



PHOTO: STAR

Workers remain sitting at Chandpur Tea Garden in Chunarughat upazila under Habiganj district as around 15 thousand tea workers of four gardens in the district continued their strike for the second day yesterday demanding cancellation of the plan to set up a special economic zone that would cover some portions of the gardens.

Tea workers against special economic zone in Habiganj

Start indefinite work abstention

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

Around 15,000 workers from four tea gardens in Chunarughat upazila of Habiganj district continued strike for the second day yesterday, demanding cancellation of the plan to set up special economic zone (SEZ). Tea garden workers from Chandpur Tea Garden, Begum Khan Tea Garden, Jua Bhangra Tea Garden and Ram Ganga Tea Garden went on work abstention on Monday. They also threatened to stage a hunger strike to press the demand. The government has decided to develop five SEZs on 512 acres of land across

the country under its Economic Zones Development Project to attract both foreign and domestic investments. One of the SEZs will be in Chandpur area of Chunarughat upazila. "We have asked for compensation for our losses but haven't received any commitment from the government. So we decided to go for strike to get our issues resolved," said Sadhon Santal, president of Chandpur tea garden unit of Tea Labour Union. "Once the project is implemented, the workers will lose their farmlands and houses," Swapon

Santal, advisor of the tea labour union central unit, told this correspondent. He added that 23 tea gardens in Habiganj district will be united on a single platform to start indefinite strike from December 17 for protecting the rights of workers. Contacted, Chunarughat upazila parishad chairman and AL upazila general secretary Abu Taher termed the work abstention by the tea garden workers illegal. Police have been deployed in the area to avert any untoward incident, said Amulya Kumar Chowdhury, officer-in-charge of Chunarughat Police Station.



PHOTO: STAR

International Society for Krishna Consciousness (Iskcon) forms a human chain at Mission intersection in Lalmonirhat town yesterday protesting recent attack on an Iskcon temple in Kaharol upazila of Dinajpur and other incidents of barbarities on minority people.

Human chain protesting attacks on temples

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

Hindus from different areas of the district formed a human chain at Mission Intersection in Lalmonirhat town yesterday, protesting gun and bomb attacks on Iskcon (International Society for Krishna Consciousness) temple at Kaharol upazila and other temples in Dinajpur district. Organised by Iskcon Lalmonirhat unit, the programme continued for two hours from 10:30am.

Later, the participants went to the deputy commissioner's office in a procession and submitted a memorandum to him. They said the attacks on temples have created panic among the Hindus across the country, and they are passing days amid fear and anxiety. Hindu community leader, Shailendra Nath Barman urged Hindus to stay united against such attacks. "Hindu people are not involved in any kind of militant activities or terror

activities. So why do they come under attack?" he asked, adding that Hindus also took part in the Liberation War in 1971. Another leader of the community, Advocate Chittaranjan Roy, said "Hindus are not marked as people who disturb any other community in the society. If the government does not take stern actions against the militants who attacked the temples recently, the group might attack temples again."

Jamaat man shot dead

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denied the claim of the victim's family. He said a bullet from the shotgun of a police personnel struck Osman Goni, 26, as he scuffled with the law enforcers who along with others went to his house in Dakkhin Rahamatnagar to nab him. Osman was social welfare secretary of Muradpur union Jamaat, said Ashrafur Rahman who introduced himself as president of the Jamaat unit while talking to

The Daily Star. Osman was having lunch at his house around 2:00pm when police reached there, said his father Abul Kashem. Seeing police, his son ran to escape, he said, adding police then fired at Osman. Police, however, gave a different version. On information that Osman was home, police went to catch him, ASP Awal said. As police reached the

house, its residents came to attack law enforcers with sharp weapons. At one stage, Osman engaged in a scuffle with a policeman and tried to snatch his arms, Awal said, adding at the time a bullet from the officer's shotgun hit Osman who then died on the way to Chittagong Medical College Hospital. The victim was accused in 17 cases filed for different crimes, including destructive activities and assault on police.

SNAPS AND SNIPPETS

Land feud kills woman

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

A woman was killed allegedly by her brother-in-law over land dispute at Notun Bagbari village in Dirai upazila of Sunamganj district on Monday. The dead is Hamida Begum, 60, wife of Abdul Kaiyum of Matagan village in the upazila. Police said there was a longstanding conflict between Azlu Miah and his elder brother Abdul Kaiyum over a piece of land. Kaiyum's wife Hamida visited a relative's house at Notun Bagbari village a week ago. As a sequel to the conflict, Azlu stabbed Hamida indiscriminately, leaving her dead on the spot on Monday night. The law enforcers later arrested Azlu in connection with the incident, said Anisur Rahman, officer-in-charge of Dirai Police Station.

