

Studies of pry kids suffer as teachers on strike

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Pabna*

Classes of primary schools across the country are badly disturbed due to the ongoing teachers' strike.

Demanding second class status for the headmasters of government primary schools and upgrading the pay scale of assistant teachers of the same schools, the teachers observed three hours work abstention on September 15, 16, and 17, four-hour work abstention from September 19 to 22.

To press for the demand, they started full work abstention from September 23 and over 30 thousand out of 37 thousand government primary schools across the country are on strike, said Md Ohidur Rahman, central organising secretary of Bangladesh Primary Teachers Association (BPTA).

"If the government does not meet the demand by September 30, we will announce tougher agitation programme at the grand rally on the premises of Central Shaheed Minar in the capital on October 1," said Ohidur Rahman, also the president of Pabna dis-



PHOTO: STAR

NOT DURING RECESS: Students of Shibrampur Government Primary School in Pabna play during the class hours yesterday as their teachers, like a large number of government primary school teachers across the country, observe work abstention to press home their demand for upgrading their status.

trict unit of BPTA.

Visiting different primary schools, this correspondent saw children playing in their schools as no classes were held due to the teachers' strike.

"We did not get any class in the school for the last 10 days. And so, we spend our

time playing with classmates," said Meem Khatun, a Class IV student of Shibrampur Model Primary School in Pabna.

Urmi Akter, mother of Class III boy Rizvi, said they are worried due to disturbance in academic activities ahead of the upcoming final

examinations of children.

Md Sayed Ul Islam, publicity secretary of Pabna unit of BPTA, said they will conduct extra classes to recover the losses due to the presence disturbance if their long-standing demand is met.

Five Shibir men held in Patiya

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, *Chittagong*

Police arrested five Shibir activists from a house at Daulatpur village under Boro Uthan Union in Patiya upazila of the district early yesterday.

The arrestees are Md Hanif, 22, Osman Gani, 32, Md Faruk, 25, Ataullah, 20, and Yahiya Morshed, 16.

Yahiya hails from Anwara upzila in Chittagong while the rest are from Daulatpur village, police said, adding that they all are accused in a case for vandalism filed with Patiya Police Station on August 26.

Acting on a tip-off, law enforcers from Patiya Police Station raided the village at around 3:00am and arrested the Shibir men from the house, said Nurul Islam, a sub-inspector of the police station.

Police also seized books on jihad and leaflets from the house, the SI added.

BSF picks up cattle trader

A CORRESPONDENT, *Chuadanga*

Indian Border Security Force (BSF) picked up a Bangladeshi cattle trader from Benipur border point in Jibonnagar upazila early yesterday.

The victim is Abdur Razzak, 40, son of Besharot Mondal of Nutonpara village, said an official of Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB).

Locals and BGB sources said a BSF team from Putikhali camp caught Razzak at 4:30am when he along with eight other cattle traders went to the border area to bring cattle.

However, the rest managed to flee.

Major Mehedi Hasan, deputy commanding officer of BGB-6 Battalion, said we have sent a letter to BSF to return Razzak.

7 bullet-hit as BNP-Jamaat men clash with AL

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Pirojpur*

Eighteen people got injuries, seven of them bullet-hit, as ruling Awami League activists got locked in a clash with BNP and Jamaat-e-Islami men at Balipara Bazar in Zianagar upazila under Pirojpur district on Friday evening.

Around 200 activists of BNP and Jamaat brought out a procession carrying sticks, local weapons and firearms at Balipara Bazar, apparently as preparation to join the BNP rally in Khulna where party chief Khaleda Zia is scheduled to address today (Sunday), witnesses said.

From the procession some unruly activists threw brickbats at some AL activists in front of local AL office, resulting in a clash between the two groups in the market area.

At least 18 people were injured as the groups used

locally made sharp weapons and firearms, said sources.

