## SNAPS AND SNIPPETS

#### Auto-tempo strike

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sirajganj

Auto-tempos and auto-rickshaws went off the roads in Sirajganj yesterday protesting realisation of additional charges by owners from the workers. Sirajganj district auto-tempo and auto-rickshaw workers association called the indefinite strike on Monday to press their two-point demand. Association sources said, the auto-tempo and auto-rickshaw owners have been charging Tk 500 a day while the workers earn Tk 350 to Tk 400. Besides, the owners realise an additional amount in the name of 'chain maintenance.' Hamidul Islam, general secretary of the workers association said the strike would continue until their demands are met.

#### Principal's room ransacked

**OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali** 

Students of civil department at Patuakhali Polytechnic Institute yesterday ransacked the principal's room demanding picnic tour. Over one hundred students damaged windowpanes and also flower tubs in front of the room. Students said, they have been demanding picnic tour for over a month but the principal remained unmoved. Time was running out as all 350 students of all seven semesters of the department rarely get such opportunity, they added. Contacted, Principal AKM Monjurul Ahsan said he disagreed as the final exam will be held from February 15. "I requested them to arrange picnic after the exam but they are not listening to me", he said.



Fine arts students of Rajshahi University arrange their yearly pitha utsab (festival of homemade cakes) on the premises of their department yesterday.

#### Youth murdered

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Police on Monday recovered the body of a young man from near BDR sector headquarters at Goalkhali under Khalishpur police station. The unidentified youth, aged about 20, was wearing a black woolen jacket. His body bore marks of stab injuries. OC Mokaddem Ali of Khalishpur police station said the criminals might have dropped the body near BDR camp after killing the youth elsewhere. A general diary has been filed in this connection with Khalishpur police station.

#### Arms, ammo recovered

**OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chapainawabganj** 

Members of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) on Sunday recovered arms and ammunition from the house of a former union parishad chairman at Chakpara under Sadar upazila in Chapainawabganj district. Acting on a tip off, a Rab team raided the house of ex- chairman of Chakpara union parishad (UP) Omar Ali at about 1 pm. They recovered two foreign made pistols, eight bullets and two magazines hidden under the mattress of his bed. However, none was arrested in this connection. Later, Rab handed over the seized arms and ammunition to Sadar police.

#### 17 hurt in separate clashes

UNB, Sirajganj

At least 17 people including two women were injured in separate clashes at Senpara village in Sadar upazila and Sonai village in Raiganj upazila on Saturday. Police said a clash ensued at Senpara village between Haji Moksed Ali and weaver Selim over boundary dispute of a mosque in the morning that left 12 people of both sides injured. Of them, seven including two women named Shilpi and Hosneara were admitted to Sadar hospital. In another incident at Sonai village, two rival groups, one led by Moslem and another by Rashid, locked in a clash over possession of a disputed pond, leaving five people of both sides injured. Separate cases were filed with police.

#### Press club executives

**OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali** 

A new executive committee of Barguna press club was elected through an election held on Saturday with Abul Kalam Azad, Barguna correspondent of the daily Independent as its president and Sanjib Das, Barguna correspondent of Ekushy TV and Bhorer Kagoj as secretary. Monir Hossain Kamal, district correspondent of daily Samokal and Sohel Hafiz, district correspondent of NTV were elected vice presidents and Zafor Hossain, district correspondent of Islamic TV was elected assistant secretary of the new committee. After the election, Zakir Hossain Miraj declared the new committee as election commissioner.

### BRTA engr caught red-handed

OUR CORRESPONDENT,

Anti Corruption Commission (ACC) men yesterday caught red- handed a Bangladesh Road Transport Authority (BRTA) official while taking bribe from the vehicle owners.

Aminul Islam, a mechanical engineer of BRTA, Pabna was arrested from the office premise and handed over to the police.

ACC officials said they had information that BRTA officials used to take bribe from the clients. Yesterday, a team led by ACC deputy director Abdul Goffar caught the engineer while he was collecting bribe from the vehicle registration seekers.

"We came to know that a section of officials take Tk 500 bribe for each registration. We

In Barisal, road and water transport passengers' welfare association urged the

Bangladesh Road Transport Authority (BRTA) to take action against road transport owners and workers and stop harassment of passengers.

According to UNB, the members blamed the transport owners and workers for charging extra fare, failing to maintain time schedule, overloading, misconduct with passengers and operating unfit vehicles by forming a syndicate.

They made the appeal at a meeting on Saturday night at Aswini Kumar Hall premises with association president Delwar Hossain in the chair.

