

## 17TH ANNIVERSARY OBSERVED

# Processions, rallies praising, protesting CHT accord

STAR COUNTRY DESK

The seventeenth anniversary of Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) Peace Accord was observed with processions, rallies and cultural programmes in different areas of the region yesterday.

A large number of people carrying flowers, posters, banners and placards joined a colourful procession arranged by Khagrachhari Hill District Council (KHDC) yesterday morning, reports our Khagrachhari correspondent.

The indigenous people carrying drums, bows and arrows performed their traditional dances and rendered songs in their mother tongue.

Later at a discussion at the town hall auditorium, speakers said the government has already implemented 48 sections of the peace deal in last 17 years and so, CHT regions sees continued development activities.

Lawmaker from Khagrachhari

constituency Kujendra Lal Tripura formally inaugurated the procession as chief guest while Khagrachhari Army Regional Commander Brig Gen Kazi Shamsul Islam, KHDC Chairman Chai Tow Aung Marma, Deputy Commissioner Md Masud Karim, and Khagrachhari municipality Mayor Md Rafiqul Alam attended as special guests.

At another discussion organised by Parbatya Chattagram Jana Sanghaty Samity (PCJSS--Manobendra faction) at Larma Chatter in the hill town, speakers blamed the government for slow pace in the implementation of the peace deal.

Meanwhile, Parbatya Chattagram Bangali Chhatra Parishad held a protest meeting at Shapla Chatter in the hill town yesterday demanding cancellation of what they said controversial peace deal.

Our Bandarban correspondent

adds: Leaders of PCJSS yesterday reiterated their demand of early government steps for full implementation of CHT Peace Accord signed on December 2 in 1997.

As the peace deal has not been executed fully, the fundamental rights of indigenous people including their constitutional rights and right to land have not been established, indigenous leaders said at a large gathering organised by district unit of PCJSS on the premises of Puraton Rajar Math in Bandarban town.

Central PCJSS member KS Mong Marma addressed as chief guest at the meeting presided over by PCJSS district unit President U Chaw Sing Marma.

Thousands of indigenous people with colourful banners and festoons attended the programme.

Later a large procession paraded the main roads of the town.

## TRADER'S DEATH

### Dumuria OC suspended

UNB, Khulna

Officer in-charge (investigation) of Dumuria Police Station Kazi Kamal Hossain was suspended yesterday for negligence of duty in connection with the death of a medicine trader in police custody last month.

Following an order of the Police Headquarters sent to the district Superintendent of Police, the OC was closed to the Dhaka Range as the allegation against him was primarily found true.

A three-member probe body, formed by the Khulna Range DIG office, submitted its report to DIG SM Moniruzzaman on November 27.

The probe panel recommended taking action against Inspector Kazi Kamal Hossain and Constable Sirajul Islam for their dereliction of duty during the incident, additional DIG Didar Ahmed told reporters on November 28.

Constable Sirajul Islam was suspended instantly and a letter was sent to the Police Headquarters for taking departmental action against Kazi Kamal following the probe report.

Medicine trader Tushar Kanti Paul, 42, jumped off the first floor of the police superintendent's office here on November 15, claimed police.

He was taken to Khulna Medical College Hospital where he succumbed to his injuries after some time.

However, family members claimed that Tushar tried to flee from the spot to get rid of police torture and humiliation.

The DIG office formed a three-man probe panel while the district police a four-member one to look into the incident.



PHOTO: STAR

**Idols of Hindu deities lie vandalised at Sarbojonin Durga Mandir at Donarkandi village in Gouranadi upazila under Barisal district as a group of ruling party men launched a barbaric attack on the minority people in the area on Monday evening.**

## Ruling party men swoop on Hindus, vandalise temple

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Ruling party men attacked and vandalised the houses and temple of Hindu people following a dispute over construction of a school at Donarkani village in Gournadi upazila on Monday.

At least 13 people were injured during the incident, said Gournadi police.

Yesterday, Abinash Sarkar, a retired schoolteacher, president of Donarkandi Government Primary School managing committee, filed a case, accusing 64 people in connection with the incident.

Of the accused, four were arrested, said Abul Kalam, officer in-charge of Gournadi police station.

