

SCHOOLTEACHER MURDER Hartal observed, 2 BCL men held

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

The Gournadi upazila BNP observed peacefully a half-day hartal yesterday, protesting the murder of a former Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal leader the previous day.

Amid presence of police and Rapid Action Battalion (Rab), the strikers could not stage any violent protest in the upazila town despite their attempt to block Barisal-Dhaka highway at Vurghata point early morning.

Shah Farid Zamaddar, 29, an ex-leader of JCD and teacher of Pinglakathi Government Primary School, was hacked to death allegedly by Bangladesh Chhatra League cadres Thursday. Farid was buried at his family graveyard in Chadshi village yesterday.

Meanwhile, police detained two BCL activists -- Saddam Sardar and Zia Sardar -- yesterday for interrogation in connection with the killing after Shah Jamal Zamaddar, brother of the victim, filed a case with Gournadi Police Station late Thursday accusing six persons.

In the case, Jamal accused Nayan Sharif, 29, the upazila BCL secretary, and Kajal Hawladar, 28, vice-president of Gournadi Government College unit BCL, and four others unnamed. The complainant said Nayan and Kajal led the BCL cadres that murdered Farid.

Mizanur Rahman, officer-in-charge (investigation) and investigator of the case, said police also recorded statement of Shefali, a resident of Chadshi village and witness to the murder.

Advocate Talukdar Md Yunus, local Awami League lawmaker, told journalists over phone that said he asked police for free, fair investigation and arrest of the killers.



Jhum cultivators reaping their crops on a hill in Chittagong Hill Tracts with high hopes of bringing a good harvest home this year. This form of cultivation involves clearing a piece of land by setting fire or clear felling to grow rice, vegetables or fruits.

PHOTO: FOCUS BANGLA

PAHARTALI BODDHOBHUMI Statements taken to identify mass grave

PRANABESH CHAKRABORTY, Ctg

Pahartali Boddhobhumi Sonaktokoron Committee (committee to identify mass graves in Pahartali) visited Pahartali Boddhobhumi here yesterday to take statements of those who witnessed the mass killings there during the War of Liberation in 1971.

On November 10, 1971, passengers of two trains bound for Dohajari and Najirhat were slaughtered and buried by Biharis (non Bangladeshes) on the spot, said Prof Gazi Saleh Uddin, central committee member of Ekatturer Ghatak Dalal Nirmul Committee.

Many more were brought there earlier to be killed and buried, said Prof Gazi, who lost his father in the incident.

"Higher court directed to stop the construction work of University of Science and Technology, Chittagong (USTC) there and formed the committee to identify where the mass grave is located," said the Pahartali committee President Maj Gen (retd) KM Safiullah Bir Uttam.

Following a writ petition on December 14, 2008, the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court gave the directives on June 6, 2011.

As per the directive, USTC stopped constructing its business administrative building there.

Noted writer Mohammad Zafar Iqbal, Prof Gazi, eminent historian Prof Muntasir Mamoon, Projonmo 71 Dhaka division President Md Azizur Rahman and Mili Rahman, widow of Bir Sreshtha Matir Rahman, filed the petition against USTC to preserve the land.

"Hearing the witnesses, it seems to me that I am standing on the killing field where hundreds of people were killed by Biharis during the War of Liberation period," said Safiullah, also commander of S-Force in the War of



Members of Pahartali Boddhobhumi Sonaktokoron Committee (committee to identify mass graves in Pahartali) visit Foyes Lake in Pahartali in Chittagong city yesterday to identify a mass grave.

PHOTO: STAR

Liberation.

When the committee asked USTC Pro-Vice Chancellor Dr Jafar Alam, present there yesterday, about the spot, he said he heard about it but was not sure.

However, USTC Vice Chancellor National Professor Dr Nurul Islam, speaking to the committee, said they left out 20 kathas from the 1.75 acre land to mark the presence of a mass grave.

One member of the committee, Shahriar Nabil, also executive president of the Nirmul Committee, said it is imperative to identify the mass graves since the present government started the war crimes trial.

"Some influential quarters are trying to erase the history of genocide and the War of Liberation and the mass grave is being occupied as part of that plot.

"If the mass graves are located on private property, the government should purchase them so that the new generation can learn about the country's true history," he said.

Prof Muntasir, a member of the Pahartali committee, said, "We will submit our report to the higher court through liberation war affairs ministry after collecting all statements of witnesses, locals and the defenders (USTC)."

The committee would be staying at Chittagong Circuit House till morning today to take the statements and submit the report within October 9.

The other members of the Pahartali committee are War of Liberation researcher Dr Mahfujur Rahman, USTC Registrar Dr Md Shamsujjoha, Additional Secretary Syed Mujibul Haque and Chittagong Deputy Commissioner Fayez Ahmed.

Cyclone warning on cell phones from January

BSS, Dhaka

The government is going to introduce an integrated digital cyclone early warning using different technologies of mobile telephony in all 14 coastal districts from January.

"We chose mobile phone as our new generation of warning tool considering its availability across the country even on fishing boats of the Bay," Director General of Disaster Management Bureau (DMB) Ahsan Zakir told the news agency yesterday.

