

## INJURED BAPON DIES Tangail BCL calls half-day hartal in town today

OUR CORRESPONDENT,  
Tangail

Injured district unit organising secretary of BCL Abdul Kader Bapon, 24, who was under life support, died yesterday.

Protesting the death of Bapon, Tangail BCL unit has called for a half-day hartal in the town today.

Bapon was injured on January 20 when district Awami League (AL) and its front wings enforced a half-day hartal in the town, protesting killing of former district AL publicity secretary Faruque Ahmed.

On that day, a procession of BCL went to the Amin Bazar in Biswas Betka area of the town and asked the shop owners of the market to keep their shutters down.

But the shop owners locked in clashes with the BCL men, leaving Bapon seriously injured.

Bapon was rushed to the Tangail General Hospital and later shifted to the Enam Medical College Hospital in Savar on the same day.

The BCL leader, kept at the hospital with life support, died at around 3:00pm



Abdul Kader Bapon

yesterday.

Immediately after Bapon's death, the BCL leaders and activists in the town brought out a protest procession.

The processionists went to Amin Bazar at Biswas Betka in the town and set two shops at the market on fire.

The angry BCL men also agitated and burned tyres at different places of the town and held a rally at Nirala Intersection.

The BCL men at Government Sadaat College blocked the busy Dhaka-Tangail highway for two hours at Karatia in Sadar upazila, creating a long tailback on the both sides of the highway.

## Top Asia Energy official's visit sparks protest in Dinajpur

OUR CORRESPONDENT,  
Dinajpur

Locals staged demonstration yesterday protesting the planned visit of Gary Lye, country chief of Asia Energy Bangladesh, to different places in Phulbari, Nawabganj, Birampur and Parbatipur upazilas under the district.

Gary Lye, who arrived in Dinajpur on Monday, was to visit the Asia Energy office in Phulbari and different villages including Raghunathpur of Nawabganj and Khanpur of Birampur upazila.

As the news spread, the people under the banner of National Committee for Protection of Oil, Gas, Mineral Resources, Port and Power and Sammillito Peshajibi Sangathan separately staged demonstration and brought out protest processions in Phulbari town yesterday.

The people of Phulbari will thwart the Phulbari coalmine project of Asia Energy, said Phulbari Municipality Mayor Golam Mortuza Sarker Manik, also convener of Sammillito Peshajibi Sangathan, and Saiful Islam Jewel, Phulbari upazila unit convener of National Committee for Oil, Gas, Mineral Resources, Port and Power Protection.

Meanwhile, Asia Energy country chief Gary Lye met Dinajpur Deputy Commissioner Ahmed Shamim Al Razi and Superintendent of



PHOTO: STAR

Locals bring out a procession in Phulbari upazila headquarters under Dinajpur district yesterday protesting the visit of Gary Lye, country director of Asia Energy Bangladesh, to the district. The London-based company that has approval for exploration of mineral resources in the area earlier proposed a project for open-pit mining in Phulbari and also a coal-fired power project there, much to the grievance of locals.

Police Md Moinul Islam at their offices yesterday.

However, topic of their discussion could not be learnt.

Gary Lye was to distribute warm cloths among the poor people of the upazilas, said Khandakar Nuruzzaman Raja, president of Dinajpur Dakkhin Anchal Unnayan Front that arranged the programme of Asia Energy country chief's visit to the four upazilas.

However, Lye did not visit any of the places as of yesterday afternoon, Nuruzzaman said.

The Asia Energy has mining lease and licence for exploration of mineral resources in the area.

In 2005, the company

proposed development of an open-pit mine to ensure maximum coal production in Phulbari where around 572 million tonnes of high quality coal lies at a depth ranging from 150 to 270 metres.

It also proposed building a coal-fired power project at the mine site.

This proposal prompted some quarters, including National Committee for Oil, Gas, Mineral Resources, Port and Power Protection, to protest as the project would displace a large number of people.

On August 26, 2006, thousands of people of Phulbari led by leaders of the 'national committee' staged a violent demonstration centring the coal mine issue.

Law enforcers opened fire, leaving three people killed.

Tension gripped the area again as the home ministry on October 14 last year instructed the district administration of Dinajpur to cooperate with the London-based company for conducting activities required for exploration of a potential coal mine in Phulbari, Nawabganj, Birampur and Parbatipur upazilas.

The agitating leaders said the project would displace at least 4.7 lakh people and badly affect the agriculture and environment of a vast area.

On the other hand, officials of Asia Energy have been claiming that the project would relocate around 50,000 people.

## PANCHAGARH VISIT TOMORROW Hasina to address rally, open five dev projects

OUR CORRESPONDENT,  
Thakurgaon

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is scheduled to visit Panchagarh district tomorrow.