The arrestees are Titu Mridha, Saiful Islam, Harun Molla and Kamrul Sardar of the area, he said.

Abinash said "Shaon Haoladar, an influential member of the Gournadi upazila BCL convening committee, attacked me with iron rod at 3:30pm on Monday when I protested substandard construction work of the school building by the party leader".

Protesting the attack on Abinash, the villagers engaged in an altercation with the ruling party men, leaving four people, including Jubo League cadre Saiful Islam, injured.

Informed by Shaon, over 100 cadres of

ruling party, including Shah Alam Lashkar, local leader of Dashar union Sramik League, Tipu Mridha, Arafat Sharif, local leaders of Jubo League, in three trucks later attacked and vandalised at least seven houses and a temple of Hindus in Dashar area of the village. The attackers also looted cash, gold ornaments and other valuables from the houses.

The idols of Durga, Sarswati, Kartik, Mohadev, Ganesh, Laxmi, Ashur of the temple at Sarkar Bari, idols of Radha-Krishna at the worship rooms of Goutam Sarkar and Sushen Sarkar were damaged, said locals.

A function arranged to observe death anniversary of the mother of Chinmoy Sarkar also came under attack.

More than 200 guests of the programme panicked by the violent incident ran away from the venue to find safe shelter, said Kanak Sarkar, a widow and witness to the incident.

Meanwhile, sub-inspector Hanasanuzzaman of Dashar police camp was asked to be closed to the district police line for his alleged negligence of duty, said police sources.

Advocate Talukdar Md Yusuf, lawmaker and district AL secretary, said punitive measures would be taken against those responsible for the attack on the Hindu people.

## Call to help eliminate child labour

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Thakurgaon

A half-day programme on an anti-child labour project was held at Chetona Bikash Kendra at the head office of Eco Social Development Organisation (ESDO) in Thakurgaon town yesterday.

The project titled 'Child Labour Elimination Action For Real Change (CLEAR) In Urban Slum Areas of Rangpur City Corporation and Thakurgaon Municipality' is being implemented by Eco Social Development Organisation (ESDO) with financial support of Manusher Jonno Foundation.

Government officials, trade union leaders, representatives from business community, reporters, political leaders and public representatives joined the programme with Muhammad Shahid-Uz-Zaman, executive director of ESDO, in the chair.

Thakurgaon Municipality Mayor SMA Moin was the chief guest at the programme arranged to make townspeople aware about the project. District Primary Education Officer Abu Hares, District Children Affairs Officer Joved Ali, and Thakurgaon Press Club President Abu Torab Manik spoke at the programme.

The speakers said a good number of slum kids in Thakurgaon municipality are engaged in hazardous work to support their poor families. They urged townspeople to help eliminate child labour from the municipality area.

The project will cover the slums in 33 wards of Rangpur City Corporation and 12 wards in Thakurgaon municipality.

## Fake doc jailed, clinic sealed

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

A mobile court sentenced a fake doctor to two years in prison and sealed off his clinic in Hakimpur upazila of the district on Monday.

The convict is Tafhmul Hossain, 33, son of Md Moniruzzaman of Dinajpur Satellite town.

The court also fined him Tk 3 lakh for operating the clinic without valid documents, said police.

In August this year, Tafhmul, who claimed himself a doctor, rented a building at Charmatha intersection in the upazila and started running the clinic named Lions Hospital there.



PHOTO: STAR

**Memorial plaque built in honour of the Liberation War martyrs on the premises of Thakurgaon Public Library.**

## Thakurgaon was liberated on this day in 1971

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Thakurgaon

On this day in 1971, Thakurgaon was liberated from the Pakistani occupation forces.

People of the district heaved a sigh of relief while enjoyed the taste of freedom after months of fighting. The area was totally freed from occupation forces on December 3.

A heavy gun battle took place at night on December 1, 1971 between freedom fighters and Pakistani forces.

Failing to resist freedom fighters and allied forces, the occupation forces started to leave the town from December 2 morning. They completed withdrawal by the same night and took shelter at Saidpur Cantonment.

Next morning the freedom fighters entered the town. People from all walks of life came out on the streets in the town, chanting slogan 'Joy Bangla' with freedom fighters.

Rickshaw puller Mohammad Ali was the first martyr of the Liberation War in Thakurgaon. He was shot dead by army on March 27.

