



Indigenous women harvesting the first batch of Boro rice in Khagrachhari on Sunday.

PHOTO: BANGLAR CHOKH

CORRUPTION CHARGES SC upholds Faisal Morshed Khan's acquittal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court yesterday upheld a High Court verdict that acquitted Faisal Morshed Khan, son of foreign minister during BNP-led government M Morshed Khan, in a corruption case in which he had been convicted and sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment.

The SC dismissed two separate appeals filed by the government and the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) against the HC verdict.

A special judge's court on August 20, 2008 convicted Faisal and sentenced him to eight years' rigorous

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BCL beats up three students at DU

DU CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Chhatra League activists beat up three students, one of them severely, at Dhaka University yesterday allegedly for personal grudges.

Of the injured, Rasel Ahmed, a fourth year student of peace and conflict studies and activist of BNP-backed Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal, needed five stitches on the head.

The two others—Masum Billah and Ahmad Ullah Siddique—both master's students of Islamic studies, were beaten because, according to a BCL leader's claim, they are Islamic Chhatra Shibir activists.

Some 12 activists loyal to Zahurul Haque Hall unit BCL president Rifat Zaman attacked them while the two were chatting with friends in front of the Arts Building.

They kept punching, slapping and kicking them until Acting Proctor Amzad Ali and three teachers came to their rescue. The BCL activists misbehaved with the teachers, said witnesses.

The proctor said, "There might be personal conflict between the duo and the attackers over publication of a souvenir of the [Islamic studies] department."

All the three took treatment at the university medical centre. Rasel was attacked in front of the Central Library by

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I saw him order father's killing

Martyr Majat Ali's younger son echoes elder brother's testimony at war crimes trial of Qaisar

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

In 1971 when Nawshad Ali was 11 years old, a man ordered the killing of his father and six of his father's colleagues. The memories of how the seven men were shot dead left a lasting impression on his mind but back then he was too young to identify the man.

It was not until his elder brother told him the name—Syed Mohammad Qaisar, a man facing 16 charges, including genocide and murders, in Brahmanbaria and Habiganj in 1971.

Though he could not recall the date of the fateful event, the memories are still fresh to Nawshad, now 54, who witnessed the killings. As the 11th prosecution witness in

Qaisar's case, he gave a vivid description of the killings before International Crimes Tribunal-2 yesterday.

Nawshad said the deceased men were thrown into the Khoai river, and they never found them.

His testimony was almost identical with that of his elder brother Mostafa Ali, who gave deposition as the ninth prosecution witness on April 28, saying Qaisar had directed the Pakistani army to shoot his father and the six others to death on May 29, 1971.

Qaisar, a state minister of HM Ershad's regime, was the alleged founder of Qaisar Bahini but the 73-year-old pleaded not guilty.

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WP protests abductions, killings

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Workers Party of Bangladesh (WPB), an ally of the ruling Awami League, yesterday formed a human chain in front of Bangladesh Bank in the capital protesting abductions, forced disappearances and killings in the country.

Workers Party politburo member Nurul Hasan claimed Narayanganj has turned into a haven for abductors and the inhabitants are panicking as almost routine abductions are taking place there.

He further said Narayanganj has become a death valley.

The organisation yesterday faced police resistance when trying to form the chain in front of the bank.

The participants were forced to conclude the programme within around 20 minutes. Police also did not allow them to use loudspeakers.

At the beginning of the

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The Workers Party of Bangladesh, an ally of the ruling Awami League, forms a human chain in front of Bangladesh Bank in the capital yesterday, protesting against abduction, forced disappearance, and killing in the country. The left leaning party faced initial resistance from police but was let continue with the programme briefly, about 20 minutes.

PHOTO: STAR

Fakhrul gets bail in vandalism case

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday granted bail to BNP acting secretary general Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir in a vandalism case.

The case was filed for vandalising vehicles and preventing police from discharging their duties in the capital's Jatrabari area during a countrywide blockade programme enforced by the then BNP-led 18-party combine on December 9, 2012.

Following the incident, Fakhrul was arrested in connection with another case filed for setting a bus loaded with garbage on fire. Later he was also shown arrested in different cases.

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Road crashes kill eight

CITY DESK

Eight persons were killed and eight others were injured in road crashes in the country yesterday.

Our Chittagong correspondent reports, two persons were killed and two others injured as a speeding bus hit a rickshaw carrying them at Chandgaon in the port city yesterday.

The dead were Md Ayyal, 7, and the rickshaw driver, whose identity could not be known immediately. The injured were admitted to Chittagong Medical College Hospital.

Agitated locals set the bus ablaze. Later, fire fighters doused the blaze.

Our Sylhet correspondent reports, three persons were killed and five were injured in a head-on collision between a Dhaka-bound microbus and a pickup van on Dhaka-Sylhet highway at Andiura under Madhabpur upazila of Habiganj.

The dead are microbus passengers, Rubel Ahmed, 22, Ruhul Amin, 14, and Emran Hossain Rahel, 24. Five injured were rushed to the Madhabpur Upazila Health Complex and later to Brahmanbaria Sadar Hospital.

In Chuadanga, a housewife was killed after being injured when she fell down from a human-hauler as her saree entwined with its wheels on Hejalgari-Nehalpur road of Chuadanga Sadar upazila.

