



Agitated villagers set fire to a brick kiln at Baktaboli in Narayanganj after one of its workers was killed. (Story on Page 2)

## One killed in Faridpur clash

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Faridpur

One person was killed and at least 50 injured in two separate clashes at Bhanga and Boalmari upazilas of the district yesterday.

Shahabuddin alias Saha, 45, was killed and 20 others injured in a clash over a land dispute at Nazirpur village under Bhanga upazila.

Police said the clash ensued around 7:30am when a group of people loyal to Karim Matbor of the village were locked in a clash with their rivals supported by Momrez Talukder in Pukuria Bazar area.

Shahabuddin was killed on the spot. On information, police rushed to the spot and brought the situation under control.

The critically injured were admitted to

Bhanga Upazila Health Complex and Faridpur Medical College Hospital.

Meanwhile, at least 30 people, including four policemen and two women, were injured in a clash between two rival groups led by two siblings at Char Shekhar village under Boalmari.

Three shops and five houses were also ransacked during the clash.

Locals said two brothers Kolom and Badal - one belongs to AL supporter Abul Kalam Azad, a UP chairman of Shekhar union, and the other is loyal to Raisul Islam Palash, president of Boalmari upazila Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD).

On Thursday night, both the brothers locked into a conflict over family feud. The following day, the activists of Azad attacked the houses of BNP supporters with locally made weapons. Later, BNP

supporters made a counter attack on AL supporters and locked into a fierce clash.

On information, Boalmari police went to the spot and tried to quell the conflict. At one stage, AL supporters attacked the law enforcers, leaving policemen injured.

They were identified as constables Md Awlad Hossain, Md Imdadul Haque, Abdur Razzak and Md Kamrul Islam.

The critically injured from both sides Md Thandu, 34, Bakiar, 40, Jakir, 38, Afjar, 37, and Farid Sheikh, 45, were admitted to Faridpur Medical College Hospital.

Additional police from Faridpur and Rab member went to the spot and brought the situation under control. Police arrested seven people in this connection.

## Kallyan Party for qualitative changes in politics

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

People in the country want qualitative changes in politics, Chairman of Bangladesh Kallyan Party (BKP) Maj Gen (retd) Syed Muhammad Ibrahim Bir Pratik said yesterday.

He was speaking at a discussion organised to mark the second founding anniversary of BKP at the party head office at Mohakhali DOHS.

Ibrahim founded the party at a conference in the city in 2007.

Speaking at the discussion, he said the country should be ruled by efficient, patriotic and educated people to survive in the competitive world with dignity and pride.

The leaders who are ruling the country should be strict and firm about implementing the aims of the liberation war, he added.

The party leaders at the discussion stressed expediting the organising activities of the party to reach more people.

After the discussion, a meeting of the national standing committee was also held where they discussed plans to make the founding anniversary programme at Engineers' Institute in the city on December 10 a success, says a press release.

## Phulbari Freedom Day observed

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

Phulbari Freedom Day was observed in a befitting manner at Phulbari upazila here yesterday.

On December 4 in 1971, valiant freedom fighters freed the upazila of Pakistani army by hoisting the flag of independent Bangladesh in the upazila town after a nine-month fierce fighting with the hyenas the previous night.

The Pakistani occupation forces made a quick getaway from Phulbari on that day and the freedom fighters entered the town in the morning.

As the news spread, people from the adjacent villages came to the upazila town and rejoiced by chanting slogans 'Joy Bangla' with the freedom fighters.

On March 25 in 1971, the Pakistani forces launched a crackdown on the upazila with the help of its collaborators following the March 24 deadlock in Dhaka during the liberation war.

After the historic address by Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman on March 7, the freedom fighters formed a protection committee.

But the Bangladeshi collaborators provoked the Pakistani hyenas to carry out arson attacks, loot, pillage and killings of innocent people at Phulbari.

On April 2 morning, the Pakistani troops shelled Phulbari heavily from different points and entered the upazila. The Pakistani troops of Battalion-3 were headquartered at Phulbari upazila to cover five upazilas of Dinajpur, including Phulbari, Birampur, Nawabganj, Hakimpur and Goraghat.

The occupation forces with the help of their collaborators conducted massive searches at the houses of the upazila, looted valuables and tortured and raped women and young girls.

As anguish of Pakistani forces and their collaborators climaxed, the freedom fighters made several attacks on them. The fierce fighting intensified further as the Indian forces joined the freedom fighters forcing the Pakistani army to retreat.

