

# 'Tobacco markets' occupy school premises

S DILIP ROY, Lalmonirhat

Surprisingly though, premises of several schools in the district are used for yearly tobacco trading from April to June.

The callous act badly hampers academic atmosphere but teachers, students and their guardians dare not protest it as local influential people control the illegal trade.

This year makeshift tobacco markets have been arranged two days a week on the grounds of 13 schools in the district.

Saptibari High School, Saptibari Government Primary School and

Saptibari Blind School in Aditmari upazila, and Barabari Baniya Dighee Government Primary School and Kalmati Adarsha High School in Lalmonirhat Sadar upazila are among the institutions badly affected by tobacco trading.

On the two market days, students find it hard to move on their school premises and often their assembly is postponed, several students said during this correspondent's visit to the schools.

Bad smell from tobacco makes it hard to attend to lessons, they said.

Setting up of tobacco market on the school

ground in April, May and June has continued for years but the school authorities and local administration never take any step against it, said guardians at Saptibari village.

As this correspondent talked to Saptibari High School Headmaster Tazez Uddin, Saptibari Government Primary School Headmaster Rasheda Begum and Saptibari Blind School resource teacher Ershadul Haque, they said they are too helpless to protest setting up of the illegal tobacco markets on the school premises as local musclemen arrange it for their own interest.

Contacted, District Education Officer DEO Moslem Uddin and District Primary Education Officer DPEO Nabez Uddin said they have informed the local administration of the matter and the administration is supposed to take legal action in this regard.

Lalmonirhat Deputy Commissioner Habibur Rahman said, "I will take legal action if the authority of the schools concerned submits written complaint. I will talk to the DEO and the DPEO for taking immediate step regarding the matter with the help of administration."



PHOTO: STAR

The ground of Saptibari High School in Aditmari upazila under Lalmonirhat district remains virtually off limits to students as unscrupulous people are using it for selling tobacco. The callous act, disturbing classes and posing health hazards for students and teachers, is likely to continue for three months.

## Jatka seized in Chandpur

UNB, Chandpur

Coastguard members in separate drives seized 80 maunds of jatka ((hilsa fry less than nine inches in length) and 30,000 meters of current net from Harina ferry ghat in the Megha River here on Saturday.

Coastguard men, led by station commander Lt M Habibur Rahman, launched a drive in MV Samrat-2 launch and seized the hilsa.

They also recovered the current nets worth Tk 17.10 lakh from the same area.

The seized fish were later distributed among the orphans and poor people of the area.



PHOTO: STAR

Indigenous people perform traditional Mro dance on the premises of Rajbari in Bandarban town yesterday, marking the opening of their four-day Sangrai festival.

## Four-day Sangrai festival begins in Bandarban

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bandarban

The traditional Sangrai festival of the indigenous people began in Bandarban yesterday. The festival will continue for four days.

On the first day of the festival, a colourful procession was brought from old Rajbari premises in the town. People of different ages joined the procession that paraded the main streets.

A number of tourists from home and abroad have already reached Bandarban to enjoy the century-old festival.

Different organisations

of the indigenous people have taken up programmes to celebrate Sangrai. The programmes include 'Shakree Puja', 'Rilong Bwoi' (splashing each other with water), discussions, traditional games, cultural programmes, painting competition and pitha utsab.

Bandarban Utsab Uddjapon Parishad President, Aung Chaw Mong said the two-day programme on splashing each other with water will start on April 15.

Sangrai festival is celebrated in Bandarban through different programmes to welcome

the first day of Bangla New Year and say goodbye to the outgoing year.

Though most of the 11 ethnic groups living in the Chittagong Hill Tracts celebrate Bangla New Year, Marm a, Chakma, Tangchangya, Mro, Chak, Khumi, and Tripura of the district celebrate their own festivals.

In the Tripura community, the New Year's festival is known as "Baisuk". Marma and Chak call it "Sangrai", Mros call it "Changkran", Khumi calls it "Chankrai", and Chakmas and Tangchangya call it "Bijhu" and "Bishu".

### SNIPPETS

#### Youth murdered

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chuadanga

Police recovered the body of unidentified youth, aged about 25, from a mango orchard on Chuadanga-Alamdanga road in Sadar upazila of the district yesterday morning. The body bore several injury marks, said Liakot Hossain, officer in-charge of Chuadanga police station. The reason behind the killing could not be known immediately, said the OC. The body was sent to Chuadanga Sadar Hospital morgue for autopsy, he said.

#### Madrasa student electrocuted

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chuadanga

A 12-year-old madrasa boy was electrocuted at Ujirpur village in Damurhuda upazila yesterday afternoon. The dead is Mahabul, 12, son of late Fote Ali of the village and a class two student of Ujirpur Kashemul Ulum Kowmi Madrasa. Family sources and locals said Mahabul came in contact with a live electric wire while climbing a tree to collect a dove from the nest and died on the spot. An unnatural death case was filed with Damurhuda police station in this connection.

