



PHOTO: FOCUS BANGLA

Callous sand traders have occupied a large portion of the ground of Khepupara High School in Kalapara upazila of Patuakhali district, much to the nuisance of learners.

KILLING DURING '71 WAR

One held in C'nawabganj, four sued in Bagerhat

STAR NATIONAL DESK

An alleged collaborator of Pakistani occupation forces was arrested in Chapainawabganj early yesterday while four other collaborators were sued in Bagerhat the day before on charges of killing an innocent man and two freedom fighters during Liberation War in 1971.

The arrestee is Ziamuddin, 75, of Kanchantola village under Gomostapur upazila of Chapainawabganj district.

Police raided Kanchantola village at around 3:00am and arrested Ziamuddin at his house in a murder case filed against him in December 2009, reports our correspondent.

Enamul Haque of Zianagar village in Gomostapur upazila filed the case with Judicial Magistrate Court, Chapainawabganj, against Zaimuddin and four others on December 30, 2009 for killing his father during Liberation War.

In the case statement, the complainant said the accused picked up his father Azizul Haque from their Ranibari Chandpur house on October 24, 1971, took him to Choudala camp and killed him.

Our Staff Correspondent from khulna

reported that four 'razakars' were sued on Wednesday on charge of killing two freedom fighters at Kharoikhali village under Morelganj upazila of Bagerhat in 1971.

The accused are Nurul Jamaddar, 64, Aziz Sheikh, 65, Mantu Sheikh, 68, of Kharoikhali village and Abdul Majid Khan, 63, of Debraj village under Morelganj upazila.

Shah Jamal Khan of the village filed the petition ease with Senior Judicial Magistrate's Court, Bagerhat, accusing the four of killing his father Rahman Ali Khan and grandfather Sherstali Khan in November 1971.

Jamal Khan in his petition alleged that the accused stormed into their house on the night of November 24, picked up his father and grandfather at gunpoint and shot them dead on a road the following day.

Locals recovered the bodies and buried them at the family graveyard, the complainant said.

Senior Judicial Magistrate Rakibul Islam asked the officer-in-charge (OC) of Morelganj Police Station to record it as a regular case after proper investigation.

COLLEGE HOSTEL IN 'ABANDONED' BLDG

Zila Parishad's ownership claim triggers protest

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

Students of Pabna Government Commercial College yesterday staged demonstration as zila parishad claimed the ownership of the college hostel building and asked the resident students to vacate the dormitory.

They also besieged the zila parishad office and then submitted a memorandum to the deputy commissioner, seeking his intervention in this regard.

The commercial college has been using an 'abandoned' building beside Pabna Zila Parishad office as its dormitory since 1984. College sources said some officials of the zila parishad entered the hostel on Sunday night and asked the resident students to leave the hostel as early as possible as the property belongs to the zila parishad.

Contacted, Principal Md Amjad Hossain said the college authorities have been using the building as its dormitory since 1984. Twenty-two students are now living at the hostel and the authorities

are paying land tax and utility bills regularly.

Hostel Superintendent Md Abdur Rob said the college authorities had earlier urged the government to build a three-storey hostel building for the student, but the government is yet to take any step in this regard.

As many as 282 students are studying at Pabna Zila Parishad Md Abdullah Al Mamun said the commercial college is using the building as its hostel on one acre of land of the zila parishad. "We need the land to build a building as development work of Pabna Zila Parishad is going on," he said.

When contacted, Chief Executive Officer of Pabna Zila Parishad Md Abdullah Al Mamun said the commercial college is using the building as its hostel on one acre of land of the zila parishad. "We need the land to build a building as development work of Pabna Zila Parishad is going on," he said.



PHOTO: STAR

This building has been used as a hostel of Pabna Government Commercial College since 1984 but Pabna Zila Parishad on Sunday night asked the students to vacate the dormitory, claiming ownership of the building.

CTG ARMS HAUL CASE

Rezzaqul placed on 3-day remand

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A Chittagong court yesterday placed former National Security Intelligence (NSI) director general (DG) Major General (retd) Rezzaqul Haider Chowdhury on a three-day remand in the sensational Chittagong arms haul case.

Criminal Investigation Department (CID) produced the ex-NSI chief in the Metropolitan Magistrate's Court at 3:10pm with a prayer for seven days' remand. After hearing, Magistrate Azizul Haq granted three days' remand.

