

Ex-school committee chief locks school for failing to get re-elected

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gaibandha

Students and teachers of Krishnapur High School in Sadullapur upazila could not enter the school on Thursday, the opening day after Ramadan and Eid holidays, as former president of the managing committee closed the main entrance.

Failing to get elected president of the school managing committee in the recently held election, Sayed Ahmed Sarker and his men blocked the main gate of the school with bamboo fence and locked all classrooms and common room.

managing committee also urged the authorities concerned to change the name of the school.

Sayed Ahmed said he will not remove the bamboo fence from the main gate and unlock the classrooms until the present committee is dissolved.

Headmaster Shafier Rahman alleged that Sayed Ahmed had started his anti-school activities after his debacle in the election. He and his men gave threat to the newly elected members and asked them not to come to the school, the headmaster said.

He further alleged that the former chairman's

men misbehaved with some teachers of the school and demanded Tk 1.5 lakh as toll from him.

Education of the students is being hampered due to the 'evil acts' of the former president and his men, said Amjad Hossain, the newly elected president of school managing committee.

He urged the authorities concerned to intervene in the matter and take urgent steps to reopen the school.

Azharul Islam, UNO (in-charge) of Sadullapur upazila, said necessary measures are being taken to reopen the school as early as possible.



Rooms of Krishnapur Dimukhi High School in Sadullapur upazila of Gaibandha district kept under lock and key, below, bamboo branches put on the entrance to the classrooms to prevent teachers and students from going there.

Shafier Rahman, headmaster of the school, informed the upazila nirbahi officer (UNO) of the matter and sought his intervention in this regard.

Though the UNO assured the headmaster of taking urgent steps to resolve the issue, the school remained closed as of yesterday.

Contacted, Sayed Ahmed said he demanded dissolution of the newly elected managing committee, alleging that the election was not fair. He also demanded re-election to the committee.

Claiming himself as donor of the school, the former president of the

Enclave people observe 'night without light'

Demand early implementation of deal

STAR NATIONAL DESK

People of the Indian enclaves' inside Bangladesh territory yesterday began their two-day 'Nishprodip Raat Japon' (spending night without lighting lamps) programme demanding early implementation of the enclave exchange deal between Bangladesh and India.

Over one thousand people including women and children brought out a procession at Garati enclave adjacent to Haibhasha and Hafizabad unions under Panchagarh Sadar upazila yesterday demanding immediate solution to their problem, reports our Thakurgaon correspondent.

"From today [Saturday] evening all the enclave people inside Panchagarh district will refrain from lighting lamps for two nights as part of 'Nishprodip Raat Japon' programme as the enclave exchange deal signed on Tuesday by India and

Bangladesh did not mention any specific time frame for its implementation," Mofizur Rahman, a leader of the residents of Garati enclave, said at a discussion after the procession.

"We want to be Bangladeshi citizens. The governments of India and Bangladesh should feel the pain of the enclave people and start the exchange procedure soon. Otherwise, we will launch tougher movement," he said.

Earlier on Thursday evening, leaders of India-Bangladesh Enclave Exchange Coordination Committee in Panchagarh suspended a fast-unto-death programme of enclave people in Bangladesh for seven days following request from the district administration.

One hundred and eleven Indian enclaves inside Bangladesh are situated in Panchagarh, Lalmonirhat, Kurigram and Nilphamari districts while all the 51 Bangladeshi enclaves are in Indian Cooch Behar

district.

Our Kurigram correspondent reports: To observe the two-day 'Nishprodip Raat Japon' programme, the female members in the enclaves yesterday prepared to have all their cooking as well as eating complete during the daytime. They will do the same today.

On Wednesday, the residents observed a half-day hunger strike in Indian enclave Dashiur Chhara in Phulbari upazila of the district on the enclave exchange deal issue.

"We are observing the programme in all the 111 Indian enclaves. We want a specific time for early implementation of the enclave exchange deal signed between Bangladesh and India," Md Golam Mostafa, general secretary of Bangladesh unit of India-Bangladesh Enclave Exchange Coordination Committee, told this correspondent yesterday.

"We will continue various programmes until achieving success," he added.

Mystery shrouds death of college girl

UNB, Pabna

Mystery shrouded death of a female college student at Purbapara of Banogram in Santhia upazila.

The deceased was identified as Farzana Sadia Queen, 17, a HSC student of Meyapur Haji Jasimuddin School and College and daughter of retired army man Abdul Kuddus of the village.

Family sources said she went to bed on Tuesday night and fell severely ill when she woke up Wednesday morning.

Her younger sister, who slept in the same room, called other members of the family as she saw Farzana growling with severe stomachache.

She died on the way to hospital.

Neighbours said she died after taking excessive sedative following a discord with her fiancée. But family sources claimed she committed suicide after her mother scolded her over a family matter.

