

Cycle procession to save Sundarbans held in Sylhet

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

A cycle procession, protesting the government's decision to set up Rampal power plant in the Sundarbans, was organised by general students in Sylhet city yesterday.

The procession with hundreds of cyclists, wearing t-shirts inscribed with slogans "Save Sundarbans" and many more, started at Kean Bridge area and ended at Sylhet Central Shaheed Minar in the city.

Dipankar Das Gupta, an organiser of the procession, said the government was forcefully implementing the power plant at Rampal which could destroy the Sundarbans, the world's largest mangrove forest and a listed heritage site.



A daylong shower impedes vehicular movement on different roads in the capital yesterday. The photo was taken on Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

Family still awaits

FROM PAGE 3

Nasima, 28, said the woman, clad in burqa and aged about 35 to 40, went to the family at the corridor of the neurosurgery ward and exchanged pleasantries. She said her name was Khadiza, said Nasima.

Later she tricked Nasima's eldest daughter Shorma, 10, when Nasima was sleeping, out of the hospital and fled with the baby. "I came to the hospital for my husband's treatment and lost my baby girl," Nasima told this correspondent yesterday at DMCH corridor.

She said she has been requesting people to help her finding the baby but not getting much help. "I even went to see a two-month-old baby at Shibpur in Madaripur district who was said to be brought from Dhaka," she said.

"I will be able to recognise my child by her birth marks even if I see her when she has grown up," she said in an emotion-choked voice.

Nasima filed a case with Shahbagh Police Station after the baby went missing.

Officer-in-Charge of Shahbagh Police Station Abu Bakar Siddique told this correspondent that they were yet to find the baby. "The other law enforcing agencies are also working to rescue the baby."

DMCH formed a three-member body to probe whether any employee of the hospital was involved in the stealing, said DMCH Deputy Director Khawaza Abdul Gafur.

Hospital sources said they had provided the investigators video footage of CCTV cameras, in which Nasima identified the woman.

Newspaper press workers get new executives

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Alamgir Hossain Khan (Ittefaq) and Md Kamaluddin (BSS) have been selected as the president and secretary general respectively of Bangladesh Federal Union of Newspaper Press Workers (BFUNPW), said a press release.

The 17-member new committee was announced at its biennial general meeting held at the office of BSS Employees Union in the capital yesterday.

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Protests keep pouring

FROM PAGE 3

In Bandarban, calling upon their fellows to remain united to resist further attacks, the Hindus formed a human chain in front of the district's press club, protesting such attacks, reports our correspondent.

They also demanded removal of Fisheries and Livestock Minister Sayedul Haque for his "derogatory" comments demeaning the minorities and of Nasiragar upazila nirbahi officer (UNO) for his "failure" to tackle the situation.

At Rajshahi University (RU), different left-leaning student organisations formed an hour-long human chain from 11:00am in front of RU Senate Bhaban.

In Khagrachhari town, from a human chain at Sapla Chatter, the minority people handed a memorandum over to the district's deputy commissioner to submit it to the prime minister, demanding punishment for the culprits, reports a correspondent.

In Sylhet, Nagamat, a cultural organisation, brought out a procession styled "Gaan Michil" singing songs against communalism as well as seeking justice, while in Jessore city Jatiya Hindu Mohajote formed a human chain for the same cause.

Meanwhile, in the port city, Commerce Minister Tofail Ahmed when addressing a function said exemplary punishment would be given to those involved.

Confce on Shakespeare ends at IUB

CITY DESK

A three-day international conference on "Shakespeare: Four Hundred Years After" concluded yesterday at Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) in Bashundhara of Dhaka yesterday.

The department of

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Suspension of leaders proves AL behind B'baria attack: BNP

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP yesterday claimed that the suspension of three Awami League leaders just days after religious zealots carrying sharp weapons went berserk in at least eight Hindu-dominated areas in Brahmanbaria's Nasiragar upazila on October 30 proves that the party masterminded it.

At least 58 families were affected and 17 temples were either damaged or looted for around two hours at Nasiragar and Haripur union following rumours of a Facebook post demeaning the holy Kaaba.

Vice-Chairman Maj (ret'd) Hafizuddin Ahmed's remarks came at a press conference at the chairperson's Gulshan office to present findings of a 15-member BNP delegation's visit on Friday to the affected areas.

The suspended three are Nasiragar upazila AL assistant general secretary and Sadar union parishad chairman Abul Hossain, AL Haripur union unit president Faruk Ahmed and Chaportala union unit president Suruj Ali.

Hafizuddin said the suspension was the AL's effort to diffuse the tension and it could also be an effort to grab Hindus' land, something "the party's men have been doing around the country".

Terming police's role "irresponsible", he alleged that the ruling party men were connected to all communal attacks occurring in the past seven years.

Three arrested with wine, cannabis

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Members of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) arrested three people with 850 litres of locally-made wine and around one kilogramme of cannabis in Raozan upazila of Chittagong Friday night.

The arrestees are Ranjit Malakar, 49, Jaygupta Malakar, 21, and Abir Malakar, 19, said a press release. On information, a team of Rab-7 conducted a drive at Pather Hat in the upazila and arrested the trio with the wine and cannabis.

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