Rezzaqul Haider was sent to Chittagong jail. He might be taken to CID headquarters in Dhaka for interrogation anytime, sources said.

Rezzaqul and another ex-NSI chief Brigadier General (retd) Abdur Rahim were arrested in Dhaka on May 16 last year following confessional statement made by former NSI Director (security wing) commander Sahab Uddin.



PHOTO: STAR

He (Rezzaqul) was the director of DGFI (Counter Intelligence Bureau) when ten truckloads of firearms and ammunition were seized at Chittagong Urea Fertiliser Limited (CUFL) jetty ghat on the other bank of the river Karnaphuli in the early hours of April 2, 2004. He later succeeded Brigadier General (retd) Abdur Rahim in the NSI.

Fishermen block road in Nilphamari

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Nilphamari

Several hundred fishermen yesterday blocked Domar-Dimla Road demanding cancellation of lease of the water reservoir of Buri Teesta Irrigational Project to an outsider for fish cultivation. Movement of all types of vehicles came to a halt for three hours because of the blockade.

The agitating fishermen alleged that Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB) used to regularly lease out the reservoir to the local co-operative society of the poor fishermen.

But this year the BWDB authorities in Nilphamari allowed Tusco Resource of Gazipur district to cultivate fish in the reservoir, they said.

Locals observed that the poor fishermen of Domar and Dimla upazilas would be financially hit by the decision.

Rasul Siddiki, a leading member of the fishermen's

cooperative said the reservoir was leased out to an outsider through a 'stage-managed' tender depriving the poor and helpless fishermen.

Local fishermen would continue their movement until the lease is cancelled, he said.

However, the fishermen withdrew the road blockade at the request of former whip of Jatiya Sangsad Abdur Rouf. They then sent a memorandum to the minister for water resources.

Contacted, an engineer of BWDB told newsmen that Tuska Resource won the lease order as they were the highest bidder. They will cultivate both local and hybrid varieties of fishes, he added.

Buri Teesta Irrigational Project was set up in the region in 1983 to irrigate about 11,000 acres of land. But the project could not become successful so far due to 'technical problems.' However, the reservoir of the project is now being used for fish cultivation.

SNAPS AND SNIPPETS

Adulterated pesticide seized

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Bogra

A joint team of law enforcers yesterday raided Baro Masjid Market area in the town and seized 1040 kilogram adulterated pesticide. Bogra Sadar police said, Rab and policemen led by executive magistrate Mobassherul Islam recovered 104 packets of Touch Furan-5 G adulterated pesticide meant for marketing. Cases were filed against Tarek Hasan Nahid, 30, and Goutam, 40, on charge of producing adulterated pesticide. As the two accused went into hiding the mobile court realised Tk 25,000 fine from their employee Boloy Das.

Drug peddlers jailed

UNB, Barisal

A tribunal here on Sunday sentenced two drug peddlers to 10 years rigorous imprisonment (RI) for possessing drugs. Convicts Shahinur Rahman and Nabisuddin of Benapole were also fined Tk 25,000 each, in default, to suffer six months more RI. Nabisuddin was tried in absentia. According to the prosecution story, a team of Rab held the two drug peddlers from Biloba Bari Miazir Hall on the outskirts of the city and recovered 756 bottles of phensidyl syrup from their possession on March 10 last year.



PHOTO: STAR

Headmaster of Sitanath Modhuranath Adarsha High School in Gopalganj handing over books to students after inauguration of book distribution programme of Prothom Alo Bandhusava yesterday.

One killed in clash

UNB, Sylhet

A day-labourer was killed and another injured in a bloody clash between two groups of labourers at Bholaganj stone quarry in Companyganj upazila of Sunamganj district on Sunday. Victim Rathindra Das, 30, was son of Raj Kumar Das of Niyamatpur village in Shalla upazila. Police said, an altercation ensued between the labourers of Shaheed Mia and Dulal Mia over a trifling matter at about 8:00am. Later, both the groups equipped with lethal weapons attacked each other leaving Rathindra and Provat Das critically injured. They were rushed to Sylhet Osmani Medical College and Hospital where Rathindra succumbed to his injuries at noon.

