

NARSINGDI CLASH

# 41 BNP men sued on AL activist murder charge

A CORRESPONDENT, Narsingdi

Forty-one BNP men have been sued on charge of killing Awami League activist Shahadat Hossain during a clash between the two rival political parties in Raipura upazila on Thursday.

Shanti Begum, mother of the slain AL man, filed a case with Raipura Police Station on Friday.

After filing of the case, police arrested four people. They are Ahad Ali, 60, Ruma Begum, 36, Rubi Begum, 19 and Momena Khatun, 45.

Shahadat, 22, also a power loom worker, was shot dead and 30 others were injured, six by bullets, during the clash at

Baghaikandi village on Thursday morning.

Of the bullet injured, Shahidullah, 45, Shahid Mollah, 25, Borhanuddin, 20, Sohel, 18, and Shahin Mollah, 18, and wife of an AL activist Shahida Begum, 45, were admitted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital while the rest to Narsingdi Sadar and different other local hospitals.

Police and locals said the supporters of Aralia union AL president Zakir Hossain and BNP-backed UP chairman aspirant Hasan locked in a clash around 6:00am over establishing supremacy in the union.

The clash was a sequel to Wednesday night's clash

between the two rival groups, sources said, adding that they had clashed six times this month.

The feuding groups used firearms and sharp weapons during the clash that lasted for three hours.

Police recovered the body of Shahadat at 9:00am and sent it to the Sadar Hospital morgue for an autopsy.

After autopsy at Narsingdi Sadar Hospital, Shahadat's body was buried at Baghaikandi graveyard on Thursday night.

Tension is prevailing in the area although a huge contingent of police was deployed in the area to avoid any unwanted situation.

## 'Long march' concludes

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

The seven-day 'long march' of National Committee for Protection of Oil, Gas, Mineral Resources, Port and Power ended with a public meeting in Phulbari of Dinajpur district yesterday.

The citizens' platform, the National Committee to Protect Oil, Gas, Mineral Resources, Power and Ports reached Dinajpur in the last leg of its week-long march towards the district.

The march that started from Muktangan in the capital on Oct 24 arrived in Phulbari after covering about 465 kilometres on road. The organisers of the programme also held 60 public meetings on their way.

A large number of people including villagers of Pulbari and indigenous people of different districts gathered at the meeting near Chhoto Jamuna River in the upazila yesterday afternoon. They held banners, placards and wore headbands with slogans against open pit coalmine.

At the meeting, Prof Anu Muhammad read out their seven-point demand including state ownership of all national resources, cancellation of regulations that are against national interest, formulation of laws banning open pit mining and restrictions on export of minerals.

## 4 Jamaat men held in Laxmipur

BSS, Laxmipur

Police yesterday arrested four Jamaat activists from Alekjaner Bazar under Ramgoti upazila of the district.

The arrestees were Golam Mowla of Shikhamgram village, Nur Nobil and Mohammad Sumon of Sahapara village and Mahfuzur Rahman of Sobuzvillage.

Ramgoti police station officer-in-charge M Soliman Chowdhury said the Jamaat activists were arrested from the bazar while they were pasting posters of accused top five Jamaat leaders, including Motiur Rahman Nizami.

Legal steps would be taken against the arrestees, he added.

## Bomb blasts at Rangpur Zoo

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur

An unidentified gang blasted chocolate bombs at Rangpur Zoo yesterday afternoon, creating panic among the visitors.

The gang left a press release beside Prothom Alo Rangpur office, claiming themselves as members of 'Amra Tarun Samaj'. They tried to justify their action, saying that 'anti-social activities' are taking place inside the zoo.

Prothom Alo Rangpur correspondent Ariful Hque Ruju said someone told him over phone that they dropped a press release beside his office.

The curator of the Zoo said the criminals exploded cocktails and soon fled the scene.

Officer-in-charge of Kotwali Police Station Haider Ali said some unidentified people blasted chocolate bombs inside the zoo. He said law enforcers arrested three people near Hunumantala area in connection with the incident.

He, however, did not disclose the identity of the arrestees.



Private television Channel i arranges a unique competition among housewives on cleaning, cutting and frying popular fish hilsa to serve it as a delicacy. Popy Alam, Ruma and Mobashwera won the first, second and third prizes at the contest held at a newly emerged landmass near Bahria Bazar in Chandpur Sadar upazila yesterday.

# Solar power changing rural lifestyle, mostly in chars

STAR NATIONAL DESK

Remote char areas of Gaibandha and Lalmonirhat districts now see rapid change in lifestyle, thanks to the introduction of solar power by a few non-governmental organisations.

Used to lighting houses with kerosene lamps only a few years ago, they are now using solar power to light houses and shops and even watch television.

Over 1,500 families in remote char areas along Jamuna basin in four upazilas of Gaibandha district are using solar power for domestic and commercial purposes, reports our Gaibandha correspondent.

Grameen Shakti and Rahimafroze have supplied the solar panel in 22 unions along Teesta and Jamuna basin.

