

Milk producers' ultimatum to Baghabari Milkvita

Two lawmakers back their 3-point demand

A CORRESPONDENT, Sirajganj

Farmers enlisted with Baghabari Milkvita yesterday demanded removal of the organisation's general manager in 48 hours, election to the managing council within a month and fixing of procurement price of milk at Tk 35 per litre.

Otherwise, the farmers threatened to stop supplying milk to Milkvita from September 2.

Earlier in the morning, the farmers of primary cooperative societies under the company put up barricade

on Bogra-Nagarbari highway to press home their demands.

A huge number of milk producers and leaders of Milkvita managing council took position on the highway in front of the Milkvita office from 11:15am to 12:30pm disrupting traffic movement on the road.

Hundreds of vehicles were stranded on both sides of the highway during the blockade causing immense suffering to the passengers.

Lawmaker from Ullapara constituency Shafiqul Islam

Shafi expressed solidarity with the farmers and said the farmers have made three reasonable demands including removal of "illegal" GM.

Chayan Islam, MP from Shahjapur seat said that a talk with the management in Dhaka on August 24 failed to resolve the issues compelling the farmers to take to the streets again.

He said Milkvita is paying Tk 26 per litre milk whereas it was Tk 32 during the last caretaker government.

Chayan further said, if the GM was not removed by 48

hours the farmers will stop supplying milk to Milkvita from September 2.

Shahjapur upazila chairman Hasibur Rahman Swapon, Bhangura upazila chairman Baqui Billah were among those who spoke at the rally.

Milkvita Deputy General Manager Dr Khandker Aminul Islam claimed that there was no malpractice in the organisation.

He said Milkvita was being run with transparency adding that the company made a profit of Tk 16 crore in the last fiscal year.

Harijans go on rampage at Dinajpur CS office



OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

Harijan people yesterday went on the rampage at Dinajpur Civil Surgeon's (CS) office protesting recruitment of sweepers for the office from non-Harijan community.

They damaged furniture, doors and windowpanes and poured litters on the floors of different rooms of the office. The protesters also assaulted Deputy Civil Surgeon Dr Md Abu Bakkar Siddique.

Sources said the CS office invited application for 19 posts of sweeper in June this year. After official procedures, the authorities concerned prepared a list of candidates selected for the posts from non-Harijan community, sources added.

As the CS office put up the list on its notice board at around 12:30pm yesterday, the Harijan people became agitated and started ransacking of the office.

Being informed, police rushed to the spot and took the situation under control. During the incident, Civil Surgeon Md Abdul Karim was not present at his office.

The protesters alleged that the authorities concerned had taken Tk 70,000 to 1,10,000 from each of the candidates of Harijan community, promising jobs at the CS office. But they selected non-Harijan people for the posts of sweeper, taking Tk 2 lakh to 2.5 lakh from each of them.

Later, the protesters brought out a procession in Dinajpur town demanding removal of Civil Surgeon Md Abdul Karim. They accused him of taking bribes from Harijan candidates and demanded return of the money.

After parading different streets in the town, the Harijan people went to the deputy commissioner's office and besieged it for an hour.

Contacted, lawmaker Iqbalur Rahim of Dinajpur-3 constituency said he will urge the authorities concerned to initiate an investigation into alleged corruption at the civil surgeon's office.

Denying the allegations, Civil Surgeon Md Abdul Karim said sweepers' were recruited through proper procedures. He however claimed that five sweepers were recruited from Harijan Community.

PHOTO: STAR
People of Harijan community demonstrate in front of Dinajpur civil surgeon's office yesterday protesting recruitment of sweepers from non-Harijan communities allegedly in exchange for bribe. Below, the agitators also ransacked the office apparently in reaction to 'provocative comments' made by officials.

No headway in CVASU deadlock

All exams suspended indefinitely

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Chittagong Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (CVASU) authorities yesterday suspended all its examinations for indefinite period in the wake of indefinite siege enforced by Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) on Sunday.

The BCL started the siege in protest of CVASU decision to expel and punish their nine party men.

Academic activities at the university were disrupted for the second day yesterday due to the siege.

The CVASU authorities issued the notice of suspending examinations yesterday morning.

CVASU Controller of Examination and President of CVASU Teachers Association Dr Goutam Buddha Das said they had no alternative to suspending the examination in the wake of anarchy created by BCL men on the campus.

He alleged that BCL activists are threatening the teachers and staffs bringing the academic activities virtually to a standstill but police are yet to take any steps against them.

Officer-in-charge (OC) of Khulshi police station Iftekhar Hossain said they were trying to keep the situation under control.

Expelled BCL convener Komol Kanti Mazumder said they would continue their agitation programme until their demands are met.

The university authorities on Saturday expelled five BCL activists for lifetime and punished four other students on charge of assaulting some teachers and staffs of the university.

BCL activists enforced an indefinite siege on the campus on Sunday by locking the administrative and academic buildings protesting the punishment and demanding resignation of Vice Chancellor (VC) Nitish Chandra Devnath.



PHOTO: STAR
Villagers take home bundles of jute sticks as the item is used as fuel in earthen cookers, for fencing and various other purposes. The photo was taken from the bank of Bangali River at Bathuabari in Dhunat upazila of Bogra district a couple of days ago.

BARNALI RAPE, MURDER IN BAGERHAT

Two to die, 4 get life

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Khulna Divisional Speedy Trial Tribunal yesterday sentenced two people to death and four others to life imprisonment for killing a college girl after rape in Rampal upazila of Bagerhat district in 2007.