Principal ATM Mizanur Rahman, Prof Gouranga Chandra Kundu, MA Jalil and Bipul Bihari addressed the meeting.

Association sources said a letter giving a 15-day time frame would be sent to Mohammad Nuruzaman, assistant director of BRTA Barisal region and they would go for movement if their demands are not fulfilled immediately.

Nuruzaman, BRTA assistant director, said he has not yet received any letter from the passengers' welfare association. He, however, said that he will try his best to compel the road transport owners and workers to follow terms and conditions of route permit and fitness and ask them to charge fare as per the approved fare chart.

#### Tiger kills one in Sundarbans

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

One person was killed in tiger attack on Monday evening in Kukhomari area in the Sundarbans.

Victim Lokman Ali Biswas, 57, was son of Mandar Ali Biswas of Godara village under Shyamnagar upazila.

According to forest officials, Lokman Ali and two others went to the Sundarbans to collect 'gol pata' (tree leaves) taking pass from Burigoalini forest station on Saturday.

On Monday evening, a tiger attacked Lokman and dragged him into the deep forest when he was looking for leaves.

Forest guards and locals recovered his body early yesterday.



NATIONAL



National Committee for Protection of Oil, Gas, Mineral Resources, Electricity and Ports form a human chain in front of Gopalganj Press Club, left, and on Panchagarh-Dhaka highway near the government auditorium in Panchagarh town yesterday. The committee also took similar programmes across the country demanding steps to ensure use of natural resources for people's welfare.

# Use national resources set a trap and caught the BRTA official red-handed," Goffar told this correspondent. In Barisal, road and water and water of the BRTA official red-handed, Goffar told this correspondent. In Barisal, road and water of the BRTA official red-handed, Goffar told this correspondent. In Barisal, road and water of the BRTA official red-handed, Goffar told this correspondent. In Barisal, road and water of the BRTA official red-handed, Goffar told this correspondent. In Barisal, road and water of the BRTA official red-handed, Goffar told this correspondent. In Barisal, road and water of the BRTA official red-handed, Goffar told this correspondent. In Barisal, road and water of the BRTA official red-handed, Goffar told this correspondent. In Barisal, road and water of the BRTA official red-handed, Goffar told this correspondent. In Barisal, road and water of the BRTA official red-handed, Goffar told this correspondent. In Barisal, road and water of the BRTA official red-handed, Goffar told this correspondent. In Barisal, road and water of the BRTA official red-handed, Goffar told this correspondent. In Barisal, road and water of the BRTA official red-handed, Goffar told this correspondent. In Barisal, road and water of the BRTA official red-handed, Goffar told this correspondent.

## Human chains across country demand

STAR NATIONAL DESK

National Committee for Protection of Oil, Gas, Mineral Resources, Electricity and Ports yesterday formed human chains and held rallies in districts as part of their countrywide programme demanding use of national resources to serve people's interest. The committee formed human chains

at Thakurgaon Intersection in the town, in front of Panchagarh Auditorium and at Zero Point in Tentulia, reports our Thakurgaon correspondent.

At discussions in the areas, the committee leaders urged implementation of their seven-point demand including postponement of the agreement to lease three offshore fields in the Bay of Bengal to explore oil and gas with provision for 80 per cent export.

Oil and gas should be exported only after meeting national requirement, the speakers said, adding that exploration for and extraction of all mineral resources should be done through state-owned bodies to serve people's interest.

Convener of Thakurgaon unit of the committee Principal Merazul Hossain presided over the meeting at Thakurgaon while former lawmaker and Workers Party leader Shahidullah Shahid addressed, among others.

Rajshahi University (RU) unit of National Committee for Protection of Oil, Gas, Mineral Resources, Electricity and Ports yesterday formed a human chain near Kazla Gate at the university to press home its seven-point demand, reports a RU correspondent. They also held a rally where speakers

demanded cancellation of any 'harmful deed' to lease offshore blocks to multinational companies for drilling.

They urged the government and demanded new acts for dealing with offshore drilling with the inclusion of native companies cancelling exporting model 'Model PSC 2008'.

Speakers demanded punishment to the police personnel responsible for the baton charge on Prof Anu Muhammad and other activists of the committee at a procession on September 2 last year. Rajshahi University unit convener of

the committee Dr Muhammad Nasir, NAP Rajshahi district Secretary Mustafizur Rahman Khan Alam, CPB Rajshahi city President Abul Kalam Azad spoke, among others.

Our Gaibandha Correspondent reports: Gaibandha district unit of the national committee yesterday formed a human chain on DB Road demanding implementation of their seven-point charter.