#### Bomb seized

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chuadanga

Police seized a bomb from in front of one Mizan store in Asmankhali Market area under Alamdanga upazila on Saturday night. Police said locals found a bomb-like object in an abandoned condition in the area and informed the police. However none was arrested in this connection, said sub-inspector Ranjit of Alamdanga police station.

#### Criminal escapes from custody

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

An alleged criminal fled from police custody in Chirirbandar upazila on Saturday night. The accused is Md Sadequul Islam, 40, son of Ashrafal Alam of Majadanga village in the upazila and a notorious drug peddler in the area. He was arrested from Chirirbandar Station area at 8:30pm. Soon after his arrest, He was handcuffed. As police started heading to the police station, Sadequul managed to flee. The law enforcers could not arrest him till filing of this report at 6:00pm yesterday, said Rawshan Mostafa, OC of Chirirbandar police station.

#### Yaba tablets seized

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar

Coastguards seized 60,000 pieces of yaba tablets worth about Tk 3 crore from Naf River near Keruntali village in Teknaf upazila early yesterday. Lt Col Kazi Harunur Rashid, station commander of Coastguards in Teknaf, said on secret information, a team raided the area and seized the yaba. Sensing the presence of the coastguards, the smugglers managed to flee, he said.

#### Tea worker found dead

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

Police recovered the hanging body of a tea garden worker from a tree near his house in Kulaura upazila of the district yesterday morning. The dead is Horia Robidas, 60, worker of Langla Tea Estate in the upazila. Locals found body hanging from the tree in the area and informed the police. The body was sent to Moulvibazar Sadar Hospital morgue for autopsy, said Abdus Saleh, officer-in-charge, Moulvibazar police station.

## Two burnt alive, 5 houses gutted in Jamalpur

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jamalpur

A woman and her granddaughter were burnt alive and five houses gutted in a fire at Tilokpur Kawnerchar village in Dewanganj upazila of the district early yesterday.

The dead are Jarina Begum, 60, wife of Afsar Ali Sheikh, and their granddaughter Sabina Akhtar, a class four student of Alhaj Abdul Barik Government Primary School, at the village.

Locals said the fire origi-

nating from a kitchen of a house at the village at around 12:30am and soon spread to adjacent five houses including Afsar Ali's.

Afsar's wife Jarina and their granddaughter Sabina were trapped in room of their house during the fire incident. Later, their charred bodies were found in the room.

Afsar and four other members of the house-Jaru Sheikh, Suraj Sheikh, Bipul and Muslim-- sustained burn injuries. They are undergoing treatment at a

local hospital.

Two cows and three goats belonging to Afsar were also burnt to death and the houses of his four neighbours were completely damaged by the fire, Tariqul Islam, Chairman of Dewanganj Sadar Union Parishad (UIP).

Locals extinguished the blaze at around 3.00am, the chairman added. The affected house owners claimed that their properties worth over Tk four lakh were destroyed by the fire.

## Students protest assault on teacher, block highway

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Thakurgaon

Students of Kochubari High School in Sadar upazila yesterday blocked Thakurgaon-Panchagarh highway at Kochubari point for two hours from 12:00noon, protesting assault on a teacher of the school by a member of the school managing committee.

They also demanded punishment of the attacker and dissolution of managing committee. Hundreds of vehicles got stuck on both side of Kochubari point of the road due to the barricade.

The students withdrew the barricade as

Officer-in-Charge Firoz Khan of Thakurgaon Police Station assured them of taking necessary steps against the person responsible for assaulting their teacher.

School managing committee member Rafiqul Islam and his accomplices beat up assistant teacher Sourav Barman on the school premises on Thursday last, bringing allegation of sexual harassment of a girl of the school by the teacher.

Nurul Islam, one of the members of the managing committee, told this correspondent over cellphone that Rafiqul and his men assaulted the teacher, bringing a false allegation against him. The incident was a



PHOTO: STAR

Traders buy new ledger books as they prepare to open halkhata on the eve of Pahela Baishakh in Barisal city.

## BRUR students demand opening of newly built dormitory

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur

Students of Begum Rokeya University, Rangpur (BRUR) put the academic buildings under lock and key yesterday, demanding immediate opening of the newly constructed Bangabandhu Sheikh

Mujibur Rahman Hall.

Under the banner of 'General Students Forum', they boycotted classes and examinations in the morning and took out a procession on the campus to realise the demand. Later, the students locked the academic building.

Rokonuzzaman Rokon convener of the students forum, blamed the authorities for not taking any steps to open the university hall.

Contacted, Moinul Azad, registrar of the university, said steps are being taken to open the dormitory as early as possible.

