

Free Suchitra's ancestral house from Jamaat grip

Women leaders demand in Pabna

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

Women leaders of Bangladesh Hindu-Buddha-Christian Oikya Parishad yesterday demanded that the government take immediate steps to free the ancestral house of legendary actress Suchitra Sen in Pabna town from Jamaat's grip and set up a museum there.

They raised the demand at a press conference held at Pabna Press Club auditorium at noon. Joyanti Roy, Roslin Kosta, Modhumita Roy, Purabi Mazzumder, Laxmi Chakraborty and Dipali Chakraborty addressed the conference.

The speakers said restoration of Sen's house is not merely a local demand but a national demand as well.



Suchitra Sen

They urged the government to free the house from Jamaat's occupation and set up an archive or museum there.

They also requested the government to issue an order to the grabbers to leave the house as early as possible. Earlier on the day, five women leaders of the parishad visited Sen's ancestral house at Gopalpur in

Pabna town.

The house was occupied by 'Imam Gazzali School', a pro-Jamaat institution, three decades ago and there is no sign that it (house) will be recovered soon from the illegal occupants due to a prolonged legal battle.

People of the district and the cultural activists have also staged several demonstrations to mount pressure on the government to free Sen's house from the grabbers.

Suchitra Sen was born on April 6, 1931 at her maternal grandfather's house at Bhangabari village in Belkuchi upazila under Greater Pabna. Sen spent her childhood and her youth at her father's residence at Gopalpur in Pabna town before leaving the country in 1947.

Wild elephants kill woman, boy in Bandarban

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bandarban

An elderly woman and a 7-year old boy were trampled to death and another kid was injured by wild elephants in a remote hill area under Sadar upazila of the district yesterday.

The deceased was identified as Md Sajib, son of Zobera Begum of Bhagyaluk area and Dilwara Begum, 60, of Lunchara area under Sualok union in Sadar upazila while injured Sadham, 04, was sent to Lohagara hospital.

Sajib's family members, who escaped the attacks, said that a herd of wild elephants entered the compound of their house in the early hours and killed their son on the spot.

Later the elephants went to Lunchara area adjacent to Bhagyaluk and trampled Dilwara to death on the spot.

Villagers said, a herd of

JCD enforces hartal in Satkhira

UNB, Satkhira

An eight-hour hartal, enforced by local Jatiyatobadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) protesting the killing of its leader in a 'gun-fight' with joint forces in Tala upazila, passed off peacefully in the district yesterday.

Anisur Rahman Anis, general secretary of the upazila unit JCD, announced the hartal after the namaz-e-janaza of Azharul Islam on Islamkati union parishad premises on Monday.

Azharul Islam, 35, vice-president of the upazila unit JCD, the student wing of BNP, was killed in a 'gun-fight' with joint forces in Magura boat terminal area of Tala upazila in the early hours of Monday.

Police said, the law enforcers along with Azharul launched a drive in the terminal area around 4:30am on Monday to recover firearms in his possession.

As local JCD activists attacked the team of joint forces, a fierce clash erupted, leaving fleeing Azharul dead on the spot.

Two groups of wild elephants, consisting 15-16 in each, were seen in the nearby hills, said locals.



As there is hardly enough room for the growing number of children affected by cold-related diseases at Thakurgaon Sadar Hospital, parents and relatives have to stay with their kids on the floor of the children's ward.

PHOTO: STAR

Cold-hit child patients crowd hospitals

STAR COUNTRY DESK

The number of child patients have shot at hospitals in several northern districts as cold related diseases, including diarrhoea, pneumonia, spread due to fluctuation of temperature.

Amid shivering cold, scores of guardians were seen staying on the floors and verandah of Thakurgaon Sadar Hospital with their ailing children yesterday, reports our correspondent.

At least 173 patients were admitted to the hospital's children's ward against only 18-seats in the last two days, hospital sources said.

Of the patients, 89 were affected with pneumonia, 39 with diarrhoea, 36 neonatal and 9 with other cold related diseases, said Dr. Shahjahan Newaj, senior consultant on child disease at the hospital.

The patients are being forced to share a single bed by two or three patients.

As the hospital's ward cannot accommodate the growing number of patients, most are now staying on the verandah and corridor.

Besides, over 200 patients receive treatment at the outdoor every day. Most of them

suffering from respiratory problems received treatment at the outdoor on Monday and yesterday, said hospital sources.

The number of child patients with pneumonia and cold related diseases saw a sharp rise as the kids are most vulnerable to the situation when temperature falls or goes up sharply, doctors at the hospital said.