Mineral resources like gas and coal should be used for national development on agriculture, food and industry sectors, not to serve interest of foreign countries, speakers said at a meeting. They demanded ascertaining extrac-

tion of gas and coal under hundred percent national ownership and cancellation of 'export oriented' Model PSC 2008.

They also demanded full implementation of government's committed 6-point Fulbari agreement, cancellation of open pit coal extraction system that will cause harm to cultivable lands, water resources food security and environment.

The speakers urged the government to take necessary steps to realise proper compensation for damage of Magurchhara and Tengratilla gas field accidents.

Our Khagrachhari Correspondent adds: Local unit of National Committee for Protection of Oil, Gas, Mineral Resources, Electricity and Ports vesterday formed a human chain and held a rally demanding cancellation of the 'antipeople' decision to sell gas and others mineral resources.

At the rally held at Muktamancha area under Sadar upazila, the speakers urged the government to use the natural resources for betterment of the country and people.

### Nasim appeals to drop his name from murder case

OUR CORRESPONDENT,

Former home minister Mohammad Nasim yesterday appealed to a Pabna court to withdraw his name from a murder case in which he was charge-sheeted during the rule of four-party alliance government.

However, the present government has decided to withdraw the case, considering it a political one. According to procedure, the person concerned will have to submit a petition to the court, seeking withdrawal of his name from the case.

Nasim's name was included in the chare sheet of Pabna municipality chairman Sheikh Shahidullah Bachhu murder case in 2003. Bachhu was murdered on April 4, 1997 when Nasim was the home minister.

But the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) submitted the charge sheet to the court, accusing Nasim and 19 others AL men on November 18, 2003. In the charge sheet, CID mentioned that Nasim was the mastermind behind the murder.

Former Pabna municipality chairman Johurul Islam Bishu incumbent chairman and BNP leader Kamrul Hassan Mintu Pabna Sadar Upazila Chairman and local AL leader Mosharraf Hossain are among the charge-sheeted accused.

## Repair Sirajganj embankment before rains'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sirajganj

Sirajganj Swartho Rakkha Sangram Committee and Bangladesh Samajtrantrik Dal (BSD) jointly brought out a procession and formed a human chain in the town yesterday demanding renovation of the Sirajganj town protection embankment during the current dry season.

Hundreds of people including teachers, lawyers, journalists, businessmen, NGO workers and cultural activists took part in the demonstration.

The processionists marched the main streets and formed a human chain in front the Weekly Jibon Barta office on SS Road. It was followed by a rally there with Nabokumar Karmaker, Coordinator of Sirajganj Swartho Rakhsma Sangram Committee in the chair.

The speakers at the rally said, this dry season is high time for repair and renovation of the Sirajganj town protection embankment which collapsed twice in last year's rainy season.

In case of any dilly-dally, it will not be possible at all to save the town from the onslaught of flood and erosion by the Jamuna in the upcoming rainy season, they observed.

They also warned that Bangabandhu Jamuna Multipurpose Bridge might be at risk if the town protection embankment is not repaired on time.



Bangladesh Samajtantrik Dal and Sirajganj Swartha Rakkha Sangram Committee jointly form a human chain in the town demanding start and completion of the repair of Sirajganj Town Protection Embankment during the current dry season.



# এসেনসিয়াল ড্রাগস্ কোম্পানী লিমিটেড ৩৯৫-৩৯৭, তেজগাঁও শিল্প এলাকা

ঢাকা-১২০৮

নংক্ষিপ্ত স্থানীয় দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

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সকল কার্যদিবসে অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে উপরোক্ত কার্য্যালয় হইতে শর্ত ও নিয়মাবলীসহ দরপত্র শিডিউল ক্রয় করা যাইবে। উল্লেখ্য যে, যাহাদের ভ্যাট রেজিষ্ট্রেশন নাই তাহাদের দরপত্রে অংশগ্রহণ করার প্রয়োজন নাই।

দরপত্র খোলার দিনে কোন দরপত্র শিডিউল বিক্রয় করা হইবে না।

(মোঃ ফিরোজ-উল-আলম) পরিচালক অপারেশন ও ইনচার্জ, প্লানিং এভ প্রকিউরমেন্ট বিভাগ পক্ষে ঃ ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক

PHOTO: STAR Winners pose for photograph at regional Mathematics Olympiad 2010 jointly organised by Prothom Alo and Dutch Bangla Bank Ltd at Blue Bird High School in Sylhet city yesterday. Over 800 students from 106 schools and colleges took part in the contest.