

STAFF RECRUITMENT IN PANCHAGARH, JESSORE

CS office vandalised, officials threatened

STAR NATIONAL DESK

Unruly people vandalised Panchagarh Civil Surgeon's office early yesterday as 'their candidates' failed to qualify in the written examination for recruitment of staff under the district health department.

In Jessore, some ruling party men allegedly gave threat to the members of an interview board to recruit health department employees according to their suggestion. Aggrieved over non-inclusion of chosen people in the list of successful candidates in the written test for recruitment as fourth class employees of the district

health department, a group of people vandalised Panchagarh Civil Surgeon's office at around 2:00am yesterday, reports our Thakurgaon correspondent.

They ransacked the room of civil surgeon, snatched the answer sheets and recruitment-related papers from there and damaged vehicles of the civil surgeon and the additional deputy commissioner.

Office sources said 523 candidates attended a written test on Sunday for five posts under the district health department. Results were published at 1:20am and three candidates were selected for viva voice against each post

according to merit list made on the basis of marks.

After a little while a group of seven to eight people went to Panchagarh Civil Surgeon Dr Mohammad Imaruddin and wanted to know about their candidates.

As the civil surgeon's answer was 'not satisfactory' to them, another group of 15 to 20 people joined them and started vandalism, office staff said.

On information, police went to the spot and brought the situation under control.

When contacted, Dr Imaruddin, also member secretary of the recruitment committee, told this correspondent over cell phone that

different quarters recommended for some candidates but their requests were not accepted as neutrality was maintained in the examination for recruitment.

A Correspondent adds from Jessore: A group of local Awami League (AL) leaders allegedly gave threat to the members of an interview board to recruit employees of Jessore health department according to their list yesterday.

Some 15/20 ruling party men led by upazila AL President Mohit Kumar Nath and local MP's cousin Maruf Hossain Khokon stormed the interview board at noon when interview of job seekers for the posts of office assistant, store-keeper and cook was going on at Jessore Civil Surgeon's office, said several staff of the office.

The intruders demanded recruitment of the third and fourth class employees according to their list and threatened to remove the interview board members from the office if they fail to meet their demand.

Health Director of Khulna division Dr AKM Abdus Samad Mian, Civil Surgeon Dr Tarun Kumar Sikder and Assistant Director of the Public Service Commission Nirmol Chandra Roy were present at the interview board.

Contacted, Mohit Kumar Nath said he went there to ask for recruitment of the people of Harijan community (low caste Hindu) to the posts of cleaner.

He also claimed that the members of the interview board were recruiting people by taking bribe.



PHOTO: STAR

Unruly people vandalised Panchagarh Civil Surgeon's office over non-inclusion of their chosen candidates in the list of successful job seekers.

Body of indigenous man 'killed for land grabbing' exhumed

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Thakurgaon

Body of an indigenous man, alleged killed to grab his land, was exhumed yesterday afternoon following a court order.

The person was identified as Noren Majhi, 35, son of Boishakhu Majhi of Gobindanagar village under Sadar upazila.

Investigation Officer of the case, also sub-inspector of Thakurgaon police station said Noren was killed on July 11 at about 9:30pm at the same village and hurriedly buried at Shenua cremation ground on the same night.

Victim's mother Rajeshwari Majhi filed a case with the Chief Judicial Magistrate's Court on July 20 accusing four people including Shabul Rishi of Chowranghi village under Khanshama upazila in Dinajpur, Ranga Majhi of Fakdanpur village, Shibu Madak and Mohammad Ali of Collegepara under Sadar upazila in Thakurgaon.

In her complaint she said the accused offered Noren

local made liquor mixed with poison for grabbing a piece of land and hurriedly buried him.

On the same day Judicial Magistrate Ashekur Rahaman ordered the office-in-charge of Thakurgaon PS to record a case.

The case however was recorded on August 4.

After next hearing the Chief Judicial Magistrate on August 11 ordered the District Magistrate to engage an executive magistrate to exhume the body and asked the principal of Dinajpur Medical College to form a medical board at forensic department for autopsy.

As per court order Additional District Magistrate Enayetullah Khan Yusuf Zai asked Executive Magistrate Shafiqul Islam to exhume the body and send it to Dinajpur Medical College and Hospital.

Following the order the body was exhumed in presence of the executive magistrate and IO of the case and sent to Dinajpur Medical College and Hospital.