Prime Minister's Office (PMO) earlier confirmed this to the district administration through a letter on January 20, said deputy commissioner Md Tofazzel Hossain Mia.

During the visit, she is expected to formally inaugurate 10th National Rover Moot and 5th National COMDECA at Moinamotir Char in Debiganj upazila in the morning.

Besides, the PM will inaugurate the newly built 130-bed Mokbuler Rahman Diabetic Hospital in the district town at 12.45pm.

She will also inaugurate five development projects before addressing a public meeting at Panchagarh Sugar Mills ground.

The projects include Panchagarh-Tentulia National Highway, Panchagarh 132/133 Grid Sub Station (power) and newly built Tentulia Meteorological Observation Centre.

Hasina will also lay the foundation stone of



Panchagarh portion of 150-kilometer Panchagarh-Parbatipur dual gauge railway track.

A number of ministers and secretaries will accompany her during the tour.

A coordination meeting with different departments was held on January 24 at the conference room of DC make the PM's tour a success, said DC Tofazzel Hossain.

Meanwhile, Panchagarh district AL held a press conference yesterday to inform the details of the visit to the local journalists.

Held at the party office in the town, district AL chief and lawmaker Nurul Islam Sujon and organising secretary Khalid Mahmud Chowdhury spoke at the press conference.

## SNAPS AND SNIPPETS

### Sick tiger dies at zoo

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur

A tiger died at Rangpur Zoo on Monday due to old age complications and severe cold. Mir Faruk Hossain, deputy curator of the zoo, said the tiger 'Sultan' died at the age of 16 years and 7 months. On January 1, Sultan fell sick due to old age complications and extreme cold weather. Later, a medical team of the Zoo and Rangpur Livestock Department jointly gave treatment and cured the tiger, he said. But Sultan again fell sick on January 26 and stopped taking food. The tiger died on Monday afternoon, said Faruk. The animal was buried in the compound of the zoo after autopsy, he said.



PHOTO: STAR

This black-faced monkey was electrocuted on the premises of Jessore Judge's Court yesterday. The monkey came from Keshabpur, an abode of wildlife in the district, in search of food a few days ago. It came in contact with a live electric wire while jumping from a tree to another at noon and died instantly.

### 'Top criminal' killed

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushia

A 'top criminal' of Bangladesh was killed by his rivals in India on Monday morning, 32 Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) Battalion said following a flag meeting with Indian Border Security Force (BSF). The deceased was identified as Milton Hossain, 55, son of Bagu Hossain of Kazipur under Gangni upazila in Meherpur district. Quoting Milton's wife, Mizanur Rahman, officer in-charge at Gangni police station, said a gang shot and bombed him dead in Fonkitola area under Shikarpur PS in Nadia district of Paschim Bangla.

### LIMON AWAITS EAR SURGERY

## Hearing on charge-framing in arms case deferred again

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The hearing on charge-framing against college student Limon Hossain in an arms case filed by Rab was deferred again on Monday.

Limon, who was maimed by Rab shooting on March 23 in 2011, could not appear before the Special Tribunal-2 in Jhalakathi due to injuries to his left ear.

He sustained injuries as brahim, a local source of the elite force and also the witness No 17 of the Rab cases against Limon, severely beat him up on August 19 last year.

Limon's lawyer advocate Manik Lal Acharya submitted a time-extension peti-



Limon Hossain

tion to the court, saying that he (Limon) has to undergo an operation on his left ear. On the petition, Judge Kiron Shankar Halder passed the order and fixed March 19 for hearing on charge-framing in the arms case.

Limon said he is now waiting for a surgery. "Doc-

tors have asked me to have surgery on the left ear to get my normal hearing back," he said.

On March 23, 2011, Limon went to bring back the family cattle from a field near his house at Shaturia village of Jhalakathi. At the same time, a Rab team raided the area to nab Morshed Zamaddar and his accomplices.

The Rab personnel, who had arrived on the spot on motorbikes, caught Limon, dragged him to a banana plantation by the river Shandhya and asked him the whereabouts of Morshed. When Limon told them that he was a student and did not know Morshed, the Rab personnel shot him in the leg

point blank.

Later on the same day, Rab filed two cases with Rajapur Police Station implicating Limon in an arms case and also accusing him of obstructing law enforcers from carrying out their duties.

The charge sheet in the first case was submitted on April 24, 2011. Charge sheet in the second case was filed secretly on July 1 last year.

As for the case filed by Limon's mother against the Rab personnel involved in the shooting, police on August 14 submitted the final report, declaring the accused Rab personnel innocent.

### Masked gang stabs BCL leader

OUR CORRESPONDENT,  
Rangpur

A gang of masked criminals attacked and injured a leader of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) Rangpur Medical College unit on Monday night.

