles vandalised by the AL men, alleged Raozan upazila BNP president Hasan Chowdhury.

The injured included conference committee convener Kazi Abdullah Al Ahsan, Chittagong north Chhatra Dal president Hasan Jasim, Urkirchar union BNP president Advocate Abul Hashem and Paschim Gujara Chhatra Dal leader Md Farid, he said.

Leaders of Chittagong North District BNP at a press conference at Chittagong Press Club in the afternoon alleged that armed cadres of AL and BCL attacked BNP men and forced postponement of the party's Raozan upazila conference.

They strongly condemned the attack on the conference bound leaders and activists and said police were inactive and played a partisan role during the attacks.

Meanwhile, AL Raozan upazila unit general secretary Muslem Uddin Khan refuted all the allegations saying he received no report of any clash in the area. The party organised the rally and the demonstration was held as scheduled, he said.

ATTACK ON BCL AT MM COLLEGE 46 Shibir cadres sued, one held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Teachers and students of Madan Mohan College in the city yesterday held a rally protesting Islami Chhatra Shibir's Sunday attack on Chhatra League men on the campus.

Chhatra League activist Rumel Ahmed of the city's Sheikh Ghat area on Monday night filed a case with the Sylhet Kotwali Police Station accusing 46 Shibir activists for the attack that left four Chhatra League men seriously injured. Shibir's city unit President Shahriar Alam Shipar, General Secretary Shafiqul Alam Mofik and 44 activists including Shipon, Anwar, Akhtar, Rajib Ahmed, Sajal and Manzur Rahman were made accused in the case.

The same night, police arrested Shibir activist of Madan Mohan College Md Nazmul Haque from the city's Kajolshah area in connection with the case.

The college authority at a meeting on Monday afternoon decided to keep the academic activities suspended until further decision.

The reception to meritorious students scheduled for yesterday was also suspended to avoid any untoward situation.

However, the examinations will continue as per schedule. Ruling party lawmaker Shafiqur Rahman Chowdhury, Sadar upazila Chairman Ashfaq Ahmed,

college teachers Bijit Chowdhury, Saiful Alam Khan, Dr Abul Foteh Fattah, Abdul Hannan, Sarbani Arjun and Hosne Ara Kamali spoke, among others, at yesterday's rally presided over by college Principal Kripa Sindhu Paul.

Criticising the role of police on the day of incident, the speakers demanded immediate arrest of the attackers and punitive measures against them.

SNAPS AND SNIPPETS

'Outlaw' held with arms

UNB, Rajbari

Police arrested a suspected outlaw along with a firearm and bullets from Harinbaria area in Pangsha upazila on Monday night. Arrestee Mobarak Hossain, 32, is son of Abdul Khaleque of Char Bamannagar village. Acting on a tip-off, a police team led by Pangsha police station officer-in-charge (OC) Fazlur Rahman, raided the area at about 9:15pm and arrested Mobarak. A shutter-gun and two bullets were recovered from his possession. Police said there are a number of allegations against Mobarak with the police station.

Man jailed in arms case

UNB, Rangamati

A court here on Monday sentenced one person to 10 years of rigorous imprisonment (RI) in an arms case. The District and Sessions Judge Court also fined convict Mohd Elias Tk 2,000, in default, to suffer six months more RI. According to the prosecution, Elias was caught red-handed with arms in 1995 while committing robbery in Chandraghona. A case was filed with the respective police station later. After examining the records and witnesses, Judge Dudu Miah Sarker handed down the verdict.

Robbers loot Tk 6 lakh

UNB, Sunamganj

Armed robbers looted valuables worth Tk 6 lakh from a house at Alipara in the district town on Monday. Locals said, a gang numbering 7-8, stormed into the house of Maulana Ali Nur at about 12:00 noon. They kept the house inmates hostage at gunpoint and took away 15 tolas of gold ornaments, 1,500 pound sterling and Tk 6,000 in cash and four mobile phone sets. A case was filed.

Man to die for murder

UNB, Kishoreganj

A court here yesterday convicted a man and sentenced him to death in a murder case. The convict is M Islamuddin, 30, son of Mohammad Ali of Charparatala village in Pakundia upazila. He was tried in absentia. According to the prosecution, Islamuddin stabbed his neighbour Rafiqul Islam to death at Charparatala Madyapara village on June 29, 2005 over a previous enmity. After examining the records and witnesses, Additional Sessions Judge Tabassum Islam handed down the verdict in a crowded courtroom.



PHOTO: FOCUS BANGLA

Olive has flooded the market, making price of the seasonal fruit as cheap as Tk 10 a kg at Mathurapur Hat in Dhunat upazila under Bogra district.

50 kg hemp seized

UNB, Comilla

Members of Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) seized a microbus and recovered 50 kgs of hemp from Bagra bus stand in Brahmanpara upazila on Monday. Acting on a tip-off, a BDR team, led by nayek subedar of the Salda River BOP M Nurul Kabir Majumdar, conducted a drive in the area and recovered the Indian hemp from the microbus. None was arrested in this connection.

Tahsil office staff killed

UNB, Laxmipur

An employee of Bhabaniganj tahsil office in Sadar upazila was murdered on Monday night. Family sources said, a gang picked up Abu Taher, 40, a peon of the tahsil office, while returning home from Bhabaniganj Bazar at night. They took Taher to an abandoned shop near his house and killed him. Later, police recovered the body that bore several injury marks.

Four jailed for killing 2

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Manikganj

A court here yesterday sentenced two people to life term imprisonment and two to 10 years rigorous imprisonment (RI) for killing Amirul Islam and Abdul Jabbar. The court also acquitted 10 others as allegations against them could not be proved beyond doubt. The lifers are Nurul Islam and Nurul Haque and those who got 10 years RI are Habubulla and Zohirul. Additional district and sessions judge Md Bozaur Rahman delivered the verdict in presence of the convicts. According to prosecution story, two villagers engaged in a clash over a disputed land at Keshti village under Manikganj Sadar police station on November 7, 2005. At one stage of the dispute, Aminul and Jabbar of the same village were killed on the spot by the aforesaid convicts.

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