Those awarded death penalty are Kamal Hossain and Moktar Hossain Mukta. The lifers are Hasan Sheikh, Mahub Hossain, Nazmul Hossain and Nahid Sheikh. They all hail from Chitra village under Rampal upazila.

The tribunal also fined the lifers Tk 10,000 each, in default they are to suffer another year in jail. Judge Md Sikander Ali delivered the verdict in the case at 5:30 pm. He acquitted six other accused, as charges brought against them could not be proved.

According to the prosecution, Barnali Ghosh, an honours student of Khulna Government Azam Khan Commerce College, was abducted from her house at Chitra village under Rampal upazila on the night of June 30, 2007.

The abductors took the college girl to a shop at the village, stuffed a piece of cloth into her mouth and raped her. Later, the gang took the unconscious girl to an orchard owned by Jalil Munshi of the village at the instruction of Chitra Union Parishad Chairman Jamil Hossain



Barnali Ghosh

Jamu and killed her by pouring acid on her body.

Barnali's father Bipul Ghosh filed a general diary with Rampal Police Station on July 3 the same year stating that his daughter went missing.

On July 11, police recovered Barnali's body from the orchard. On the following day, Bipul Ghosh filed a case with the police station, accusing Moktar Hossain and Kamal Hossain of killing his daughter.

Immediately after filing of the case,

police arrested Moktar. He made confessional statement before to court under Section 164 and disclosed the names of other gang members.

Two separate cases were later recorded with Rampal Police Station in connection with gang-rape and murder of the college girl naming 13 people accused.

The accused in the cases were Raju, Munmun, UP Chairman Jamir Hossain Jamu, Moktar Hossain Mukta, Kamal, Wazed, Nahid, Mahub, Liton, Hasan, Akbar Hossain, Monoj and Nazmul.

The cases were transferred to Khulna Divisional Speedy Trial Tribunal in November last year from Bagerhat court. Inspector Tofazzul Hossain of the Detective Branch of Bagerhat district police submitted a charge sheet to the court on February 18, 2008.

Statements of 22 out of 36 prosecution witnesses of the case filed for acid attack and statements of 19 of the 36 prosecution witnesses of the case filed under Women Repression Act were recorded by the court during trial.

The court could not try UP Chairman Jamir Hossain Jamu, one of the 13 charge-sheeted accused, as the High Court stayed trial proceedings against him.



PHOTO: STAR
A sari store at Shaheb Bazar in Rajshahi city sees a good number of buyers yesterday as shopping gains momentum ahead of the Eid and Puja festivals.

Two more RU Shibir cadres arrested

A CORRESPONDENT, RU

Motihar police arrested two more Islamic Chhatra Shibir cadres from Rajshahi University (RU) yesterday in connection with the campus violence on February 9.

Arrestees Ariful Islam and Abdul Kader are fourth year students of Marketing department of the university.

Sources said, Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) activists of the university unit caught Arif from in front of Rabintra Arts Building as he came to seat for his fourth year final examination at around 10.00am and handed him over to Motihar police.

Later, hearing the news that more Shibir activists appearing in the examination of Marketing department at the same building, the BCL activists blocked the gates of building at around 1.00pm.

On information, law enforcers rushed to the spot and took the couple to his house and confined them at a

Six commit 'suicide' in 2 days in Thakurgaon

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Thakurgaon

Six people allegedly committed suicide yesterday and the day before in the district.

Of the victims, three died in Sadar upazila, two in Haripur upazila and the sixth in Pirgonj upazila.

Police said, Amullaya Barman alias Taklu, 26, son of Azindar Barman of Dakkhin Thakurgaon village and Putul Rani, 18, daughter of Joynath Barman of Bathina village under Sadar upazila committed suicide by taking poison together on Sunday evening at Bathina village.

Putul and Amullaya used to meet at a bamboo cluster at Farabari village under Sadar upazila on Sunday afternoon.

Somehow Putul's father Joynath Barman got the information. He went to the spot and brought the couple to his house and confined them at a

room. As Putul's father was arranging arbitration with the local elites, the couple took insecticide in the evening.

Hearing their groaning, Putul's family members rushed to the room and took them to Thakurgaon Sadar Hospital.

Putul died on the way to hospital while Amullaya died at the hospital, police and villagers said.

Khokin Chandra Barman, 48, son of Laxmon Chandra Barman of Gopalpur village under Sadar upazila allegedly committed suicide at about 4:30am on Sunday by hanging from a tree beside his house.

Aftabuddin, 70, son of late Hukum Ali of Jadu Rani village under Haripur upazila also killed himself on Sunday at about 5:00am by hanging in a similar way.

Somela Begum, 85, wife of

late Rahmatullah of Dilgaon village under Haripur upazila allegedly committed suicide on Sunday evening by taking poison at her house.

Mita Boshai Barman, 60, wife of Heltong Roy of Bishmail village under Pirgonj upazila committed suicide on Sunday morning by hanging herself from the ceiling at an abandoned room of her house following a family feud, police said.

On information, police recovered the bodies from different spots and sent them to Thakurgaon Sadar Hospital for autopsy. Unnatural death cases were also filed with respective police stations.

Reasons behind most of the suicides could not be known immediately, police said.

Earlier at least 10 other people committed suicide in different upazilas of the district in the current month, police sources said.



Advertisement
Professor Dr. Shamim Ahmed, Professor & Head, Nephrology (Ex-Director), National Institute of Kidney Diseases and Urology receiving "Mother Teresa Gold Medal 2010" from Mohammad Fazlul Karim, Hon'ble Chief Justice, Govt. of Bangladesh, organized by Mother Teresa Research Council.