The injured was identified as Rezwanur Rahman Miraz, president of college unit BCL.

He is now undergoing treatment at Rangpur Medical College Hospital (RMCH) with stab injuries in his left hand, chest and neck.

Rizu Ahmed Biblob, vice president of the unit, said a gang of three stormed into Miraz's room at Dr Pinnu Hostel on the campus at around 10:00pm and stabbed him indiscriminately, leaving him seriously injured and left the scene.

As the news spread, a good number of students brought out a procession on campus on the same night, protesting the attack.

Jamaat-Shibir activists might have involved in connection with the attack, said Rizu.

af Alliance Française de Chittagong  
তোরা কন কন যাবি আঁর সাম্পানত  
Boat Technology & Culture in Chittagong and Bengal

This is a sequel of *ওদান্য ডিপ্তান উপা* organised by The Daily Star

3 - 9 February 2013  
Shilpakala Academy Chittagong & AFC Auditorium

- Films - Songs - Conferences - Exhibitions -

BEHIND THE SEA  
Photo exhibition by Bruno Valentin, Julien Pannetier & Nazir Uddin Mahmud  
Zeppelin photo agency

BOAT TECHNOLOGY & HISTORY IN CHITTAGONG & BENGAL  
Exhibition by TaraTari, Watever, Gold of Bengal & Alliance Française de Chittagong

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Venue : Shilpakala Academy Chittagong Open Stage & Gallery  
Alliance Française de Chittagong (AFC) Auditorium

3rd February, Sunday - 'Karnaphuli or nodi'  
4.30 PM : Official Opening of the Festival at Shilpakala Academy Chittagong (Open Stage)  
Chief Guest : Mahfuz Anam, Editor & Publisher, The Daily Star  
7.00 PM : Film 'Titash Ekti Nadir Naam' by Ritwik Ghatak (Shilpakala)

4th February, Monday - 'Bangopasagar'  
10.00 AM : Film 1- Samuel Berthet: Bengal Maritime History in Perspective (AFC)  
11.00 AM : Jean-François Salles: The Bay of Bengal and the Ancient Maritime routes  
11.30 AM : Film 'Christians and Spices' Portugal's search for India (AFC)  
12.30 PM : Prof. Momin Chowdhury: History of Bengal. A Maritime Perspective (AFC)  
2.30 PM : Film 'Bullion for goods' The Dutch come to trade (AFC)  
3.30 PM : Yves Marre : Boats of Bengal yesterday and today (AFC)  
7.00 PM : Film 'The River' by Jean Renoir (Shilpakala)

5th February, Tuesday - 'Kon Kon Zabi'  
10.30 AM : Manzoarul Kibria: 'Haldia River' (AFC)  
11.00 AM : Shahhaj H. J. Leena: Sea & sky wisdom of Chittagong Mariners (AFC)  
12.00 PM : Film 'An affair of the State' French ambitions in India (AFC)  
5.00 PM : Book Exhibition (Bisheud Bangla)  
6.00 PM : Concert Abdul Gafur Hall, Babul Jal Das, Proma Abriti Sangathan (Shilpakala)

6th February, Wednesday - 'Egiye Gald'  
10.00 AM : Chamber of commerce and industry: presentation TaraTari-Gold of Bengal-Watever Marc Van Peteghem and team, Thibaut Saint-Olive - Alexandra Sourbier - Corentin de Chatelperron  
7.00 PM : Film 'The Last Sailors' (Shilpakala)

7th February, Thursday - 'Shutki Khao'  
7.00 PM : Bruno Valentin & Julien Pannetier: 'Behind the Sea' - Zeppelin photo agency (AFC)  
8.00 PM : 3rd Slow Food Festival (AFC)

8th February, Friday - 'Sampant'  
11.00 AM : Visit Taratari Shipyard (Mourghat-AK Khan)  
3.00 PM : Launch of the 1st Fiber Boat - Gold of Bengal Watever  
Chief Guest : Abdul Latif Siddiqui, Honorable Minister, Ministry of Textiles & Jute, Gov. of the Peoples Republic of Bangladesh  
Special Guest : His Excellency Michel Trinquier, French Ambassador to Bangladesh

9th Saturday - 'Dipot Zaium'  
12.00 PM-4.00 PM : Annual Game Sonadia Paschim Para School (Sonadia, Cox's Bazar)  
Youth for Change - Biodiversity Club AFC

Photo Exhibition : 3-9 February (10 AM - 8 PM) at Shilpakala Gallery

## RISEING Stars

White doves versus grenades and violence. Are you for world peace, or are you one of those cynical people who think world peace will never happen, so there's no use in trying? We also take a look back at footballers like Roy Keane, and how the physical side of the game is slowly fading away.

SEE THIS WEEK'S RISING STARS.