Human chain, rally protesting attack on Khulna journo

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Journalists formed a human chain at the Picture Palace cinema hall intersection yesterday morning to protest Thursday's assault on Khulna-based staff correspondent of The New Age Taposh Kanti Das and demanding arrest of the FIR-named accused in the case.

Besides newsmen, leaders of different socio-cultural and non-government organisations joined the programme to express their solidarity with the agitation organised under the banner of Khulna Press Club.

The human chain was followed by a rally at the same place with president of Khulna Press Club Ahmed Ali Khan in the chair.

At the rally, General Secretary of Khulna Press Club and correspondent of Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha (BSS) S. M. Zahid Hossain warned of tougher agitation by the newsmen in case of police failure and reluctance to arrest the attackers of Taposh.

Khulna Press Club president dilly-dally by police to arrest the FIR-named accused would

not be tolerated further. Attack on a journalist by criminals is not an isolated incident, he pointed out.

Taposh sustained severe injuries in his head, back and chest as he was attacked allegedly by a few activists of local Jubo League on Thursday noon in front of Khulna Press Club.

The Jubo League men attacked The New Age correspondent as he protested merciless beating up of a rickshaw puller by them, witnesses said.

Taposh was discharged from Khulna General Hospital on Sunday after preliminary treatment.

He filed a case with Khulna Sadar police station on Thursday accusing Jubo League activists Feroze, Faisal and Riyon and some unnamed others. But the investigation officer of the case has so far made little progress to arrest the culprits.

Earlier on Thursday, a team from Khulna Press Club met KMP Commissioner Helaluddin Badri at his office and demanded a fair investigation of the case and immediate arrest of the FIR-named accused.



PHOTO: STAR

A farmer tends cauliflower at his field at Alipur in Paba upazila of Rajshahi district as favourable weather has helped good yield and maturing of early variety of the winter vegetable in the area.



PHOTO: STAR

Holding of an exhibition of automobiles on the central Shaheed Minar premises in Barisal town has triggered serious protest by the cultural activists and local elite. Barisal City Corporation allegedly rented out the venue to the organisers.

Bodies of youth, 2 others recovered

STAR NATIONAL DESK

Beheaded body of a youth and bodies of a day-labourer and a middle-aged man have been recovered in three districts.

In Nilphamari, beheaded body of Gopal Chandra, 30, was recovered from a paddy field adjacent to Balaka cinema hall at Chandkhana union in Kishoreganj upazila on Sunday morning, reports UNB.

Gopal hailed from Bostompara village in Taraganj upazila of Rangpur.

Locals said they saw the beheaded body and informed the police. Later, police recovered the body from the paddy field and the head from a nearby ditch.

Victim's wife Swarassati Rani said her husband went to Bhutpara village at the same union for collecting money from rice trader Sariful on Saturday and since then he remained missing.

The body was sent to hospital morgue for autopsy. A case was filed.

In Sherpur, police recovered hanging body of a day labourer at Dhakalhati village in Sadar upazila on Sunday.

The deceased was identified as Azizul Haque, 40, son of Abdur Rahman of Kanduly village in Jhenigati upazila.

Locals said they saw the body of Azizul hanging from a mango tree and informed the police.

Later, police recovered the body and sent it to Sadar hospital morgue for autopsy.

In Manikganj, body of a middle-aged man was recovered from Intajganj village in Shibalaya upazila Friday noon.

The deceased was identified as Abdur Razzak, 55, son of late Abdul Jalil of nearby Koira village in the upazila.

Local people saw the body hanging from a mango tree near Intajganj bazaar and informed the police.

Later, police recovered the body and sent it to hospital morgue for autopsy.

Police suspected that criminals killed the man following a previous enmity and hanged the body from the tree with a motive to prove that he had committed suicide.

Two commit 'suicide', 6 others attempt to kill themselves

All in a day in Meherpur

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

Two housewives allegedly committed suicide in Meherpur, while six others including students, housewives attempted to kill themselves in the district on Sunday.

Sarifa Khatun, 30, a widow at Chadbeel village and Shefali Khatun, 25, a housewife at Gorostanpara in Sadar upazila allegedly committed suicide following family feuds.

According to police, Sarifa, mother of three children were living at her parent's house at Chadbeel after her divorce eight months ago. Sarifa and the family members at her parent's house often locked in quarrel over Sarifa's kids.

On Sunday noon, Sarifa took poison. She was taken to Meherpur general hospital

where she died at about 5:30pm.