Beauty Begum, 41, wife of Shajahan Molla of Dasto village of the upazila, died at Chuadanga Sadar Hospital.

Our Chapainawabganj correspondent reports, a bicyclist died after being injured when a Nachole-bound truck hit his bicycle while he was crossing the road at Nachole bus stand area. Nasiruddin, 14, son of Habibur Rahman of Hakroil village in the district's Nachole upazila, died at the upazila health complex.

Our Narayanganj correspondent adds a local leader of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal died on the spot as a truck rammed into his motorbike in Ruppaganj upazila of the district yesterday afternoon. Following the death of the leader Habibur Rahman Rubel, 28, son of Abdul Aziz of Charpara area, agitated locals blocked Kanchan-Rupsha road for half an hour.

Azadur Rahman, the back seat rider, was injured in the mishap.

Buet students demand exam postponement

DU CORRESPONDENT

Students of Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (Buet) yesterday boycotted their scheduled examinations and staged demonstrations, demanding postponement of the exams for two weeks.

Around 200 students of eleventh and ninth batches also locked the main entrance of the university from 6:00am to 7:00pm.

They said they did not get enough time to prepare themselves for the term final exams.

Students of the eighth batch blocked Palashi intersection, disrupting traffic movement on the road for five hours from 6:00am to boycott the examinations scheduled to start at 9:00am.

On the other hand, the 11th batch students staged a sit-in at Central Shaheed Minar from 2:00pm.

Additional police were deployed on the campus.

Earlier, on Saturday, students of eighth and 10th batches also boycotted their term final examinations making similar demands.

Prof Aminul Hoque, dean of Electrical and Electronics

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NEWSIN brief

Nur Hossain loses gun licences

UNB, Narayanganj

The district administration has cancelled the licences of 11 firearms of fugitive Narayanganj City Corporation Councillor Nur Hossain, the prime accused in the abduction and murder of seven people including his alleged rival Nazrul Islam, a panel mayor of the NCC.

Deputy Commissioner Anisur Rahman Miah cancelled the licences on Monday, asking police to immediately seize the firearms.

The firearms are being used by Nur's associates, said sources.

8kg of smuggled gold seized at Dhaka airport

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The customs intelligence seized eight kilograms of smuggled gold from a passenger, who emptied a total of 72 bars into a bathroom seeing security men around at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport in the capital last evening.

The detained man, Mozahar Uddin, 36, was coming back from Dubai by Emirates Airlines, and officials had information about the smuggling, said Mustafizur Rahman, deputy director of the customs intelligence. The value of the gold was estimated at Tk 3.7 crore.

Husband kills wife in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A woman was killed as her husband hit her on the head with a brick in the capital's Khilgaon yesterday.

Parvin left her husband Manik 20 days ago, and has been living in Meradia area, said Sub-inspector Salaududdin of Khilgaon Police Station.

On the fateful day, Manik came to her residence around 6:00pm to persuade her to go back home.

As she refused, her husband hit her on the head with a brick, the ASI quoted Manik as saying.

US state dept official due today

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

US Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Bureau of South and Central Asian Affairs Fatema Z Sumar arrives in the capital today on a two-day visit.

She will meet government and business leaders to discuss Bangladesh's role in trade, commerce, and regional connectivity, said a US embassy press release yesterday.

Fatema joined the State Department in August 2013 from the US Senate Foreign Relations Committee where she served as a senior professional staff member.



Election to N'ganj's Bandar upazila postponed for 3 months

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Election Commission (EC) has postponed election to Bandar upazila of Narayanganj for three months due to complexity over boundary demarcation.

The decision came following a High Court directive yesterday, EC officials told The Daily Star.

Earlier on April 23, the commission postponed elections to Rangabali upazila of Patuakhali for the same reason.

The EC on April 16 announced that elections to 14 upazilas, including Bandar and Rangabali, would be held on May 19. Now, elections to 14 upazilas would be held on the day.

28 activists of BNP, affiliated organisations sent to jail

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

A Gazipur court yesterday sent 28 activists of the BNP and its front organisations to jail after they surrendered before it in a case filed for vandalism and arson during a blockade last year.

Senior Judicial Magistrate Nirmolendu Dash passed the order after the 28 prayed to the court for bail.

Police filed a case on October 19 last year accusing over 50 people of vandalising a pickup van and setting fire to it in Gazipur's Paura area during a blockade of the then main opposition BNP.

2-day customer service fair of Tata Motors ends in Rangpur

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur

A two-day customer service fair of Tata Motors Limited ended in Rangpur on Sunday night.

Nitol Motors Limited, the sole distributor of Tata Motors Limited in Bangladesh, organised the fair at its Rangpur office on RK Road.

Mayor of Rangpur Sharfuddin Ahmed Jhantu inaugurated the fair as the chief guest.

Saleh Ahmed Faruki, director (operating division) of Nitol Motors Limited; Mostafa Sohrab Chowdhury Titu, president of Rangpur Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Md Abdul Majed, chief business officer (operating division) of Nitol Motors Limited, and local elites, among others, were present.

INVESTOR

We need an Investor for an amount of Tk. 10 to 15 crore for implementation of a Commercial Building at Tejgaon, Dhaka.

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