Youth held with firearm

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chapainawabganj

Members of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) arrested a youth with a pistol, two magazines and seven bullets at Kashiabari village in Bholahat upazila of the district on Sunday. The arrestee is Mohammad Palash, 25, son of Shafiqul Islam of Doulatpur village in Shibganj upazila. On secret information, a team of Rab-5 raided the area and arrested Palash with the firearm and bullets. He was later handed over to Bholahat Police Station, said Assistant Superintendent of Police Alok Biswas of Chapainawabganj Rab camp. A case was filed in this connection.

Two bronze statues seized

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Benapole, Jessore

Members of Border Guard Bangladesh seized two bronze statues worth about Tk 10 lakh from Kagojpukur border area at Benapole in Jessore district on Sunday night. Acting on a tip-off, the border guards raided the area and seized the statues. None was arrested in this connection, said Suberdar Ayub Ali, camp commander of BGB-26 Battalion. A case was filed in this connection.

Drug peddler jailed

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

A mobile court sentenced a drug peddler to two years' imprisonment and fined another in Muktagachha municipality area of the district. The convicts are Md Tofazzel Hossain, 40, son of late Taleb Sarker, and Md Rana, 35, son of Akhter Ali of the area. Tofazzel was jailed for two years while Rana was fined Tk 1000. Law enforcers in a drive arrested the two with heroin and hemp in the area on Saturday afternoon, said court sources. They were later produced before the court, led by Upazila Nirbahi Officer Umme Afsari Johra, which punished him.

Fugitive convict held

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bogra

Police on Monday arrested a fugitive convict in a case for peddling drug at Sardarpara in Dupchanchia municipality of the district. Arrestee Enamul Haque, 30, son of late Abul Sheikh of the area, was jailed for two years. Acting on a tip-off, a police team raided the house of Enamul and arrested him early in the morning, said Nazrul Islam, officer-in-charge of Dupchanchia Police Station.

JMB behind these

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Of them, five were held in Rangpur, seven in Dinajpur and three each in Gaibandha and Lalmonirhat. During raids to arrest them the police also seized firearms and ammunition including an AK-22 rifle, three foreign pistols, 47 rounds of bullet, three motorcycles, laptops, a significant amount of explosives and jihadi books.

The Rangpur police range chief claims apart from the killing of Japanese national Hoshi Kunio and shooting of Italian doctor and pastor Piero Arolari, the outfit was involved in the killing of Rahmat Ali, a caretaker of a shrine in Kaunia, on November 11 and shooting of Ruhul Amin, a Bahai community leader and employee of Rangpur Medical College Hospital, on November 8.

The banned Islamist outfit was also responsible for explosive attacks during Rash Mela at Kantajir Temple and another temple in Dinajpur, he claimed. He alleged JMB member Ishaque Ali, who was arrested on December 7 at Pargachha of Rangpur and later sent to the district jail, was the custodian and supplier of arms, ammunition and explosives to the attackers.

Ishaque gave a confessional statement before a judicial magistrate's court in Rangpur on Monday, admitting his involvement in the killings of Kunio and Rahmat.

Ishaque was in Iraq and worked there as a labourer, said the police official but could not say if he had any militant link there.

Ishaque's brother Insar Ali was a JMB regional commander and had a connection with another arrestee Masud Rana, claimed the police official.

Masud, who was arrested in Pargachha on November 25, received training from Insar, who had gone to

Libya and died there. After his death, Masud became the regional commander of that JMB unit. Masud also gave a confessional statement before a judicial magistrate's court on December 7 admitting his direct involvement in shooting of Kunio and Rahmat. He also admitted his involvement in carrying out an attack on Bahai community leader Ruhul. The DIG also said the arrestees were trying to regroup to carry out subversive activities in a bid to create an unstable situation in the country.

"They wanted to establish 'deen' in Bangladesh, misinterpreting religion. That is why they carried out attacks on people belonging to other religions," he told the reporters. But, the law-enforcement agencies remained vigilant and active to foil their attempts, he added.

Replying to a query on arrests of some BNP men and their alleged involvement in the Kunio killing, the DIG said police had initially arrested them on "the basis of information", adding that different law-enforcement agencies were investigating the incidents. Although the JMB men confessed to being involved in the crimes, there might be other masterminds, he observed.

Asked about any international links behind the crimes, the DIG replied in the negative.

He also said police had recently arrested another suspected JMB man Fuad Hossain at Palashbari of Gaibandha and recovered a laptop containing images of Afghan war, training manuals on militancy and significant number of jihadi books.

He added security measures had been beefed up in the districts to ward off any attempt of attack ahead of the Victory Day celebrations.