During the war period a large number of innocent people were killed by the Pakistani forces and their collaborators.

In Jathibhanga village under Sadar upazila, about 3500 innocent people

including women and children of different villages, who were fleeing to India for safety, were killed and buried by the Pakistani forces and their local collaborators.

Skulls and bones of about 8,500 people were recovered from Khuniadighi under Ranishankoil upazila of the district after Liberation War. They were killed during Liberation War and thrown into a big pond.

Freedom fighters and allied forces intensified attacks on the Pakistani forces from the beginning of November in the area.

The freedom fighters took control of Amarkhana on November 20, Jagdalhat on November 25, Shingpara village on November 26, Talma village on November 27, Panchagarh CO Office, Atwary, Mirzapur on November 28 and finally entire Panchagarh was liberated on November 29, 1971.

The Pakistani occupation army and their collaborators fled the areas and soldiers took shelter at Thakurgaon EPR camp after leaving Panchagarh.

To mark the day, district unit of Bangladesh Udichi Shilpi Gosthi in association with Thakurgaon Muktioddha Shangshad have taken up different programmes including placing wreaths on the martyrs' monument and Shaheed Mohammad Ali and Naresh Chowhan's graves.

## Three arrested while 'removing Dr Mahjabin's body from grave

UNB, Benapole, Jessore

Police on Monday night arrested three people in the district while they were 'trying to remove from grave the body of Dr Shamarukh Mahjabin Shama' who had been killed allegedly by her in-laws on November 13.

The arrestees were identified as Badruzzoha, 32, son of Kamruzzaman, a resident of Puratan Kasba Kanthaltala area, Suman, 28, son of Abdus Salam, of Kholadanga area of the district town and Kamal Arif Tushar, 30, son of Mostafa Nurul Islam, of Noapara village in Sadar upazila.

Hemayet Hossain, sub-inspector of Kotwali Model Police Station, said a team of police arrested the trio from Karbala graveyard in the area while they were trying to dig the grave of Dr Mahjabin at about 9:30pm.

Engineer Nurul Islam, father of Dr Mahjabin, earlier on Saturday submitted an

application to the authorities of the Graveyard for the protection of the grave.

Consequently, policemen were deployed at the graveyard.

The body of Dr Shamarukh Mahjabin who was studying FCPS at Bangladesh Sheikh Mujib Medical University after passing MBBS from Dhaka's Holy Family Medical College was scheduled to be exhumed today.

Fresh autopsy has been ordered on the body of Dr Mahjabin who was the wife of Humayun Sultan Sadab, eldest son of Khan Tipu Sultan, Awami League leader and former lawmaker for Jessore-5.

The court of Dhaka Metropolitan Magistrate Bikash Kumar Saha instructed the deputy commissioner of Dhaka district to carry out the exhumation on hearing a plea by the slain doctor's father Nurul Islam on November 25.

## Peace accord

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yesterday on the 17th anniversary of the signing of the accord.

The then Awami League government and PCJSS inked the peace pact on December 2, 1997, ending the nearly two-decade-long insurgency by the hill people.

"People who say the accord is implemented do not even know what the accord says. The reality is, we have been fooled," he said.

The PCJSS on November 29 threatened to wage a non-cooperation movement against the government if sincere efforts were not made to fully implement the accord.

In response to the announcement, former state minister for CHT affairs and Awami League leader Dipankar Talukdar on Monday said the non-cooperation movement would be resisted on the streets.

Referring to Dipankar's statement, Santu Larma said, "You will probably have to face us not only on the streets but also in the forests, hills and everywhere if the government did not take effective measures to implement the accord."

Addressing the discussion, lawmaker Ushatan Talukdar stressed the need for implementation of a number of key articles in the peace accord including land management and local people's involvement in law enforcement.

Sara Hossain, director of Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust (BLAST), said the indigenous

people did not have constitutional recognition in the country.

"It is utterly frustrating that existence of the indigenous people in Bangladesh has not been included in the constitution during its last amendment," she observed.

Communist Party of Bangladesh leader Monjurul Ahsan Khan, Oikya Nap President Pankaj Bhattacharya, columnist Syed Abul Moksud and Bangladesh Adivasi Forum General Secretary Sanjeeb Drong, among others, spoke at the discussion.

