

Gram Police demand salary similar to class four employees

STAR NATIONAL DESK

Gram (village) Police yesterday staged demonstrations in different districts across the country to press home their eight-point demand including pay similar to class four government employees.

The other demands include retirement allowance, separate room for Gram Police in every union parishad office, food rationing and setting up of a training academy for them.

Our Chapainawabganj correspondent reported that the local unit of Bangladesh Gram Police Union brought out a procession and held a rally in the district town to press for their eight-point demand. They later submitted a memorandum to the deputy commissioner.

President of Chapainawabganj Gram Police Union Abdul Hannan, Secretary Nazrul Islam addressed the rally in front of their office at Udayan intersection in the town.

In Gaibandha, several hundred Gram Police took out a procession in the town and then laid siege to the deputy commissioner's office to press home their eight-point demand.

They also submitted a memorandum to the local government minister through the DC to meet their demands immediately, reports our correspondent.

Gram Police also gave an ultimatum to the government to meet the demands by February 27. Otherwise, they threatened to stage a sit-in in the capital the following day.

Thakurgaon and Panchagarh units of Bangladesh Gram Police Union staged demonstrations at their respective district headquarters in support of their demand.

They brought out processions and held rallies in the towns and submitted memorandums to the DCs.

Following the placing memorandum programme separate processions brought out in the towns. After submitting memorandum discussions were held at DC office premises where the leaders spoke and demanded to meet their demand immediately.

Deputy commissioners of Thakurgaon and Panchagarh told the agitating Gram Police that they would immediately inform the authorities concerned of their eight-point demands.



Barsal Bibhag Unnayan Forum and Sushasaner Jannya Pracharabhijan jointly organise a human chain programme in front of Ashwini Kumar Hall in the city yesterday demanding gas supply to the greater Barisal from Shahbazzpur Gas Field in Bhola, right, different organisations hold a similar programme in Chuadanga town demanding gas supply to the district.

Three dists agitate for gas link

STAR NATIONAL DESK

Cultural and political organisations, trade bodies and NGOs in Chuadanga, Barisal and Chapainawabganj yesterday held agitation programmes demanding gas supply to the districts.

In Chuadanga, at least 50 organisations joined a human chain programme at Shaheed Hasan Square in the town to press the demand for installing pipeline for supply of gas to the district, reports our Kushtia correspondent.

The human chain was followed by a rally with Gas Link Implementation Committee (GLIF) Convener Riazul Islam Joardar in the chair.

The speakers said production in 15 industrial units in the BSCIC (Bangla-

desh Small and Cottage Industries Corporation) estate in the district is being hampered due to lack of gas supply.

They urged the government to include the district in gas pipeline installation project (Kushtia-Khulna) approved recently by the Ecneec.

The rally was addressed, among others, by district BNP President Haji Mozammel Haque, Chuadanga Chamber President and joint secretary of district AL Habibur Rahman Lablu, Chairman of Damurhuda Upazila Parishad Azadul Islam Azad and Muktiyoddha district unit Convener Nurul Islam Manik.

Human chain was part of agitation programmes announcement by the GLIF on Friday.

In Barisal, a human chain was formed in front of Ashwini Kumar Hall in the city demanding supply of natural gas to Barisal from Shahbazzpur Gas Field in Bhola.

People from all walks of life took part in the programme jointly organised by Sushasaner Jannya Pracharabhijan, an NGO, and Barsal Bibhag Unnayan Forum (BBUF), according to a correspondent.

The forum leaders said natural gas supply from Shahbazzpur to Barisal could be possible by constructing only 37 kilometres pipeline. Gas supply will help set up a power plant and industries in the greater Barisal, they added.

Chapainawabganj Chamber of Commerce and Industry has

demanded installation of pipeline to supply gas to the district.

The chamber leaders made the demands at a press conference in the town yesterday, says our correspondent.

They said if gas supply is ensued, businessmen will show their interest in setting up industries, especially agro-based units, in the district.

The leaders also urged the government to immediately introduce inter-city train between Chapainawabganj and Dhaka and expand the BSCIC area to set up more industries there.