Grameen Shakti alone supplied solar panel among 1,100 families in Gaibandha district during the last three years.

Local NGO Gano Unnayan Kendro at char Nischintapur in Fulchari upazila has been using solar power provided by Grameen Sakti for the last three years, said an official of Grameen Shakti.

"We have provided instalment facilities, so that most people in remote areas can afford solar power," he added.

"I have already set up a solar panel from Rahimafroze Company at a cost of Tk 27,000. Fitting it on the roof of my shop, I am using its power to lit three bulbs and watch television," said Anwar Hossain, a shop owner of Char Kundepara Bazaar in Gaibandha Sadar upazila.

Besides providing entertainment facilities, solar power has helped bring information of home and a road near the people of remote areas as they can now watch television.

There is an increasing trend to use solar power, said Abu Sayed Sarker, chairman of

Fulchhari Upazila Parishad.

He urged the government to provide subsidy on solar panel to enable poor people use solar power.

People of 'main land' areas are also showing interest to use solar panel as they suffer frequent power failures in the system provided by PDB and Rural Electrification Board.

In Lalmonirhat, sitting at his tea stall, elderly Mazir Ali says at his evening tea along with his customers. A small fan inside the stall keeps them cool as they watch an exciting Bangla film on Ali's black and white TV.

The scene was quite unimaginable only five years ago when almost all the people in remote char areas on Dharla and Teesta rivers used kerosene lanterns to light their houses after sunset, reports a correspondent.

They are now increasingly using solar power technology,

made available by a few NGOs, to solve their power crisis and improve lifestyle.

At least 700 solar power systems have been set up in the 26 chars under Sadar, Aditmari and Kaliganj upazilas of Lalmonirhat, NGO officials reported.

Residents of the remote chars said the Rural Electrification Board could not provide electricity connections to their households as they are separated by rivers.

Non-governmental organisations such as Grameen Shakti, BRAC and Gano Prochar Kalyan Sangstha (GPKS) have been providing the solar power appliance to char residents for payment in instalments.

Each solar power appliance consists of a solar carbon panel, batteries and connection cables, and can supply power to a line of households simultaneously.

The NGO officials carry out the set up and maintenance of the solar appliance, which usually come with a guarantee period of 15 years.

The appliance price ranges from Tk 20,000 to 40,000 depending on its power producing capacity, ranging from 20 to 500 Watts.

The appliance can be purchased by depositing 15 to 20 percent of its total cost as down payment. The remaining amount is repayable in 30 to 50 monthly instalments with applicable service charge of 5 to 8 percent.

Constant electricity supply enables solar power users run lights and fans at homes and enjoy TV programmes. They can know more about the country, the government activities as well as about the world while students can better attend to their study.



Defying restriction orders of the authorities, two factions of Bangladesh Chhatra League hold political programmes and chase each other on Rajshahi University campus yesterday, creating panic, especially among the candidates of first year admission test.

# BCL defies ban, creates panic on RU campus

RU CORRESPONDENT

Leaders and activists of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) Rajshahi University (RU) unit brought out a procession and held a rally on the campus in presence of law enforcers yesterday defying authorities' restrictions on such programmes during honours first year admission test under 2010-2011 session.

They also engaged in chase and counter chase, creating panic among admission seekers and their guardians, students and teachers on the campus.

Around one hundred BCL men led by RU unit BCL Vice President Rezwan Ahmed alias Shuvro brought out a procession on the campus in presence of a large number of law enforcers at around 12:00pm, witnesses said.

Fifteen minutes later, another faction of BCL men, who are followers of suspended RU unit BCL president Awal Kabir Joy and secretary Mazedul Islam Opu, chased the processionists at Tukitaki Chatter, inviting a counter chase by the rivals in presence of law enforcers.

On information, members of RU proctorial body accompanied by the officer-in-charge of Motihar Police Station rushed to the spot and brought the situation under control.

Later at a rally held on the campus, Shuvro-

led faction announced a three-day programme 'on the occasion of admission test'.

Leaders and activists of a few left-leaning student organisations criticised the university authorities for not taking any action against the BCL men for violating restrictions on rallies and processions on the campus during the first year admission test under 2010-2011 session.

Earlier the university authorities imposed restrictions on the activities of the student bodies during the first year admission test that started on October 30.

RU unit BCL Vice President Rezwan Ahmed Shuvro said they had taken verbal permission from the university authorities for holding procession and rally on the campus. He denied making any counter chase.

Former president of RU unit BCL Awal Kabir Joy and secretary Mazedul Islam Opu, who were suspended for series of clashes on August 23, were not available for their comments.

RU Proctor Prof Chowdhury Muhammad Zakaria told this correspondent, "I was not aware of BCL programmes on the campus. We will investigate the matter and take steps against those who took part in the programmes on the campus defying the university authorities' restrictions during the admission test."