In another programme in the capital, indigenous leaders and civil society members blamed the government for not playing a proactive role in implementing the CHT accord. The government policymakers, on the other hand, claimed the government was trying its best to implement the accord.

Speaking at this programme, held at Cirdap International Conference Centre, Santu Larma said, "The real scenario is not encouraging. If the process of implementation of the accord is looked at meticulously, anyone could say that it hasn't made much progress."

Eminent human rights activist Sultana Kamal and co-chair of International CHT Commission said, "We have been raising various demands aimed at full implementation of the accord for years. But all we notice is a lax attitude on the government side."

However, Syeda Sajeda Chowdhury, deputy leader of the House and chair-

man of CHT Peace Accord implementation committee, said, "Implementation of the accord is one of the political pledges of the incumbent government, and many initiatives have been taken to that end."

Meanwhile, PCJSS staged protest rallies in all three CHT districts yesterday.


Thousands gathered at a rally on the premises of Puraton Rajar Math in Bandarban to press home their demand for full implementation of the accord.

Fundamental rights of the indigenous people, their rights to land and their constitutional rights had not been ensured, said leaders of the PCJSS district units.

Indigenous leaders allege land disputes in the CHT are getting complicated every day as different government authorities continue leasing out land bypassing the traditional leaders and evicting many jumma families from their ancestral land.

In Khagrachhari, the PCJSS brought out a procession from Chengi Square in the town. It also organised a discussion at Larma Square in the hill town with its Chairman Sudha Sindhu Khisa in the chair.

Leaders of the PCJSS blamed both the AL and BNP governments for not empowering the Land Commission. They also blamed both the parties for not returning the land of the indigenous people.



**INDEPENDENT UNIVERSITY, BANGLADESH**  
Operations & Maintenance Department  
**TENDER NOTICE**

**Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of the Equipment for Gymnasium of Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB), Bashundhara, Dhaka.**

- Sealed Tenders are hereby invited from the bonafide vendors for **Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of Gymnasium Equipment for Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) Campus at Bashundhara, Dhaka.** The bidders shall be required to submit a complete offer in two separate envelopes, one for the Technical Offer while the second envelope shall contain the Financial Offer.
- The interested bidders must have minimum 3 (three) years experience in similar type of works.
- The bidders shall apply in their Official Letterhead to Director, O&M, IUB, along with the following documents:
  - List of the Clients where They Supplied & Installed the Gymnasium Equipment,
  - Copies of the Work Order & Completion Certificate from the clients for similar type of works from which at least one Contract Price should have minimum Tk. 50 lac (Taka fifty lac),
  - Copies of the updated Trade License, Bank Solvency Certificate / Statement, Income Tax & VAT Registration Certificates of the Company / Firm.
- The bidders shall furnish an earnest money, equivalent to 2.5% of the bidding amount, in favour of Independent University, Bangladesh, in the form of Bank Draft/ Pay Order from a scheduled Bank of Bangladesh, as the part of Bid Document.
- Interested bidders are requested to collect the Tender Schedule from the Office of the Director, O&M, IUB, between 9:30 am and 4:00 pm from 8<sup>th</sup> December to 14<sup>th</sup> December 2014 (working days), on payment of a non-refundable amount of Tk 1000/- (Taka one thousand) only in cash.
- A Pre-bid Meeting with the intended bidders will be held on December 15, 2014 at the Office of the Director, O&M. The time of the Pre-bid Meeting will be notified to the bidders in time.
- The Tenders will be received at the Office of the Director, O&M, IUB up to 2:00 pm of 7<sup>th</sup> January 2015 and the Technical Offers shall be opened at 2:30 pm on the same day & at the same place in presence of the bidders who may wish to attend the Tender Opening.
- The Financial Offers of the technically responsive bidders will be opened on a later date with due notification to the respective bidders.
- IUB Authority reserves the right to accept only the technically responsive tenders without consideration of the lowest bid and shall have the right to reject any or all tenders without assigning any reasons whatsoever.

**Engr. A.S.M. Shah Alam**  
Director, Operations & Maintenance  
Plot-16, Block-B, Bashundhara, Dhaka.  
Tel: 8401645-53