

VICTORY DAY CELEBRATED IN DISTRICTS

Call for trial of war criminals

STAR NATIONAL DESK

Victory Day was celebrated in different districts yesterday with renewed pledge for standing firm in the demand for the trial of war criminals.

Thousands of people from all walks of life kept the streets in Rajshahi city lively as they observed the 38th Victory Day with enthusiasm, reports our staff correspondent from Rajshahi.

The day's programme began with giving 31 times gun salutes by the district administration and Rajshahi City Corporation's placing wreaths at Bhubon Mohan Park Central Shaheed Minar at 12:01am.

Then lawmaker Fazle Hossain Badsha placed wreaths there and read out an oath to hundreds of people declaring a firm stand for the trial of war criminals and restoration of 1972 constitution.

Besides placing wreaths at different Shaheed Minars in the city, political, social and cultural organisations arranged patriotic songs, street drama, recitation of poetry, mass songs, photo exhibition and blood donation programme and health camp at different places of the city.

The Victory Day programme at Rajshahi University (RU) campus

began with placing of wreath at the Central Shaheed Minar by the university Vice-Chancellor Prof Abdus Sobhan at 12:01am, reports a correspondent from RU.

Different organisations held discussions and cultural programmes including patriotic songs, street drama, poetry recitation at different points of the campus.

People from all walks of life celebrated the Victory Day with enthusiasm and festivity in the port city as elsewhere of the country yesterday, reports our staff correspondent from Chittagong.

Primary and Mass Education Minister Dr Afsarul Amin was the first to place wreath paying homage to the martyrs of Liberation War at the Central Shahid Minar in the city and Chittagong City Corporation Mayor ABM Mohiuddin Chowdhury followed.

High officials of civil administration and police, Mukti Joddha Sangsad, political, social, cultural and professional organisations paid homage to the martyrs by placing wreaths.

A large number of people went to the Central Shahid Minar and placed floral wreaths to pay tribute to the martyrs of Liberation War in the early hours of the day.

Different programmes including colourful processions were brought out to mark the day.

Programmes of the Victory Day in Khulna began with a 31 times gun salute at one minute past 12 midnight at the independence memorial at Gallamari, reports our staff correspondent.

State Minister for Labour and Employment Begum Munnujan Sufian and city Mayor Talukder Abdul Khaled placed wreaths there to pay homage to the Liberation War martyrs.

Leaders of several political parties, socio-cultural organisations, high officials of civil and police administrations, judiciary, army and Rapid Action Battalion, teachers of different institutions also placed wreaths.

Victory Day programmes in the city included march past at Khulna Stadium, discussions on Liberation War, show of documentary films, painting competitions, and melaahs and special prayers at mosques, temples and churches.

Pabna district unit of Mukti Joddha Sangsad and district unit of Awami League organised a Victory Day rally in the town yesterday noon, reports our Pabna correspondent.

"Trial of the war criminals is the

oath to the Victory Day this year. The present government is determined to ensure trial of the war criminals," The state minister for Home Shamsul Haque Tuku said during inauguration of the rally.

"Trial of the killers of Bangabandhu has been completed. Trial of August 21 grenade attack case and 10-truck arms case will also be done. People should remain alert as conspirators are active," Tuku said on the occasion.

Different political and social organisations and educational institutions placed wreaths at Durjoy Pabna, a Liberation War memorial, and arranged discussions and cultural programmes.

Our Netrakona Correspondent adds: District administration and different social and political organisations took various programmes to mark the 38th Victory Day yesterday.

Sectors Commander Forum organised a human chain demanding punishment of the war criminals.

District administrations and social, political and cultural organisations took up various programmes to celebrate Victory Day in different districts including Chandpur, Noakhali, Narsingdi, Madaripur, Feni and Munsiganj.

SNIPPETS

Bomb attack on journo's house

UNB, Narsingdi

Unidentified criminals hurled four bombs at the house of ATN Bangla district correspondent Benjir Ahmed Benu at Shab Bagh in the town early yesterday. "The bombs exploded at about 1:00am with big bang while the electric cable caught fire creating panic among the inmates of the house and neighbours," police and witnesses said. On information, police rushed to the spot and rescued the inmates of the house. Political leaders and fellow journalists condemned the attack. District administration officials visited the house. A case was filed in connection with the bomb attack.

Youth found dead

A CORRESPONDENT, Jessore

A young man was found dead in old Kasba area of the town yesterday morning. The deceased was identified as Parvez, 22, son of Abdul Basar of Palbari area in the town. Parvez went to Dhaka on Monday but did not return home till yesterday morning, relatives said. The same morning, an unknown caller informed Parvez's brother by phone to receive the body of his brother from beside Monica Clinic in old Kasba area. Accordingly, family members went there and found the body of Parvez. They saw marks of deep stab injuries in his abdomen. Later, police recovered the body and sent it to Jessor General Hospital. A case was filed in this connection.