Neighbours alleged police handed over the body to her family without post-mortem.

TEACHERS GIVE SEPT 30 DEADLINE 'Meet demands or face agitation'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

Teachers of non-government schools and colleges here yesterday threatened agitation if their demands for nationalisation of jobs and resumption of time scale were not met by September 30.

They gave the ultimatum at a rally organised by Bangladesh Shikshak-Karmachari Oikya Jote at Lok Bhaban in the town with Monjurul Islam, convener of Dinajpur unit of the jote, in the chair.

Prof Selim Bhuiyan, Chairman of Bangladesh Shikshak-Karmachari Oikya Jote, addressed the rally as chief guest. Prof Chowdhury Mugis Uddin Mahmud, convener of Bangladesh College Shikshak Samity and Prof Nur Afroz Jyoti, former lawmaker spoke as special guests.

Prof Selim Bhuiyan in his speech urged the government

to meet the two demands of the non-government school and college teachers within September 30. Otherwise, he said the teachers will go for tougher agitation to realise their demands.

He said if the demands are not met by September 30, Bangladesh Shikshak-Karmachari Oikya Jote will hold an emergency meeting on October 5 and declare its agitation programme.

Prof Md Jakir Hossain, additional joint secretary of Bangladesh Shikshak-Karmachari Oikya Jote, Prof Bahauddin Bahar, Md Kamruzzaman, presidium member and organisational secretary of Bangladesh Shikshak Samity also spoke at the meeting.

Other speakers urged the government to nationalise teachers' job and give them time scale. They also requested the government to stop 'harassment' of teachers.

Station besieged and trains halted demanding service

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gaibandha

A few hundred people Friday besieged Bonarpara railway station and detained two passenger trains for three hours demanding immediate resumption of services two of trains on Bonarpara-Dinajpur and Bonarpara-Santaher routes.

Agitated people set up barricade on the tracks and detained Lalmonirhat bound Padmarag and Santaher bound local train for three hours at the station.

They chanted slogans demanding reintroduction of two suspended trains with immediate effect. Otherwise a greater agitation will be launched paralysing total rail communication in the region, they threatened.

Ramshagor Express 59/60 on Gaibandha-

Dinajpur railway route was suspended without any prior notice. The train is lying idle at Bonarpara station for the last two weeks causing immense sufferings to passengers of adjacent upazilas.

The train started journey on November 12, 2010 and went off the track for 50 days after its inception on the plea of locomotive and manpower shortage, according to railway sources.

To ease rail communication in northern districts of Rangpur Division, the train used to shuttle between Bonarpara in Gaibandha and Dinajpur via Kawnia. It left Bonarpara station at 6:30 am and returned from Dinajpur at 2:50 pm everyday.

Another local train 491/492, that helped mostly the college goers, had been running between

Bonarpara and Santaher via Bogra since long. The railway authorities suddenly suspended the train last one week without any notice.

To ease communication in the area, locals demanded immediate resumption of services of the two suspended trains.

The authorities were compelled to stop these two trains for want of adequate locomotive power. They will return to service as soon as the power is available, said the station master of Bonarpara railway station.

Normal rail communication restored yesterday after about three hours when the railway divisional manger at Lalmonirhat assured the agitating people of resuming the two trains with immediate effect.

2 housewives killed allegedly for dowry

STAR NATIONAL DESK

Two housewives were tortured to death allegedly by husbands and in-laws for dowry in Joypurhat and Thakurgaon districts on Friday and Tuesday.

A housewife was beaten to death allegedly by her husband for dowry in Akkelpur upazila of Joypurhat on Friday evening, reports our correspondent in Dinajpur.

The victim was identified as Tanzila Begum, 25, wife of Khorshed Alam of village Dewra-Khoslapara in the upazila.

Akkelpur police quoting villagers said Khorshed Alam used to torture Tanzila physically and mentally for dowry since they got married a few years ago.

On Thursday, the couple locked in an altercation over the issue. Khorshed again picked up a quarrel on Friday as his wife remained indifferent over the dowry.

This agitated Khorshed. He started beating Tanzila and at one stage kicked on her abdomen.

Tanzila fainted on the spot. Her husband then fled the scene pouring poison in her mouth to prove that she tried to commit suicide.

After half an hour, neighbours rescued her and took her to Thakurgaon upazila health complex where doctors declared her death.

In Thakurgaon, a housewife was murdered allegedly by husband and in-laws at Mohammadpur village in Sadar upazila on Tuesday afternoon, reports our correspondent.

A murder case was filed on Wednesday evening against the victim's husband and four others after some injury marks were found on the victim's body during autopsy.



Locals block passenger trains at Bonarpara railway station in Saghatta upazila of Gaibandha district yesterday demanding resumption of service of two trains at the station.

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