Freedom Fighter Commander Monsur Ali Sarker hoisted the flag of independent Bangladesh at Phulbari C&B Bungalow in presence of Maj PK Singh of Indian forces on December 4 in 1971.

## BCL man stabbed in Feni, 4 held

A CORRESPONDENT, Feni

Unidentified criminals stabbed a Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) activist indiscriminately at Daulatpur Chhoygharia village at Chhagalnaiya in Feni yesterday.

However, police have arrested Abdul Motaleb, 30, Abdullah Al Mamun, 22, Ripon, 23, and Mosharraf Hossain, 28, from the spot.

The victim, identified as Ariful Haque, 25, was rushed to Feni Sadar Hospital and later shifted to Chittagong Medical College Hospital.

Police and local people said the criminals attacked Ariful when he was chatting with others in a tea stall near his home.

## PUBLIC HEARING ON CLIMATE CHANGE

## Reach consensus on reducing greenhouse gas emissions

### Developed countries urged

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a programme yesterday called on the developed countries to reach a consensus to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the upcoming Copenhagen conference.

They also demanded signing of a treaty to save lives and livelihoods of poor people of the developing countries affected by the impacts of climate change.

Campaign for Sustainable and Rural Livelihood (CSRL) of Oxfam-GB Bangladesh organised a 'National public hearing on climate change and Baul rally' at Ramna Batamul in the city as part of their year-long public hearing in different areas across the country.

Prior to the mass hearing, a procession of around 200 Baul singers was brought out from the National Press Club that ended at Ramna Batamul.

The Baul singers through their folk songs told the harrowing tales of the helpless people

devastated by the climate change and their struggle and rights.

They also upheld the impacts of climate change on the lives of remotest areas of the country, urging all to become active to deal with the global warming and resultant impacts.

Saber Hossain Chowdhury, chairman of all-party parliamentary group on climate change and environment, Abdul Momin Talukder, chairman of parliamentary standing committee on environment and forest ministry, Dr Quazi Kholiquzzaman Ahmad, president of Bangladesh Economic Association, Dr Ahsan Uddin Ahmed, coordinator of CSRL, Dr Jafar Ahmed Khan, director general of the directorate of environment, and Syeda Rizwana Hasan, executive director of Bangladesh Environmental Lawyers' Association (BELA), were present at the occasion as the panel of judges.

Ziaul Haq Mukta of CSRL moderated the programme.



Baul singers take out a colourful procession organised by Campaign for Sustainable Rural Livelihood (CSRL) of Oxfam-GB Bangladesh as part of a public hearing on climate change at Ramna Batamul in the city yesterday.

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## Vacancy Announcement South Asia Programme Director

Sightsavers International, a leading international NGO, has a vision of a world where no-one is blind from avoidable causes and where the visually impaired participate equally in society. It works with partners in 34 developing countries across Africa, Asia and Caribbean to eliminate avoidable blindness and promote equality of opportunity for disabled people.

The organization invites applications from qualified candidates for the position of South Asia Programme Director. The incumbent will report to the Director of International Programme Operations (IPOD) and will provide leadership support and guidance to the Country Directors in Bangladesh, Pakistan and Sri Lanka and will be based in one of these countries. The job will have an adequate level of autonomy and delegation. The incumbent will work in close relationships with Regional Directors, SMT Directors, senior roles in Strategic Programme Development (SPD) and International Programme Operations.

### The Role

- Provide strategic support to the Country Directors in the preparation and implementation of their strategic, operational and funding plans.
- Ensure the identification, development and implementation of high quality programmes embracing the new strategy and in line with agreed policies, principles and standards.
- Ensure systems and processes are maintained and improved, where necessary, for effective programme monitoring and reporting purposes.
- Ensure financial control and performance reporting systems are in place throughout the Region.
- Work closely with the HR and Finance Teams in the UK who support the countries, Programme Operations Support Manager, and strategic programme development to maximize their support.
- Adopt an empowering approach in coaching, guiding, and managing the Country Directors in line with SMART performance objectives, ensuring that they implement the same for their staff in the country offices.
- Support the Director of International Programme Operations in managing the change to a more country led structure, within an overall framework of standards and controls.
- Develop, maintain, and improve processes (including meetings and communications), as necessary, contributing to building the team, sharing, and engagement across the countries and also with India as part of a wider South East Asia Region engagement.
- Provide strategic guidance on programme development and implementation and liaison with the SPD team to ensure that their work is aligned with country programmes.
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- Familiarize with current development trends and approaches globally and within the region to ensure that Sightsavers practices and policies are based on best practice.
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