



PHOTO: STAR

A fisherman family living on a country boat gets the touch of modern life as a solar panel set on the roof of the boat facilitates it have light and charge mobile sets. The photo was taken from Panatti launch terminal in Galachipa upazila under Patuakhali district yesterday.

4 UNFINISHED HEALTH CENTRES IN BOGRA, SIRAJGANJ

ACC probing Tk 1.32 crore fraud during 2003-05

HASIBUR RAHMAN BILU, Bogra

The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) has started an investigation to find facts about withdrawal of Tk 1.32 crore through preparing fake bills in Bogra Health Engineering Department (HED) office during 2003 to 2005.

"Md Kamrul Ahsan, a deputy director of the ACC, was assigned to investigate the matter a few days ago, following instructions from the head office," said Abul Bayes Miah, ACC director of Rajshahi divisional office in Bogra.

The ACC on December 12 sent letters to the authorities concerned including Bogra office of HED to hand over tenders and other documents to Md Kamrul Ahsan for investigation,

HED sources said.

The Daily Star on October 11 this year published a report titled 'Fake bills made for unfinished job', referring to a probe report prepared by Anwar Ali, executive engineer of the department.

A few firms withdrew Tk 1.32 crore through preparing fake bills with the connivance of officials including ASM Saidul Alam, former executive engineer of HED in Bogra, against construction works of four health centres in Bogra and Sirajganj districts from 2003 to 2005, said the report submitted on September 29.

Shah Md Hannan, superintending engineer in Bogra HED office, earlier said Saidul Alam signed the fake bills

prepared by the contractors who did not complete the assigned work.

Contacted over cell phone a few days ago, Saidul Alam, however, denied the allegation, saying that some HED officials prepared the false probe report to harass him.

According to an estimate prepared by the local HED office following instruction of the chief engineer, Tk 3.48 crore would be needed to complete the remaining works of the incomplete health centres, sources said.

The probe committee also found out that HED Bogra officials spent about 45 lakh taka as maintenance bill against under construction 20-bed hospital at Aliarhat.

SNAPS AND SNIPPETS

Outlaw arrested

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

Police arrested an operative of outlawed Purba Banglar Communist Party (PBCP) Lal Pataka faction from Parshadanga village of Chatmohar upazila on Friday night. The arrestee is Md Rubel Hossain, 22, son of Altah Hossain of Daripara village of Faridpur upazila. Md Habibul Islam, officer in-charge of Chatmohar Police Station, said acting on a tip-off, they raided the village at about 8:00pm and arrested Rubel along with three machetes while he was holding a secret meeting there to commit crime.

Pistol, bullets recovered

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

Members of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) recovered a 7.65mm pistol, one magazine and six bullets from Moddho Basudebpur, a frontier village of Hakimpur upazila early yesterday. However, no one was arrested. Police said a team of Rab raided a litchi orchard at the village and recovered the arm and ammunition from the spot at around 4:30am.

Prisoner dies

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

A prisoner of the district jail died at Pabna Medical College Hospital on Friday evening. The deceased, Shamsher Ali, 70 of Fotgram village, was an accused in a murder case, said jail sources. Jail Superintendent Md Bazlur Rahman said Shamsher was taken to jail hospital on July 23, this year from Pabna Mental Hospital. He felt sick on Friday evening and was taken to the hospital where he died, Bazlur added.

Sec 144 imposed

UNB, Jessore

Local administration yesterday imposed Section 144 in Noapara under Abhoynagar upazila of the district as BNP and Jubo League called meetings at the same venue and time yesterday. Upazila administration sources said BNP called a meeting at Noapara ferry ghat at 3:00pm as part of its countrywide demonstration programme while local Jubo League also called a meeting at the same venue and time. Apprehending clash, Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) Biswas Russel Hossain imposed restrictions on rallies and processions in and around the ferry ghat for five hours from 2:00pm.



PHOTO: STAR

Litterateur Hasan Azizul Haq addresses the inaugural session of Runner Writers Conference organised by Rajshahi Sahitya Parishad yesterday. Business group Runner sponsored the programme.

AL men lock press club in Patuakhali

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

A group of Awami League (AL) men on Friday night locked Mirzaganj Upazila Press Club alleging that the local journalists are not publishing their news.

Press club president advocate Mujibur Rahman, also Mirzaganj upazila correspondent of Dainik Ittefaq, said about 12/14 ruling party men led by upazila Sramik League secretary Habib Mridha and Chhatra League (BCL) leader Asaduzzaman Ronju, also joint secretary of the recently dissolved upazila BCL committee, stormed into the press club at around 4:00pm on the day. However, no journalist was present there at that time.

The attackers locked the press club and left the place after a while shouting that the journalists are not publishing their news.

As local journalists gathered in front of their club to hold a protest meeting, upazila AL president Kazi Mokhlesur Rahman, through his messengers, urged them to meet him at his house. On arrival at his house, the upazila AL president and secretary Prof Yunus Ali regretted for the incident and handed over the key to them.

