



A large number of people form a human chain on the bank of Kajal River at Charkajol in Galachipa upazila of Patuakhali district yesterday demanding proper compensation for the lands acquired for a newly found gas field in the area, early start of gas extraction and steps to prevent erosion.

PHOTO: STAR

CTG VET UNIVERSITY REOPENS AMID CHAOS

VC confined to residence

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Academic activities at Chittagong Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (CVASU) resumed yesterday amid fresh threat of closure as leaders and activists of Chhatra League (BCL) put the vice chancellor's office under lock and key.

Besides, the BCL men confined vice chancellor Dr Nitish Chandra Devnath to his residence on the campus and barred the teachers, officials and employees from meeting him.

The university reopened yesterday after three and a half months of closure. Campus sources said, classes were held at some departments yesterday with few students.

Agitating BCL and General Students Forum vowed to continue their agitation until their demand for resignation of the VC is met.

"We kept the VC office under lock and key and allowed none of the teachers, students and employees to communicate

with the VC," forum convener Kamol Kanti said adding they would stop agitation as soon as the VC steps down.

Contacted, VC Nitish Chandra Devnath told this correspondent that academic and administrative activities resumed yesterday. He alleged that the agitators confined him to his residence and now manhandling the university staffs for trying to meet him.

"They manhandled an administrative officer of Research and Training Institute of the university in the morning," he said.

"I had talks with the ministry before opening of the university and we would soon hold a meeting to take next course of action," he added.

The authorities closed the university sine die on December 14 last year following an indefinite strike enforced by General Students Forum and Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) demanding resignation of the VC on charge of corruption and nepotism.

The authorities in an emergency syndicate meeting on Wednesday last

decided to reopen the halls on Saturday to resume classes on Sunday.

The authorities also asked the students, who have been occupying the halls defying syndicate orders, to vacate the dormitories within 24 hours of the notice issued on Wednesday evening.

But the agitators defied the order again. They did not leave the hall and decided to bar the VC from all administrative activities.

Meanwhile, CVASU Officers Association will begin a two-day work abstention today protesting manhandling of Research and Training Institute staff Chamak Chandra by the agitating students yesterday and administrative officer Aji Kumar on Thursday.

The association leaders at a meeting in the afternoon decided to observe the programme from 10.00am to 12.00 noon today and tomorrow demanding security of the staffs on the campus.

Association convener and university registrar Dr Sultan Mahmud chaired the meeting.

RU VIOLENCE CASE

Bail prayers of Jamaat, Shibir men rejected

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

A Rajshahi court yesterday rejected bail prayers of 210 leaders and activists of Jamaat-e-Islami and its student front Chhatra Shibir sued for police assault during February 9 Rajshahi University (RU) violence.

However, 195 out of 210 Jamaat and Shibir men were produced before the court as the other arrestees were either ill or had examinations, said Mrinal Kanti Bhattacharya, assistant commissioner of police.

Those produced in the court included Rajshahi city Jamaat ameer Ataur Rahman, general secretary Abul Kalam Azad, assistant secretary Siddik Hossain and former Rajshahi ward councillor Gias Uddin.

Their lawyers submitted bail prayers on behalf of them but the Court of Metropolitan Magistrate rejected the prayers.

The court fixed the next hearing date on April 29.

'Recognise Harishpur as Lalon's birthplace'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jhenidah

Hundreds of people joined a human chain at Doel Chattar in Harinakundo upazila yesterday demanding recognition of Harishpur village under Harinakundo upazila in Jhenidah as the birthplace of Lalon Shah, the great Bengali mystic bard.

People from all walks of life including baul devotees and local elites attended the human chain organised by Harinakundo Lalon academy.

The human chain followed a meeting where Lalon researcher Abu Sayeed, an associate professor of Lalon Shah College, said that Lalon was born in Harishpur under Harinakundo upazila although many people claim that he

was born in Bharara village in Kushtia. According to an 1896 description of Lalon's close devotee Duddu Shah, an archaeologist, historian and a member of Asiatic Society Moulavi Abdul Wali mentioned in an essay that Lalon was a disciple of Seraj Shah and both were born in Harishpur village under Harinakundo upazila, said Prof Abu Sayeed.

Duddu Shah mentioned October 14, 1772 (1st of Bangla month Kartik, 1179) as Lalon's date of birth, he said.

Lalon's father was Daribullah and mother Amina Khatun while his grandfather's name was Golam Kader.

However, there are differences of opinion among scholars and researchers about birthplace of the baul mystic.



Locals join a human chain organised by Lalon Academy at Doel Chattar in Harinakundo upazila of Jhenidah district yesterday demanding recognition of Harishpur village in Harinakundo upazila as what they claimed birthplace of mystic bard Lalon Shah.

PHOTO: STAR

SNIPPETS

Bus service resumes

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chapainawabganj

Bus service between the district and other parts of the country resumed yesterday after four days of suspension. Earlier, the transport owners and workers agreed to resume bus service during a meeting with Deputy Commissioner KM Ali Azam at Circuit House. Bus service between Chapainawabganj and other districts came to a halt on Wednesday following a clash between the transport workers of Chapainawabganj and Rajshahi districts.