Rice mill owner's house looted

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

Robbers looted house of a rice mill owner at Kesthupur village in Birganj upazila early yesterday. Equipped with sharp weapons, a gang of about 15 to 20 robbers, entered the house of Ferdous Rice Mill owner Md Mokhlesur Rahman by breaking open the door at about 2:00am, locals said. They beat up the house owner's wife, sons and daughters and took away valuables worth Tk4.5 lakh. A case was filed with Birganj police station yesterday. However, none was arrested till filing of this report in the afternoon.

Dialysis unit opens at MMCH

BSS, Mymensingh

Dialysis for treatment of kidney disease has started at Mymensingh Medical College and Hospital (MMCH) yesterday. State Minister for Health and Family Welfare Dr Capt (retd) Mujibur Rahman Fakir, MP formally opened the dialysis unit at nephrology department of the hospital. MMCH director Brigadier General Maung Tin Win, Mymensingh Medical College principal Dr Mirza Hamidul Haque, civil surgeon Dr Momtaz Uddin Bhuiyan, doctors, students and officials were present. The state minister also visited different wards and talked to the patients. He exchanged views with the nurses of the hospital.

Three 'outlaws' arrested

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Magura

Three alleged cadres of the outlawed 'Bidhan Bahini' were arrested and two arms and two bullets recovered from their possession at Arpara in Shalikha upazila on Sunday night, police said. The arrestees are Amol Kumar Biswas, 40, and Biswajit, 38, of Dakkhin Kashimpur in Kaliganj upazila of Jhenidah district and Rupkumar Bor, 35, of Uttar Dharmasima village in Magura Sadar upazila. A team of detective branch (DB) of police arrested them and recovered the arms and ammunition during a raid at around 10:30pm. Of the arrestees, Amol is a convicted fugitive. He was awarded eight years jail in an arms case while Biswajit is accused in at least 10 criminal cases including murder and illegal toll collection, police said.



PHOTO: STAR

Noted litterateur Hasan Azizul Haque, lawmaker Fazle Hossain Badsha and President of Poet Khondaker Zahanara Begum Memorial Council Ruhul Amin Pramanik hand over a crest to eminent Bengali author Shirshendu Mukhopadhyay at a reception organised by the council at Nanking Darbar Hall in Rajshahi city yesterday.

Three Bangladeshi cattle traders were injured in BSF firing on Parea border under Balia Dangai upazila of Thakurgaon district Wednesday morning.

The injured are Azizul Haque, 25, son of Wasu Mohammad, Biplob, 25, son of Ratan, and Srikanth, 30, son of Monindra of Deurjhari village under the upazila.

Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) and local sources said a group

and the other by Sujan--went to the Shaheed Minar on Cuet campus in the morning to place wreaths, marking the Victory Day.

The clashing BCL men also vandalised windowpanes of around 20 rooms in four dormitories during the clash.

Police rushed to the spot and brought the situation under control. Additional police have been deployed on the campus.

Cuet Vice-Chancellor Shaymal Kanti Biswas said a five-member committee headed by Dr Jahangir Alam has been formed to investigate the incident. The committee will submit its report by the first week of January, he added.

In Meherpur, at least five people, including two law enforcers, were injured in a clash between two factions of

Awami League over Victory Day celebration in Gangni upazila yesterday morning, reports a correspondent.

Our Patuakhali correspondent adds: Victory Day programme organised by Rangabali upazila BNP was postponed amidst an attack that left at least five BNP men injured.

Of the injured, three were first admitted to Rangabali health centre and later shifted to Galachipa Upazila Health Complex. They are Farid Munshi, 45, assistant organising secretary of BNP Rangabali unit, and local Juba Dal leaders Milon, 30, and Sarwar Hussain, 28.

Kabir Hussain Talukder, president of Rangabali BNP, blamed Chhatra League and Juba League activists for the attack. BCL and Juba League denied the allegation.

Campus sources said the trouble began in the morning when the two factions—one led by BCL leader Abdul Gani

and the other by Sujan--went to the Shaheed Minar on Cuet campus in the morning to place wreaths, marking the Victory Day.

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Three shot by BSF on Thakurgaon border

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Thakurgaon

Three Bangladeshi cattle traders were injured in BSF firing on Parea border under Balia Dangai upazila of Thakurgaon district Wednesday morning.

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V-DAY IN PICTURES



FROM TOP TO BOTTOM: Students perform artistic feat at Shamsul Huda Stadium in Jessore, children with hearing impairment exhibit physical feat at Chandpur Stadium, students of different educational institutions of Rajshahi city take part in a colourful march past at Rajshahi District Stadium, children perform a colourful display at Magura stadium and Tangail district unit of Awami League brings out a colourful procession.