Seven of them -- AL leader Ruhul Sheikh, BCL activist Mamun Khan, and BNP and Jamaat activists Jakir Hawlader, Jewel, Shahjahan, Hadis and Mohajjem Shipahi were bullet-hit, said sources of the parties.

They were admitted to Pirojpur Sadar Hospital, Morelganj health complex in Bagerhat and Khulna Medical College Hospital.

Following the clash, BNP and Jamaat activists vandalised and looted three shops of AL men at Patherhat Bazar in Balipara union around 10:00pm on Friday and beat a BCL activist there.

Then Jubo League activists vandalised a shop of a BNP activist at the same bazar and damaged hanging banners of BNP and Jamaat at Balipara Bazar around 8:00am yesterday, informed a local there.

About this incident Abdul Latif Hawlader, president of Zianagar upazila unit of BNP said, "On Friday afternoon we brought out a peaceful procession in favour of the BNP meeting in Khulna where our party chief Khaleda Zia will deliver a speech on Sunday. Suddenly some AL activists attacked us with firearms and sharp weapons, leaving seven of us injured."

On the other hand, Nasir Sipahi, president of Balipara union unit of Jubo League said, "BNP and Jamaat activists threw brickbats at us from the procession and injured our men. Then we resisted their attack."

"Police men have deployed there to avoid any further clash. The situation is under control now. We are trying to find out the real criminals and arrest them," said Nasir Uddin Mollik, officer in charge of Indurkani police station.



PHOTO: STAR

Local leaders of ruling Awami League make school kids wait in lines for a couple of hours to accord reception to Water Resources Minister and local lawmaker Mahbubur Rahman, who inaugurated the construction work of a bridge on the Londa River at Tiakhali in the district.

SNIPPETS

6 hurt in BCL infighting

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Dinajpur*

At least six activists of Chhatra League were injured in a clash between two factions of the party in Phulbari upazila town yesterday. The injured are Swapan, 20, Mithun Chowdhury, 20, Emran Ali, 24, Apu Mohammad, 24, Maruf Islam, 20 and Anik, 20. They were admitted to the upazila health complex. Police and locals said two factions—one led by Ariful Islam Arif and another by Md Jewel—attacked each other with lethal weapons, leaving six from both sides injured following an altercation over holding the council of Phulbari upazila unit BCL.

Youth falls off train, dies

UNB, *Sumangani*

A youth died after falling off a running train at Bahadurpur in Chhatak upazila on Friday. The deceased was identified as Yusuf Miah, 18, of Jurapani village. Police said Yusuf fell off the Chhatak-bound local train in the area in the morning while he was returning home from the shrine of Hazrat Shahjalal (R). He died on the spot.

Power office besieged

UNB, *Sylhet*

People of Shiber Char area in Sadar upazila besieged the local Palli Bidyut Samity office on Friday, demanding uninterrupted power supply. They also held a rally in favour of their demand. Hatkhola-Jalalabad Unnoyan Songram Committee organised the programme. Angered by frequent load shedding, the residents of the area laid a siege to the office of Palli Bidyut Samity-2 in the afternoon. At one stage, apprehending the situation going out of control, the authorities of the Samity held a meeting with the leaders of the organisation and assured them of ensuring uninterrupted power supply within a week.

Man held with fake notes

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Dinajpur*

Police arrested a man along with some fake Bangladeshi currency notes in Nawabganj upazila yesterday. The arrestee is Enamul Haque, 52, son of late Yakiin Ali of Kamalpur village. On secret information, a police team, led by ASP Sushanta Sarker, raided a house at 11:30am and arrested Enamul along with Tk.15,000 fake notes, including 10 of Tk 1000 notes and 10 of Tk 500 notes.

Six shops gutted

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Pataukhali*

At least six shops were gutted in a fire at Matherbunia Bazar in Sadar upazila early yesterday. Fire service and local sources said the fire originated from an electric short circuit at a shop and soon engulfed the adjoining shops at 3:00am. On information, firefighters rushed to the spot and doused the blaze with the help of locals. The affected shop owners claimed that the loss caused by the fire could go up to Tk 15 lakh.