Two held for fraud

UNB, Takurgaon

Rab on Saturday held two alleged frauds in Goalpara area of the town. They were identified as Rafiq, 25, and Arif, 28. Members of Rab-5 in the guise of arms buyers earlier contacted the fraud gang over mobile phone for purchasing arms from them. Two plainclothes Rab members went to the area at noon where some 10/12 frauds were waiting for them. At one stage the criminals attacked them and tried to take away money from their possession. Other elite force members who were lying in ambush in a nearby place swooped on the gang and managed to catch two of the frauds while others fled away.

AL men ransack BNP office

35 hurt as AL factions clash

A CORRESPONDENT, Kishoreganj

Ruling party men on Sunday evening attacked and ransacked Kishoreganj Sadar upazila BNP office for allegedly using abusive language against AL general secretary by BNP activists.

According to sources, local BNP men brought out a procession in the town on Sunday to protest remarks against BNP chairperson Khaleda Zia by the AL general secretary. At the procession, the BNP activists used abusive language against AL general secretary Syed Ashraful Islam.

Within hours, ruling party men also brought out a procession and ransacked the BNP office at Kishoreganj Sadar Station Road damaging furniture including chair, table. The protesters also set ablaze a motorbike and injured four BNP men during the incident.

The injured were identified as

Samsuddin, 40, Burhan, 44, joint convenor of Kidhoreganj Sadar BNP, Rasel Sarker, 30, joint convenor of Sechhasebok Dal, Kamal Ahmed, 30, member of Sadar BNP convening committee.

In Chuadanga, at least 35 people were injured as two Awami League (AL) factions clashed at Khapra village in Damurhuda upazila on Sunday night.

Four policemen were also injured during the incident, reports our Kushtia correspondent.

The rival groups ransacked at least 10 houses of each others, used firearms and bombs during the clash.

The clash erupted as two local Awami League leaders Ishaq Ali and Abu Taleb were flexing muscle for long for establishing supremacy in the area.

Ishak is incumbent member of Khapra Union Parishad (UP) while Taleb is a former member.

According to police, a drunk Taleb's

younger bother Foyez was making nuisance in the area at night. He used abusive words at people who went to calm him. At this, people belonging to Ishaq group beat up Foyez.

When the news spread, Taleb's men rushed to the spot and engaged in clash with Ishaq group. Both groups used lethal weapons including bombs and firearms, police said.

The clash continued from 9:15 pm to 10:30 pm leaving at least 35 of both groups injured.

A team of Damurhuda police station rushed to the spot. But the rival groups continued fighting and injured three policemen.

Police fired several tear gas shells to disperse the feuding groups.

Police picked up 13 people of both groups from the spot.

No case was filed till filing of this report yesterday.

OLD AGE ALLOWANCE

Centenarian Barujan Bibi still waits for her turn

QUAZI AMANULLAH, Khulna

"I am yet to get monthly old age allowance while several men and women around 50 years of age are getting it regularly," said centenarian Barujan Bibi.

Wife of late Nader Sheikh, a fisherman-cum-farmer of Bogi Dashghar village under Sharankhola upazila of Bagerhat district, Barujan Bibi has been struggling for survival since her husband's death 42 years ago.

"Time and again I moved to doors of the officials concerned to get monthly elderly allowance of Tk 300. But none of them bothered about my right to get it," she said referring to Sharankhola UNO and the upazila social welfare officer.

"I have been suffering from old age complications for the last two years but I

cannot buy medicines for treatment. Most of the days I have to remain half-fed. None of my five sons and eight daughters takes care of me properly as they are poor. They consider me as a burden," she said.

Barujan Bibi, who is also suffering from hearing and eyesight problems, said she had given up the hope of getting elderly allowance as she was turned down after going to the UNO several times.

When asked, Sharankhola UNO Khandaker Zahirul Islam said he had nothing to do with the matter as the upazila social welfare officer prepares the list of recipients of elderly allowance.

Despite several attempts, Sharankhola Social Welfare Officer Md Ainal Haque could not be contacted for his comments about the allegation of Barujan Bibi.



PHOTO: STAR

Citizens join a motorcade procession led by Khulna City Corporation (KCC) Mayor Talukder Abdul Khaleque in the city yesterday demanding arrest and punishment of the killers of KCC councillor Shahid Iqbal Bithar and action against criminal activities.