Contacted, the press club president said local journalists were not invited to cover any events of the local ruling party men.

6 Islami Shasontantra Chhatra Andolan men arrested

50 books on jihad, leaflets seized

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

Police arrested six leaders and workers of Islami Shasontantra Chhatra Andolan for their alleged involvement in anti-government activities in Patgram upazila on Friday night.

They also seized 50 books on jihad and a number of leaflets from the arrestees.

Acting on a tip-off that chhatra andolan activists assembled at Courttoli Islami Adarsha Bidya Niketon for conducting anti-government activities, police raided the area and arrested two leaders and four workers of the student wing of Islami Shasontantra Andolan at around 9:30pm, said Patgram police station duty officer SI Nazrul Islam.

The arrestees are Mizanur Rahman Mizan, 50, adviser of Patgram upazila unit of Islami Shasontantra Chhatra Andolan and a teacher of Panbari Kiratul Quran Hafizia Madrassa; Abdur Rahman, 25, district unit president of the organisation; and four workers -- Rezaul Karim, 20, Nazrul Islam, 19, Bokul Hossain, 18, and Abul Kalam Azad, 18.

Steps to stop illegal land business in Kuakata

Drive soon to free area from occupiers

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

Kalapara upazila administration has hung notices against unauthorised land business in Kuakata as part of the authorities' initiative to free the area from illegal occupiers.

"The authorities concerned did not give any permission to any developer or housing company for land business in Kuakata area under Real Estate Act, 2010," reads the notice hung at different places including Kuakata, Mohipur and Kalapara upazila town recently.

"Local influential people, developers and housing companies have continued illegally occupying khas land in these areas including Kuakata, Kavar Char and Char Gangamoti," said Abdul Awal, assistant commissioner (AC Land) in Kalapara.

"As they are also selling these lands illegally to others, we hung notices to warn people concerned against cheating. We will conduct drive to recover the occupied khas lands very soon," he said.

When contacted, Shah Alam Sarder, additional deputy commissioner (ADC -Revenue), said, "Several developers and housing companies are engaged in land trade in the area for long. They put signboards and advertise in different dailies and television channels to attract buyers although they have no