Mugger arrested with arms

UNB, *Feni*

Members of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) in a drive arrested an alleged mugger along with arms and bullets on Dhaka-Chittagong highway in Rampura Rastar Matha area of the town on Friday night. The arrestee is Pavel, 35. Police sources said a Rab team, led by Additional Police Superintendent Jasim Uddin, arrested Pavel when a gang 8/10 was trying to snatch belongings from a man in the area around 5:30pm. The team also recovered a foreign made pistol and four bullets from his possession.

Information fair begins

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Lalmoinirhat*

A two-day long information fair began on the premise of Children Park in the town yesterday. Deputy Commissioner Habibur Rahman inaugurated the fair. Lalmoinirhat District Administration, Sacheton Nagorik Committee, and Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) jointly organised the fair. The fair will be open from 11:00am-9:00pm everyday, said organisers.

JUBO DAL LEADER MURDER CASE

3 accused arrested in Rajbari

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Kushtia*

Police arrested three accused in Rajbari Jubo Dal leader Shamsul Alam Bablu murder case at Goalundo in Rajbari district on Friday night.

The arrestees are Arif Biswas, 28, Sariful Islam, 23, and Amirul Islam, 27 of Rajbari Railway Colony.

Setab Ali Khan, sub-inspector of Khankhanapur police camp in Goalundo upazila, said a police team arrested the three at Goalundo intersection while they were passing the area, riding a motorbike at

around 10.30pm.

Police also recovered a pistol and two bullets from Arif's possession. SI Setab said the arrestees are activists of Jatyiatabdi Chhatra Dal (JCD) Rajbari district unit and also accused in Bablu murder case.

Shamsul Alam Bablu, Rajbari district Jubo Dal convener, was murdered on August 24, 2012 due to internal conflict Rajbari unit of BNP.

Shimul, younger brother of Bablu filed a case with Sadar Police Station the same day, accusing 21 people.

FAMILY FEUD, DOWRY

2 housewives commit suicide in Bogra

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Bogra*

Two housewives committed suicide over family feud and dowry in Kahaloo and Sadar upazilas of the district on Friday.

The deceased were identified as Rasheda Begum, 28, wife of Asidul Islam of Panchgram village under Kahaloo upazila, and Rahima Begum, 32, wife of Shahidul Islam of Namuja village under Sadar upazila.

Police said Rasheda took poison following an altercation with her husband over a trivial matter at noon. She was rushed to Ziaur Rahman Medical College Hospital where she died at around 4:00pm.

Rahima's husband beat up her as she refused to bring dowry from her father. She took poison in the absence of the family members in the evening. She died on way to the hospital.

Police said the bodies were sent to Ziaur Rahman Medical College Hospital morgue for

autopsy. Two separate unnatural death cases were lodged with Kahaloo and Sadar police station on Friday night.

In Comilla, a housewife was stabbed to death by her nephew at Chikonia village in Laksam upazila the same day, according to a correspondent.

The deceased was identified as Tahmina Khanum, 35 wife of Mijanur Rahman Majumder of Chikonia village in the upazila.

Officer-in-Charge (OC) Abul Khair of Laksam Police Station said Tahamina picked up a quarrel over a trivial matter with her nephew Nayan, 25 in the evening. At one stage, Nayan stabbed Tahmina, leaving him seriously injured. She was taken to a local clinic and then shifted to Comilla Medical Centre where she succumbed to her injuries at around 10.00pm.

Tahmina husband filed a murder case with Laksam Police Station, accusing Nayan, who had gone into hiding.



PHOTO: STAR

Locals form a human chain at Chourangi on Panchagarh-Dhaka road yesterday demanding establishment of a university in Panchagarh.



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