The DMB has designed the integrated digital early warning in a combination of Cell Broadcasting Services (CBS), Short Message Services (SMS) and Interactive Voice Response (IVR) of mobile phone.

Initially the warning will be disseminated through two mobile operators- one is Grameenphone, holding the country's largest mobile network and other one is state-run Teletalk, DMB chief said.



Boat race

Dhaka City Corporation will organise a boat race; Venue: Basila BIWTA Launch Terminal, Mohammadpur; Time: 12:00noon.

Human chain

Sammitito Peshajibi Forum will hold a human chain; Venue: Jatiya Press Club; Time: 4:00pm.

Human chain

Jatiyatabadi Nagorik Mancha will hold a human chain; Venue: in front of Jatiya Press Club; Time: 10:00am.

Seminar

Dhaka School of Economics will hold a seminar; Venue: Bangladesh Economic Association auditorium; Time: 3:00pm.

Rally

Bangladesh Poribesh Andolon will organise a rally; Venue: Central Shaheed Minar premises; Time: 10:00am.

Inaugural ceremony

Small and Medium Enterprise Foundation will organise an inaugural ceremony; Venue: its Display Centre, Panthapath; Time: 5:30pm.

Conference

Institute of Water Modelling will hold a conference; Venue: BIAM Foundation; Time:

Discussion

Samajtantrik Mahila Forum will organise a discussion; Venue: Vanguard auditorium, Segunbagicha; Time: 4:00pm.

Human chain

Transparency International Bangladesh will hold a human chain; Venue: in front of Jatiya Press Club; Time: 10:00am.

Views exchange meeting

Sector Commanders Forum will organise a views exchange meeting; Venue: Bengal Café, Dhanmondi; Time: 11:00am.

Seminar

Caritas Bangladesh will organise a seminar; Venue: YWCA, Iqbal Road, Mohammadpur; Time: 10:00am.

Discussion

Society of the Deaf and Sign Language Users will hold a discussion; Venue: Dhaka Reporters Unity; Time: 10:30am.

Memorial meeting

Gonosangskreeti Dal will hold a memorial meeting; Venue: Central Shaheed Minar premises; Time: 4:00pm.

Memorial lecture

Liberation War Museum will hold a memorial lecture; Venue: Liberation War Museum; Time: 4:00pm.

79th death anniversary of Pritilata today

BSS, Dhaka



Today is the 79th death anniversary of Pritilata Waddedar, the first woman who embraced

martyrdom for the country's liberation from British rule in 1932.

Born in Chittagong in 1911, Pritilata was an anti-British revolutionary in the then East Bengal, now Bangladesh.

In early 1930s, Pritilata joined Mastarda Surya Sen's armed resistance movement.

Later in 1932, she successfully lead a team to attack on the Pahartali European Club in Chittagong. However, when trapped by the English on the fateful night, she committed suicide by swallowing Cyanide, ending her short endeavor in fighting for the country's freedom.

Pritilata graduated in Philosophy with distinction from Bethune College of Kolkata.

The Daily Star Coming out tomorrow - Star Campus

Linking Young Minds Together

The Daily Star offers campus based weekly magazine 'Star Campus' - the ultimate magazine for the young generation - a common platform for the college and university students and academicians - to share their ideas, thoughts, dreams, opinions and views. Star Campus is an endeavour to bring into the center stage the visionary aspects of our college and university students, alongside their lifestyle, cultural trends and their multidimensional talents. Star Campus is a magazine broadly based on campus life! It contains articles, academic news, achievements, travelogues, interviews, book reviews, quiz, milestones, academic tips, profiles of educational institutes, cultural and extra-curricular activities in campus, jokes, cartoons, photographs and much more. This is a magazine Of the Students, By the Students and For the Students. Star Campus helps link young minds together.



Youth killed

UNB, Narsingdi

A young man was killed allegedly by unidentified miscreants at Eidgah ground in Rangamatia of the town yesterday noon.

The deceased was identified as Ismail Mia, 20, son of Shahid Mia of West Kandapara in the town.

Police said a group of miscreants hacked Ismail with sharp weapons leaving him critically injured at the Eidgah field at about 1:30pm. He died at Narsingdi Sadar Hospital.

Obituary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Engineer Shishir Kumar Chakraborty, managing director of Srishti Engineers Ltd, passed away on Thursday at the city's Square Hospital after suffering from cancer for long, said a press release. He was 46.

His last rituals will be carried out at his home in Singa village in Pabna.



Felicitations from Ministry of Science & ICT to Honorable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina



Heartiest congratulations to **Honorable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina** on receiving the **UN South-South Award** for innovation in improving maternal and child health through the use of ICT. This awarded is a testament to the commitment and heard work of the government to achive the targets for **Vision 2021: Digital Bangladesh**.

State Minister **Arch. Yeafesh Osman** on behalf of the Ministry of Science and Information & Communication Technology, ICT Division and Bangladesh Computer Council congratulate the Honorable PM for this great achievement.