Fratricide in Magura

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Magura

A man injured critically by his younger brother on Saturday died at Dhaka Medical College and Hospital (DMCH) early yesterday. Victim Khairul Islam, 40, son of late Pachu Molla of Parnanduali in the town was hacked by Enamul, 32. Police quoting family members said Enamul hit Khairul with an axe during an altercation over a piece of disputed land. Injured Khairul was admitted to Magura Sadar Hospital and later sent to DMCH for better treatment but he succumbed to his injuries.

Murder in Dinajpur

UNB, Dinajpur

A middle-aged man was slaughtered by some criminals at Amail crossing in Birampur upazila on Friday night. The victim was identified as Mosabberul Haque Chishti, 45, son of Mozammel Haque Master of Shibpur village in the upazila. Locals said the criminals intercepted Mosabberul Haque and slaughtered him at the crossing while he was going to his village home from the upazila headquarters by a van at about 8:30pm. However, the reason behind the killing could not be ascertained immediately. A case was filed with the local police station. Meanwhile, police detained seven people suspecting their involvement in the killing.

Drug peddler arrested

UNB, Savar

Members of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) arrested a drug peddler along with 262 bottles of phensidol from his private car from in front of the National Mausoleum here on Saturday. The arrestee is Abdul Goni of Beerchari village in Ghatail upazila of Tangail district. Acting on secret information, a team of Rab arrested Goni along with the contraband syrup at a check-post and seized his private car.

Body recovered

UNB, Narail

Police recovered the body of an unidentified man from Sarkoldanga village in Sadar upazila on Saturday. Locals found the body of the man aged about 56 at noon and informed police. Later, police recovered the body bearing stab injury marks and sent it to hospital morgue for autopsy. A was filed in this connection.

20 hurt as AL rivals clash

UNB, Magura

At least 20 people were injured in a clash between two groups of Awami League (AL) activists at Chougachhi village in Sreepur upazila on Friday afternoon. Police quoting locals said there was a longstanding conflict between two local AL leaders - Amir Biswas and Babu Biswas over establishing supremacy at the village. As a sequel to the conflict, an altercation ensued when the supporters of Amir barred Babu from irrigating a disputed land. At one stage, the two groups equipped with lethal weapons and sticks attacked each other leaving 20 people injured from the both sides.

10 hurt in Faridpur clash

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Faridpur

At least 10 people were injured in a clash over a disputed land at Ganeshbabur Dangi village under Sadar upazila of the district yesterday. A number of houses were set ablaze, ransacked and looted during the clash, source said. Injured Badrul Karal, 22, Mohon Bepari, 55, Badu Kha, 25, and Asma Begum, 30, were admitted to Sadarpur Health Complex while Atiar Karal, 35, was sent to Faridpur Medical College and Hospital. Locals said the clash erupted when local influential Lutfor Mridha along with his loyalists of Ganeshbabur village in Amirabad area of Bhasanchar union under Sadar upazila went to 'khas' land, a group of landless people led by Mohon tried to resist them. Lutfor and his cohorts Ujjal Mridha and Renju Mridha attacked them with lethal weapons. At one stage, they also set some houses including that of Ata Karal on fire.

HUMAN CHAIN IN PATUAKHALI

'Pay compensation for acquired land, halt river erosion'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

People of two remote chars under Galachipa upazila of Patuakhali district yesterday formed a human chain on the bank of the river Kajal demanding steps to protect the areas from river erosion and proper compensation for their land acquired by Petrobangla to drill natural gas well.

Abul Kalam, president of Char Kajal land owners' association, said Patuakhali district administration acquired 21 acres of land in Char Kajal to drill a gas well in the area.

Of the acquired land, 15 acres belong to local people while the remaining six acres are khas land.

He said the district administration has fixed Tk 5,100 for

per Katha of the acquired private land but local price of that land is Tk 15,000.

The char people urged the district administration to give proper compensation for their land. Char Kajal and Char Biswas Students Welfare Association organised the programme.

They also demanded steps to protect the two char areas from erosion by the river Kajal. The said the river devoured about 10,000 acres of land in the last 10 years.

Contacted, Md Eusuf Ali Mollah, additional deputy commissioner (ADC-revenue) of Patuakhali, said they have already sent letters to the authorities concerned, urging them to give proper compensation to Char Kajal people for their land.

BPDB's International Tender Notice. Includes details about procurement of Starting Diesel Engine Spares for Rangpur 20MW Gas Turbine Power Station, BPDB, Rangpur, Bangladesh. Includes a table with procurement details and contact information for Abu Reza Md Salahuddin.

Office of the Executive Engineer Generator Division Dhaka WASA, Dhaka. Invitation for Tenders. Dhaka Water Supply and Sewerage Authority. Includes details about procurement of Engine Over-hauling of 150 KVA Volvo Generator at Teckpara, Water Pump Station of MODS Zone-8. Includes a table with tender details and contact information for Md. Mizanur Rahman.