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১.	প্রতিষ্ঠানের নাম	বাংলাদেশ জাতীয় সংসদ সচিবালয়।
২.	অর্থের উৎস	জিওবি।
৩.	দরপত্র আহ্বানের বিজ্ঞপ্তি নং ও তারিখ	১১.০০.০০০০.৬০৯.০২.০২৮.১৪.৬৩৪ তারিখঃ ০৮/০৪/২০১৪।
৪.	দরপত্রের ধরণ	ওপেন টেন্ডার।
৫.	প্যাকেজ নম্বর	আসবাবপত্র মেসারামত-১।
৬.	মালামালের সংক্ষিপ্ত বিবরণ	বাংলাদেশ জাতীয় সংসদ সচিবালয়ের আওতাধীন মানিক মিয়া এডিনিউ ও নাখালপাড়াছ ২৬টি ফ্ল্যাটের আসবাবপত্র মেসারামত সম্পর্কিত কাজ।
৭.	দরপত্রের সংখ্যা	১টি।
৮.	সরবরাহের সময়	চুক্তি অনুযায়ী।
৯.	দরপত্রাদাতার যোগ্যতা	দরপত্র তফসিলের সাথে ২০১৩-২০১৪ অর্থ বছরের ট্রেড লাইসেন্স এর সত্যায়িত ফটোকপি, ২০১৩-২০১৪ কর ব্রের আয়কর পরিশোধের সনদপত্রের (কোম্পানির ক্ষেত্রে তার সর্বশেষ আর্থিক বছরের পরিশোধিত আয়কর সনদপত্র) সত্যায়িত ফটোকপি, ভাট রেজিস্ট্রেশন সনদপত্রের সত্যায়িত ফটোকপি, ব্যাংক সলভেন্সি সার্টিফিকেট (সিডিউল বিক্রয়ের তারিখ হতে) এর সত্যায়িত ফটোকপি, সংশ্লিষ্ট কাজের ক্ষেত্রে কমপক্ষে ০২ (দুই) বছরের অভিজ্ঞতার সনদপত্রের সত্যায়িত ফটোকপি এবং দরপত্র তফসিল ক্রয়ের মূল রশিদ দাখিল করতে হবে। বর্ষিত শর্তাবলী ছাড়াও দরপত্র সিডিউলে উল্লিখিত অন্যান্য শর্তাবলী এক্ষেত্রে প্রযোজ্য হবে।
১০.	দরপত্র তফসিলের মূল্য	১০০০/- (এক হাজার) টাকা (অফেরতযোগ্য)।
১১.	দরপত্র জামানত	দরপত্র তফসিলের সাথে সহকারী সচিব, সদস্য ভবন শাখা, জাতীয় সংসদ সচিবালয়, ঢাকা এর অনুকূলে ৫৫,০০০/- (পঞ্চাশ হাজার) টাকার পে-অর্ডার/ব্যাংক ড্রফট (অফেরতযোগ্য) দাখিল করতে হবে।
১২.	টেন্ডার ড্যালিভিডি	টেন্ডার ড্যালিভিডি দরপত্র তফসিল দাখিলের দিন থেকে ১২০ (একশত বিশ) দিন।
১৩.	দরপত্র তফসিল বিক্রয়ের স্থান ও ঠিকানা	সহকারী সচিব (অর্থ শাখা-১), (দক্ষিণ পশ্চিম ব্লক, লেভেল-৫, কক্ষ নং-৫২৩), জাতীয় সংসদ সচিবালয়, ঢাকা।
১৪.	প্রি-টেন্ডার মিটিং	৩০/০৪/২০১৪ তারিখ সকাল ১১.০০ ঘটিকায় অতিরিক্ত সচিব (এ.এস), জাতীয় সংসদ সচিবালয়, ঢাকা এর অফিস কক্ষে অনুষ্ঠিত হবে।
১৫.	দরপত্র তফসিল বিক্রয়ের তারিখ ও সময়	১৬/০৪/২০১৪ তারিখ সকাল ১০.০০ ঘটিকা হতে ০৭/০৫/২০১৪ তারিখ অপরাহ্ন ৫.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত (অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে)।
১৬.	দরপত্র দাখিল এবং খোলার তারিখ, সময় ও স্থান	দাখিল : ০৮/০৫/২০১৪ তারিখ সকাল ৯.০০ ঘটিকা হতে ১২.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত। খোলা : ০৮/০৫/২০১৪ তারিখ বেলা ১২.১৫ ঘটিকা। স্থান : যুগ্ম-সচিব (প্রশাসন-১) এর কার্যালয়, কক্ষ নং- ৭৪১, ব্লক-পূর্ব, লেভেল-৭।
১৭.	বিশেষ নির্দেশনা	কর্তৃপক্ষ যে কোন/সকল দরপত্র বাতিলের ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।
১৮.	টেন্ডার আহ্বানকারী কর্মকর্তার নাম, পদবী, ঠিকানা ও ফোন নম্বর	মলিনা সিনহা, সহকারী সচিব, সদস্য ভবন শাখা, জাতীয় সংসদ সচিবালয়, শেরেবাংলা নগর, ঢাকা-১২০৭, ফোন নম্বর- ৯১২৪৭৬৩।
২।	দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি বাংলাদেশ জাতীয় সংসদ সচিবালয়ের	www.parliament.gov.bd ওয়েবসাইটে পাওয়া যাবে।