## HIGH-PROTEIN BISCUITS

# 21 more students of 3 Gaibandha schools fall sick

UNB, Gaibandha

At least 21 more students of three government primary schools fell sick after taking biscuits distributed under school feeding programme of the government in Saghata upazila yesterday.

With this, 91 primary school students fell sick after taking biscuits in Saghata and Gobindaganj upazila of the district in three days since Thursday.

Over 400 primary school students were given the biscuits yesterday afternoon and some of them complained of nausea, abdominal pain after

having the biscuits.

The sick students were rushed to Saghata upazila health complex.

Non-government organisation RDRS which supplied the high-protein biscuits to primary schools under government programme was asked to stop supplying the biscuits.

Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) Md Khorshed Alam said the feeding programme has been suspended until the investigation report over the incident is found.

Earlier, 70 students fell sick in Gobindaganj upazila after having biscuits on Thursday and Friday.

# ACC files case against UPEO Kamaruzzaman

A CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) has filed a case against an education officer with Gouranadi police station in Barisal district for misappropriating Tk 96.90 thousand that was realised in addition to the officially fixed fees from the primary terminal examination candidates.

The accused, Md Kamaruzzaman, former upazila primary education officer (UPEO) of Gouranadi, is now working as UPEO of Taherpur in Sunamganj district.

Kazi Nazrul Islam, deputy director of ACC Barisal office, lodged the case on Wednesday night, said Nurul Islam, officer in charge of Gouranadi police station.

Md Kamaruzzaman, the then UPEO of Gouranadi, forced the authorities of 132

primary and community schools to pay Tk 60 as examination fees instead of government-fixed fee of Tk 30 for each of primary terminal examinees in the upazila in 2009 academic session, goes the prosecution.

As the money was collected from 3,230 examinees, the accused UPEO misappropriated a total of Tk 96 thousand and 900, it adds.

Following mass agitations from the guardians and teachers, a meeting was held at Gouranadi Government Model Primary School on January 14 this year where UPEO Kamaruzzaman admitted the allegation and refunded a good amount of money that was collected as additional examination fees and the matter was reported by locals newspapers.


Presided over by Gouranadi upazila Chairman Shah Alam Khan,

the meeting was attended by MA Faruk, deputy director and divisional primary education officer, Syed Mahub Khan, the then upazila nirbahi officer, other officials and over a hundred headmasters of primary schools.

At the meeting, the teachers also raised 11-point allegations of irregularities, harassment, corruption and misbehaviour against UPEO Kamaruzzaman and demanded his immediate removal.

However no departmental action was taken against him for that corruption.

After receiving the allegation, the ACC investigated it and lodged the corruption case with Gouranadi police station on Wednesday night, said the ACC official who lodged the case.



**রাজধানী উন্নয়ন কর্তৃপক্ষ**  
রাজউক ভবন, ঢাকা  
(উন্নয়ন নিয়ন্ত্রণ শাখা)

**সতর্কীকরণ বিজ্ঞপ্তি**

এতদ্বারা সর্বসাধারণের জ্ঞাতার্থে জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, একটি অসাধু প্রতারক চক্র নিজেদেরকে রাজউকের ইমারত পরিদর্শক বা রাজউকের কর্মকর্তা/কর্মচারী পরিচয় দিয়ে বা ভূঁয়া পরিচয় দিয়ে ব্যবহার করে রাজউকের আওতাধীন এলাকায় নির্মিত/নির্মাণাধীন ইমারত পরিদর্শন করছে। অনুমোদিত নকশা বহির্ভূতভাবে ইমারত নির্মাণ করা হচ্ছে বা ইমারতটি রাজউকের অনুমোদন ব্যতিরেকে নির্মাণ করা হয়েছে বা ইমারতটি বৃদ্ধি/সংশোধন ইত্যাদি মর্মে অভিযোগ করে ইমারতের মালিকের নিকট অর্থ দাবী করে। কখনও কখনও একই চক্রটি ইমারতের ভূঁয়া ছাড়পত্র বা নকশা অনুমোদন করিয়ে দিবে মর্মে আশ্বাস দিয়ে অর্থ আদায় করছে।

এমতাবস্থায়, সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলকে এ সকল প্রতারক এবং অসাধু চক্র সম্পর্কে সতর্ক থাকার জন্য অনুরোধ জানানো যাচ্ছে। এরূপ ঘটনা জানার সাথে সাথে বা কোন ব্যক্তি সম্পর্কে সন্দেহ হলে সরাসরি রাজউকের সদস্য (পরিদর্শক) ফোন নং- ০১৭৩০০১৩৯০৩/৯৫৬১১৩৭, পরিচালক (উন্নয়ন নিয়ন্ত্রণ) ফোন নং- ০১৭৩০০১৩৯১৩/৯৫৫৪৬৬৭ সাথে যোগাযোগ করতে বা নিকটস্থ থানায় অবহিত করতে অনুরোধ করা হলো।

**সচিব**  
জিডি-৪৬০৫  
রাজধানী উন্নয়ন কর্তৃপক্ষ, ঢাকা