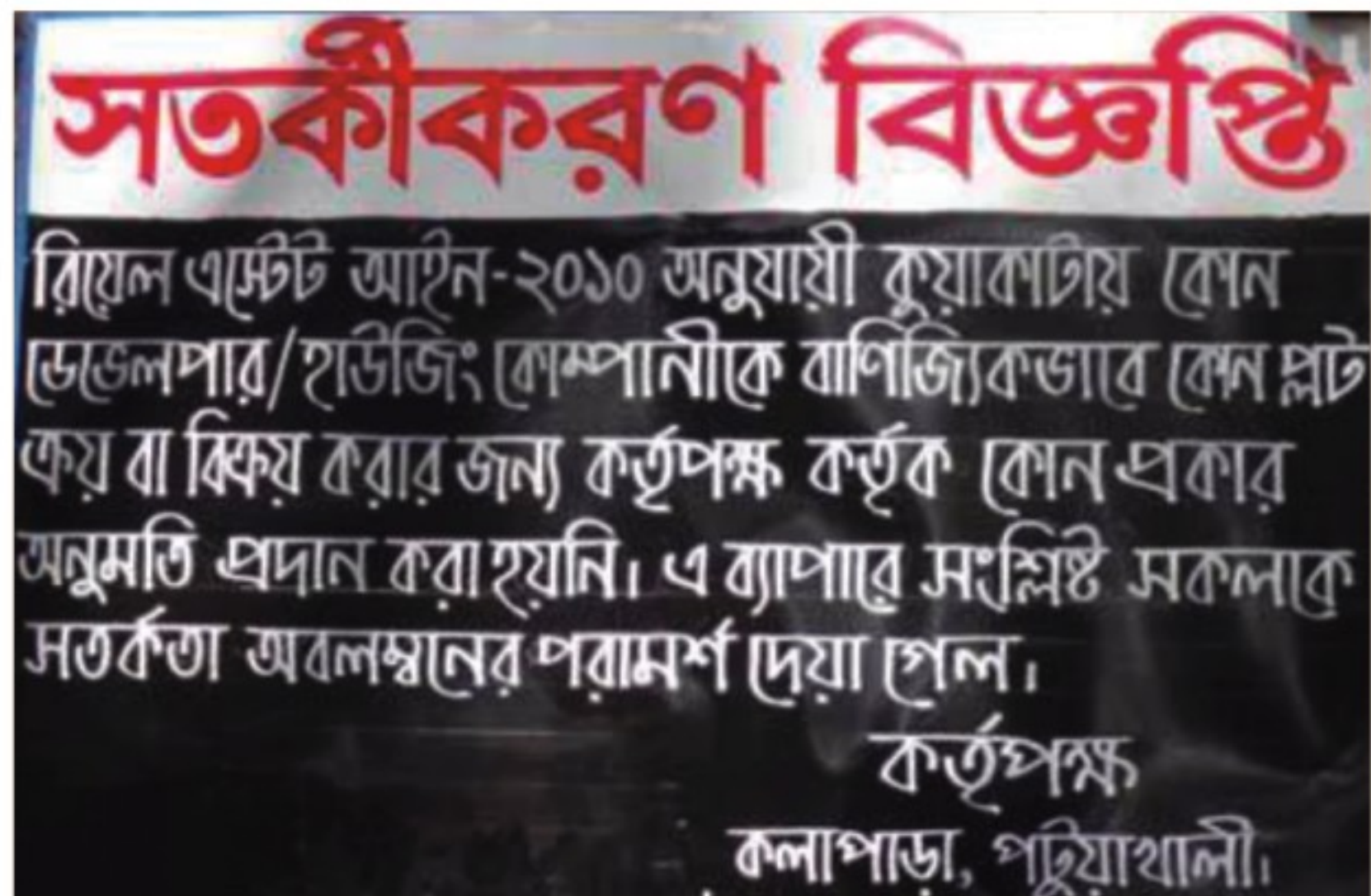


PHOTO: STAR

A signboard displaying the local administration's warning against illegal sale of any land in Kuakata.

approval from the authorities concerned for it."

"People often report to us that they bought land in Kuakata area but the sellers failed to give them the respective plots. And so, we hung the warning notices to save people from cheating," he said.

There are 1,752 acres of khas land, including 562 acres of agricultural land and 1190 acres of non-agricultural land in four moujas including Latachaplee (Kuakata), Char Chaplee, Gongamoti

and Kavar Char but most of these lands have already been illegally occupied, said a source of Kalapara upazila land office.

On April 17 this year, Patuakhali district administration through a mobile court drive removed most of the illegal signboards from the khas lands in Kuakata.

The administration also removed over 400 illegal structures from there during drives on August 8 and November 29 this year.

PROF YUNUS MURDER

RU teachers, students demand execution of court verdict

RU CORRESPONDENT

Teachers and students of Rajshahi University (RU) yesterday demanded immediate execution of the verdict in Prof Yunus murder case.

Prof Muhammad Yunus, a teacher of economics department of the university, was knifed to death in Binodpur area near the campus on December 24, 2004.

A rally was held on the campus, marking the 7th dead anniversary of Prof Yunu, the speakers demanded immediate execution of the verdict in

the murder case.

They alleged though a Rajshahi court on January 28 in 2010 awarded death sentence to two JMB leaders -- Shahidullah and Shafiullah--the verdict is yet to be executed.

Prof Muhklesur Rahman, president of Bangabandhu Teachers Council, said Prof Yunus was murdered as he never compromised with injustice.

Earlier, teachers of different department under the banner of 'Bangabandhu Teachers' Council' placed wreaths on the spot where

Yunus was killed. Vice-Chancellor Prof Abdus Sobhan was present.

Around 200 teachers and students of economics department brought out a silent procession on the campus in the morning demanding immediate execution of the verdict.

Leaders and activists of Muktijoddha Santan Command Kendrio Sangskritik Jote, Samajtantrik Chhatra Front, JSD Chhatra League, Chhatra Union and Chhatra Moitree also held separate programmes, marking the death anniversary of Prof Yunus.



PHOTO: STAR

Locals form a human chain in front of Moulvibazar Press Club yesterday demanding immediate steps to rescue Class X student Belal Ahmed Ruman. Belal's mother Hawarun Begum, in front of the banner, joins the programme with Belal's nephew holding a picture of the abducted boy.

Rescue abducted schoolboy Belal

Demands human chain in Moulvibazar

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

'Locals organised a human chain in front of Moulvibazar Press Club and brought out a silent procession in the district town yesterday demanding immediate steps to rescue abducted schoolboy Belal Ahmed Ruman.

Criminals abducted Belal, 15, a class X student of Kashinath Alaudin High School, and son of Mojomil Ali of Purbo Sultanpur area of Moulvibazar town, on November 26, said his family members.

Earlier on Thursday, family members of Belal arranged a press conference at Moulvibazar Press Club where urged the journalists to help them get Belal unhurt.

"Belal came out from the house at about 3:00pm

on November 26. We learnt that when Belal was at a tea stall near Moulvibazar Press Club, he received a call over his cell phone and started from there.

Criminals lifted him onto a white colour microbus in Court Road and fled the

scene," said Belal's mother Hawarun Begum, 55, at the press conference.

"Hearing the matter, we called Belal over his cell phone repeatedly but there was no response although his mobile was

found open till 1:00am. Then the phone was found off," she said.

The family members filed a GD with Moulvibazar Sadar Model Police Station Belal has remained untraced even after a month, she said.

ROYAL GRANDEUR AT DISPLAY

Showroom with largest range in Kolkata
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