They also declared a human chain programme in front of the deputy commissioner's office on January 10 to press home their demands.



Gram (village) Police bring out a procession in Panchagarh town yesterday demanding salary similar to class four employees and other benefits. Similar programme was held in different districts.

Reopen Sundarban Textiles, demand Satkhira people

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

Hundreds of workers and employees of closed Sundarban Textile Mills joined by locals yesterday formed a human chain in front of the mill gate at Katia here on Satkhira-Khulna highway demanding reopening of the mill.

Satkhira Unnayan Jubo Sangram Parishad, a body working for development of the district, organised the programme.

They also held a rally at the same place where Jatiya Party (Ershad) lawmaker M A Jabbar, elected from Satkhira-2 (Sadar) constituency, joined the programme.

Besides him, Obaidus Sultan Bablu, Masum Billah, Advocate SM Akbar Ali, Kazi Azadur Rashid addressed

the rally. The JP lawmaker blamed the immediate past government for shutting down the largest state-owned textile mill of the country on November 30 in 2008. It has rendered over 1,400 workers and staff jobless, he said adding, the government should take measures to reopen the mill at the earliest.

Other speakers lamented that leaders of most political parties pledged to take measures for reopening of the mill during polls campaigns but they forgot their promise as soon as they were elected.



Employees and workers of closed Sundarban Textile Mills at Katia on Satkhira-Khulna highway form a human chain in front of the mill gate yesterday demanding reopening of the mill.

Vegetable farming changes lives of Bagerhat farmers

UNB, Bagerhat

Vegetable farming has changed lives of a large number of farmers in Chitalmari upazila of the district.

The growers in the upazila have cultivated vegetables, particularly bottle gourd, chhal kumra, pumpkin and bitter gourd on a vast tract of land this year. Besides, they have produced the winter vegetables.

Deputy Director of Bagerhat Khamarbari M Anwar Hossain told UNB that some 20,000 farmers have cultivated vegetables on 505

hectares in Chitalmari this year. They have been imparted training on cultivating high-yielding variety of vegetables, he added.

People are showing interest in vegetable farming for the last few years as it was proved profitable, said farmers Idris Talukdar and Paritosh Mondol who sold a huge quantity of vegetables over the last two-and-a-half months.

After meeting local demands, the vegetables cultivated here are also supplied to different parts of the country, the capital, Dhaka, Chittagang and Barisal, they

said. Most of the families in Chitalmari became self-reliant through vegetable farming.

Seeking government support in vegetable cultivation, Idris Talukdar said, "We can produce more and more if the agriculture extension department provides us with training and quality fertiliser and pesticides at a lower price."

He is very much hopeful about exporting vegetable from Chitalmari if

the government and local agriculture extension office co-operates them.

Three hurt as two bombs explode in Jhenidah

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jhenidah

Three people including a member of the community police were injured in two bomb explosions at post office intersection and Jaikhana crossing of the town.

The injured are community police Nazrul Islam, ground nut seller Abdul Mazid and rickshaw-puller Mukul Hossain.

Police and eyewitnesses said, at around 8:30 pm on Saturday criminals hurled a bomb at post office crossing injuring three including Nazrul Islam and a few minutes later exploded another in Jaikhana area of the town.

The incident triggered agitation in the town and shops and establishment were instantly closed.

Police superintendent Rezaul Karim of Jhenidah said, the bomb explosion might be linked to rivalry in BCL factions as the student front held a conference on the day.

Officer-in-charge (OC) Motiar Rahman of Sadar police station said, a case has been filed in this connection.

Additional police and Rab have been deployed in the town following the bomb blasts.

Advertisement for Titas Gas Transmission and Distribution Company Limited (Titas Gas Transmission and Distribution Company Limited). It includes a table with details about gas supply, pricing, and contact information.

Advertisement for the National Government (জাতীয় স্থানীয় সরকার ইনস্টিটিউট). It lists various services and programs offered, including training and development courses for government employees.

Advertisement for National Tubes Limited. It includes the company logo, contact information, and a detailed 'INTERNATIONAL TENDER NOTICE' for the supply of hot rolled steel strips. The notice specifies the quantity, price, and terms of the tender.