Our correspondent in Kurigram reported that the Sadar Hospital in the district was struggling to accommodate the growing number of child patients.

There are only 12 beds for children against at least a hundred cold-hit kids who were seeking admission at the hospital.

Every day, at least 300 children take treatment at the out-door and in-door outlets of the hospital because of various cold-related diseases, including diarrhoea and pneumonia, hospital sources said.

"We are facing acute crisis of beds for indoor treatments of the children. We are now treating around a hundred kids on the hospital floor everyday, said Dr. Nazrul Islam, RMO at the hospital.

He cited cold weather coupled with dense

Woman govt staff held for ransom rescued

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur

Police on Monday night rescued a female government employee, who was abducted on January 24, from a residential hotel in Ulipur upazila of Kurigram district.

Daughter of SM Abul Kashem of Chhabish village under Sirajganj Sadar upazila, the 25-year-old victim was a surveyor at Rangpur Water Development Board office in Alamnagar area of Ranpur city.

Police said, on January 24 afternoon, Sajol and his accomplices abducted the woman. Sajol was earlier known by the victim.

The abductors then demanded Tk 5 lakh as ransom from Jahangir Alam, elder brother of the victim through mobile phone.

Jahangir Alam rushed to Rangpur and lodged a case with Rangpur Kotwali police station, said police also arrested abductor Sajol from the hotel room.

Later at night, police raided the hotel and rescued the victim.

Abdul Qader Jilani, officer-in-charge of Rangpur Kotwali police station, said police also arrested abductor Sajol from the hotel room.

However, the other culprits managed escape from the hotel, he added.

On Monday afternoon, Sajol went to the toilet, leaving the mobile phone of the victim by mistake at the hotel room.

The woman immediately picked up the phone and informed her brother that the abductors had confined her to the residential hotel.

Later at night, police raided the hotel and rescued the victim.

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Speech and hearing impaired girl killed

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jamalpur

Police recovered the body of a speech and hearing impaired girl with her throat slit from Gazirpara village in Bakshiganj upazila of the district yesterday morning.

The victim is Ele Rani, 18, daughter of freedom fighter Intaj Ali Gazi of the village.

Neighbours found the body of Rani inside their house at around 6:00am and informed the police, who recovered the body and sent it to Jamalpur General Hospital morgue for autopsy.

Victim's father Intaj, mother Rezia and brother Razzak were injured during a clash with their neighbour Samu Sheikh and his men over a piece of disputed land on Sunday.

They were admitted to the upazila health complex. A case was filed with Bakshiganj Police Station, accusing 13 people, including Samu, on the following day.

Rani along with her two brothers—Raja Miah, 12 and Sada Miah, 8—was at the house during the incident.

Intaj and his Rezia told this correspondent at the health complex that their daughter was killed by Samu and his men.

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Only short listed candidates will be contacted.

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The duration of the service contract is one year initially, subject to renewal on an annual basis upon satisfactory performance and availability of funds.

For details of the Job Description and instructions to apply, please visit our website:

<http://www.undp.org.bd/jobs>. Applications should be received no later than 12 February 2014.

Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.

Female candidates are particularly encouraged to apply.



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BOGRA DOUBLE MURDER

Charges pressed against 15

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bogra

Charges have been pressed against 15 people in a sensational double murder case in the district.

Ariful Islam, sub-inspector of DB Bogra, on Monday submitted the charge sheet to the Senior Judicial Magistrate court after eight-month long investigation.

The charge sheeted accused are Shahjahanpur upazila Swechchasebok League leader Abu Zafor Siddiki Ripon.

The killing took place over distribution of Tk 50 lakh earned from selling a land, said the SI, also the investigation officer of the case.

Later, wife of Monju, Shuravi Begum filed a murder case, accusing 11 identified and six unidentified people.

Nine among the accused were arrested. Of them, Minko, Mistar and Hasan are behind the bar while the rest on bail, said the IO.

SHIBIR LEADER KILLING

23 BCL and Jabo League men sued

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bogra

Abdullah Al Bakri, former secretary of Islami Chhatra Shibir of Bogra Azizul Haque College unit and also teacher of BIAM School and College, was stabbed to death at Temple Road in Bogra town at around 8.00pm on January 21, 2014.

Baki's father Yakub Ali Master of Khamarkandi under Sherpur upazila in the district filed a case with Sadar police station against 23 on Sunday night.

Contacted, Mashrafi Hero said, BCL was in no way involved in the murder. He urged the law enforcers to trace out the real criminals and bring them to