In another incident, Shefali Khatun, wife of Babur Ali allegedly committed suicide by hanging herself.

Police quoting family members said, Babur often beat up Shefali over trifling family matters.

Shefali went missing on Sunday morning. In the afternoon, she was found hanging from a mango tree at a nearby orchard.

An officer on duty at Meherpur Sadar police station said both were buried without any postmortem as the family members of the victims were not willing to do it.

Besides, six other people attempted to commit to suicide on the same day in the district.

According to Meherpur General Hospital sources, the

six were admitted to the hospital following attempt to commit 'suicide' by taking poison.

One Pintu, 35, son of Abdus Sattar of Kulbaria village in Sadar upazila took poison over an altercation with his wife Ranu Khatun, family sources said.

Anika Khatun, 18, daughter of Altaf Hossain of Kulbaria in Sadar upazila tried to kill herself by taking poison after a quarrel with her mother.

Monjura Khatun, 28, wife of Saber Ali of Uzzalpur in Sadar upazila, Sujon, 30, son of Akher Ali of Teghoria, Saira Banu, 30, wife of Motaheb of Singhati and Saheb Ali, 32, son of Rasul Uddin of Kaligangi in Sadar upazila of Meherpur took poison in their bid to commit suicide over various family matters.

All of them are now out of danger, doctors at the hospital said.

300 Khulna meat shops shut for anthrax fear

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Some 300 meat shops of Khulna city have remained closed since Sunday morning as sale of beef sees a drastic fall due to anthrax scare.

"Anthrax scare has forced us to close 300 shops for an indefinite period as only a few consumers come to buy beef. As a result, over a thousand butchers and beef sellers have become jobless. The 300 shops in the city used to sell red meat worth over 20 lakh daily on an average," said president of Khulna Meat Sellers' Welfare Association Md Abu Bakar

Sarder.

"Now we are sitting idle and incurring huge financial losses. Our business also suffered a severe setback during the month of holy Ramadan and on the occasion of Eid," he said.

Md Parvez Hossain, general secretary of the association said that no cattle were slaughtered since Friday in any of KCC-run slaughterhouses as anthrax scare has gripped consumers, butchers and beef sellers.

He suggested that the local livestock department play active role to free red meat consumers from anthrax panic.

Refraining from taking

beef may lead to protein deficiency among common people, said Dr Mantu Kumar Shikder, Medical Officer of Khulna Shishu Hospital.

When asked, Khulna District Livestock Officer Dr Nizamuddin Ahmed said, "Anthrax scare has created an adverse impact on meat trade in Khulna city. But there is nothing to be worried as all possible measures have been taken to contain outbreak of this disease. No cattle should be slaughtered without approval from a veterinary surgeon. Cattle died of anthrax must be dumped into the ground immediately."

Criminals loot construction materials of Ctg stadium

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Armed criminals early Saturday took away valuable materials worth Tk 8 lakh brought for the under-construction floodlight and roof canopy of Chittagong Zahur Ahmad Chowdhury Divisional Stadium.

The stadium is one of the venues of the next World Cup cricket.

The theft has made completion of the venue by the deadline uncertain, said the officials concerned.

Two firms, Transcom Limited and QH Masud, were

constructing the floodlight towers and roof canopy respectively.

According to locals and police, a gang of criminals numbering about 20 arrived at the stadium on a truck at around 2:30am and asked the night guards to open the main gate for loading some equipment brought for construction work.

As the guards opened the gate the criminals took them hostage at gunpoint, loaded the materials on the truck and left the place.

Materials including steel angle, joint plate for under

construction flood-light of Transcom Limited worth Tk 5 lakh and iron beam and angle for the roof canopy worth Tk 3 lakh were taken away, said the sources.

Sub Assistant Engineer Mokhlesur Rahman of National Sports Council, Chittagong confirmed the incident.

"Equipment for construction works are sometimes brought at night and that's why the night guards opened the gate," he said.

October was the targeted month for completion of the required construction works

for the venue, he said fearing a delay in the construction.

Project Supervisor Wahid Nasir of Transcom Limited said the imported equipment arrived just a day before the incident and they were scheduled to start work of the floodlight towers on Sunday.

A robbery case was filed with Pahartali police station in this connection on Saturday evening.

Officer-in-charge (OC) Bashir Ahmad Khan said they conducted drives in several areas in search of the criminals and stolen materials.