Body of schoolboy found 4 days into abduction

One of the killers arrested

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

Police recovered the body of a school student from beside the Jamuna River in Kalihati upazila of the district yesterday, four days after his abduction.

The deceased, Shamim Miah, 20, son of Abdul Mazid Miah of Alipur village, was an SSC examinee from Haji Shamsheer Ali Technical School and College in the upazila.

Locals and family sources said Shamim managed Tk 45,000 for buying a motorcycle recently. He went

missing after Mohammad Jewel Miah, a neighbour and friend of Shamim, called him out of his house in the afternoon on December 12, saying that he would help him (Shamim) buy a second-hand motorcycle.

When Shamim did not return home, his family members asked Jewel about Shamim's whereabouts. As Jewel failed to answer, Shamim's family filed a general diary with Kalihati Police Station in this regard on December 13.

Police later detained Jewel, 24, and as per his

confession, they recovered Shamim's body from the bank of the river at Alipur village. The body bore injury marks.

Saiful Islam Farazi, officer-in-charge (OC) of Kalihati Police Station, said Jewel admitted to his involvement with the abduction and murder of Shamim. Police are still questioning him as he is yet to disclose the names of his accomplices, the OC added.

Police sent the body to Tangail Medical College Hospital morgue for autopsy.



PHOTO: STAR

A large number of treatment seekers gather at the ground of Bahria Nurul Islam High School in Chandpur Sadar upazila yesterday as the health department in cooperation with Bangladesh Medical Association arranged daylong free medical camp in each upazila under the district.

20 killed in a day

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The dead who were identified are Jalal Uddin, Mokbel Hossain, Anjula Khatun, Ojuba Begum, Bonna Khatun, Renu Khatun and Firoza Khatun; they all hailed from Boro Moharajpur village under Shahjadpur. The others have not yet been identified.

The passengers of the three-wheeler were supposed to catch from Ullapara a train to Dhaka to attend an event.

The slow-moving vehicle was plying the highway despite a ban due to its slack enforcement.

In another fatal road crash, two buses collided head-on at Choddopai of Rajshahi city, leaving seven people - including drivers of both buses - dead, reports our staff correspondent from Rajshahi.

The accident took place around 1:30pm when a coach of National Travels travelling from Dhaka collided head-on with a passenger bus of Orpa Paribahan travelling out of Rajshahi. The accident took place at a few minutes distance from Rajshahi.

"The Dhaka coach rammed the Bagmara-Taherpour bound bus while trying to overtake a battery-run auto-rickshaw and two other auto-rickshaws loaded with passengers," said Humayun Kabir, OC of Motihar Police Station.

"It was horrible, I heard people screaming and then saw blood streaming," said witness Monorika Amin, a HSC 2nd year student.

Mansur Rahman of Puthia who received minor injuries in the accident said a man

saved him by pulling him out through the bus window.

"Our bus was on the right track and also moving slowly. The speeding coach from Dhaka coming from the opposite direction hit us," he said.

The dead include Farzana Sheikh, 22, a second year economics student of Rajshahi Government College and drivers of the two buses - Shahidul Islam, 40 and Mintu Mia, 35 and Abu Bakar Siddik, 65, Momen Uddin, 70, Azaffar Ali, 65 and his wife Beli Ara, 55.

The accident blocked traffic on the Dhaka-Rajshahi highway for more than an hour.

District administrations in Rajshahi and Sirajganj announced compensation of Tk 10,000 to families of the victims.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Local Government Engineering Department
Office of the Executive Engineer
District: Habiganj
www.lged.gov.bd

Memo No. LGED/XEN/Habi/2015/

Date: 14-12-2015

e-Tender Notice-93/2015-2016 (NCT-OTM)

e-Tender is invited in the e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of

Sl No.	Tender ID and Package No.	Name of scheme	Closing date and time
1	40260 HFMLIP/Habi/15-16/W-36	1) Improvement of Poil to Pachparia Road by BC at Ch. 1500-5700. (2) Construction for 2 Nos 2.0mx2.00m size Box Culvert at Ch. 5310 & 5500m on the same road. (3) Construction of 4 Nos 1.50mx1.50m, size Box Culvert at Ch. 1635, 3200, 3635 & 4510m on the same road. (4) Protection work at Ch. 1500-5700m (effective Protective Length=530.00m Upazila: Sadar, District: Habiganj Road ID 636444035.	07-01-2016 13:00

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted.

To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is requested.

The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National E-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered banks' branches up to Time: 12:00, date: 07-Jan-2016 for Sl No. (1).

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd) or (Email: xen.habiganj@lged.gov.bd) and call to +088 01712-443413).

Interested person can communicate with the undersigned during office hours.

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