

UZ chairman detained

A CORRESPONDENT, Khagrachari

Law enforcers arrested the chairman of Laxmichhari Upazila Parishad in the hill district, allegedly with a pistol and five bullets, from his Laxmichhari Sadar residence early yesterday.

Relatives of the arrestee, Super Jyoti Chakma, said joint forces surrounded his house at 1:00am and arrested him.

Demanding immediate release of the upazila chairman, Parbatya Chattagram Jumma Protinidhi Sangsad formed a human chain in front of Khagrachhari Press Club yesterday.

Sachib Chakma, central committee member of regional political party United People's Democratic Front, also demanded immediate release of the arrestee.

A case under Arms Act was filed against Super Jyoti Chakma, said Arif Iqbal, OC of Laxmichhari Police Station.



Learning of the working children studying at Shishu Kalyan School in Patuakhali town is being hampered because the school does not have its own building and they have to attend classes in a dilapidated room of another school.

PHOTO: STAR

FOG HALTS FERRY SERVICE

Thousands stuck for hours

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Manikganj

Dense fog halted Paturia-Daulatdia ferry service for hours, causing immense sufferings to hundreds of passengers.

The service on the route resumed yesterday after ten and a half hours of disruption.

The authority stopped plying of ferries around 1:00am to avoid any accident, said Shafiqul Islam, manager (Commerce) of Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Corporation (BIWTC), Daulatdia office.

Seven ferries with passengers and vehicles got stranded in mid-river while seven other ferries remained anchored at Paturia ferry ghat and two ferries at Daulatdia ferry ghat for hours.

Over 500 vehicles were lined up at Paturia and Daulatdia ferry ghats due to suspension of the ferry service.

Due to the situation, over 6,000 passengers of 21 south and south western districts suffered a lot. Children and women were the worst sufferers.

They demanded second Padma Bridge on the route to end the years of sufferings, said locals.

The ferry service resumed around noon when the fog cleared, said Shafiqul.

For the last few days, fog disrupted ferry service on two Padma routes, causing immense sufferings to hundreds of passengers.

In Munshiganj, ferry service on Shimulia-Kawrakandi route was suspended for three and a half hours on Sunday.

Derelict room of another school is their classroom

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

Students of a school for working children in the district town attend classes in a small abandoned room of another school as their school has no building of its own.

Shishu Kalyan School started its journey on January 31 in 1990 and it is run by the Shishu Kalyan Trust under the primary and mass education ministry, said Hindumistress Kohinoor Begum.

Kohinoor said the room where the class for the working children is held was declared abandoned four to five years ago as it was damaged.

The activities of the school started in a room of Mahila Samity Primary School at women's

college road in the town with 44 working children who were involved in various jobs. There are 100 students in the school at present.

The Kalyan School used to run between 2:00pm to 6:00pm, but now it is running from 4:30pm to 5:30pm as it starts after regular classes of Mahila Samity School are over. There are five teachers and a peon working in Kalyan School.

Mahila Samity School authorities asked Kohinoor to shift their school to a small room as a new building is being built on the school campus.

Kohinoor said they are facing accommodation crisis as the authorities have asked them to shift the school.

"I have informed the authorities concerned, including the deputy commissioner (DC),

Shishu Kalyan Trust and district primary education officer of the matter," she added.

"We have to take classes in a congested room," she said, adding that the school cannot run from 2:00pm to 6:00pm as they have to start after classes of the primary school are over, which disrupts the education of the students.

Sukhi Akther of Swanirvor road slum said they have to sit in a tiny room. Farzana Akther of Kathpotty slum said, "I come to the school regularly but our study is greatly hampered due to accommodation crisis."

DC of Patuakhali AKM Shamimul Haq Siddique, also SKS managing committee chairman, said they are looking for a piece of land to build a schoolhouse.

Croplands lose fertility for tobacco farming

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

Farmers in the district are witnessing a fall in yield of their produce, including paddy and other crops, as their croplands are losing fertility due to faming of tobacco in the same field for more than a decade.

Use of huge quantity of different fertilisers and other pesticides in the tobacco fields also has an impact in pushing the farmlands towards infertility, agriculture officials said.

Ramjan Ali, 42, a farmer of Saralkhan village in Aditmari upazila of the district, said he

got three to four maunds less quantity of paddy this season from the land earlier used for tobacco cultivation than of those of other crops.

"I got 12 to 13 maunds of paddy from each bigha of land where tobacco is cultivated but I have got 16 to 17 maunds from those that remained out of tobacco farming this season," Ramjan added.

"Production of other crops, including different kinds of winter vegetables, cultivated on the land used for tobacco farming is also witnessing fall in recent times," said Nabir Rahman, 56, a vegetable

grower of the village.

Tamir Uddin, 65, of Kumrihat village in the upazila said he always keeps some of his land free from tobacco cultivation to grow vegetables of different varieties and other crops there.

Aditmari Upazila Agriculture Officer Biplob Kumar Mohanta said whenever a farmer opted for tobacco farming in a particular land for over a decade it would lose its fertility.

Indigenous kids get books in mother language

A CORRESPONDENT, Rangamati

As many as 12,381 pre-primary students from Chakma, Marma and Tripura communities in the hill district got free textbooks written in their mother languages on the New Year yesterday, thanks to the first ever step by the authorities.

Earlier National Curriculum and Textbook Board took the initiative to publish textbooks in indigenous languages, following a government decision to facilitate learning of ethnic minority children in their own languages.

"This year, 12,381 books have been

distributed among the learners of Chakma, Marma and Tripura communities in the district. Gradually all the indigenous students will get mother tongue-based schooling," said Mofizul Islam, assistant education officer, Rangamati.

Appreciating the government initiative, Suman Chakma, a guardian, said, "Schooling with own alphabet and language will help our kids to learn with ease."

"We hope that all the indigenous learners will get textbooks in their own language from next year," said Brisho Ketu Chakma, chairman of Rangamati hill district council.

Five teenagers return home after serving in Indian jail

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Benapole

Five Bangladeshi teenagers, including a girl, returned home from India through Benapole border on Sunday night after serving two years in an Indian prison.

Indian Border Security Force (BSF) handed them over to their Bangladeshi counterparts through Benapole check post.

Nazrul Islam, commander of Benapole check post BGB camp, said the five teenagers illegally entered India about two and a half years ago in search of good jobs.

Indian police arrested them from different areas of Kolkata in the Indian state of West Bengal for entering the country without necessary documents.

They later produced the arrestees before an Indian court that sent them to jail, the BGB commander said.

Sub-Inspector Motiar Rahman of Benapole Port Police Station said the four boys and the girl were handed over to their respective families the same night.



Indigenous children pose for photograph after receiving free textbooks written in their mother languages on the New Year in Rangamati yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

Myanmar detains police

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leader, Aung San Suu Kyi, who has been accused of not doing enough to help the Rohingya.

Her government has said troops are hunting militants behind the deadly raids on police border posts, denying claims of atrocities with a flurry of public statements.

However, authorities yesterday pledged to take action "against police who allegedly beat villagers during area clearance operations on November 5 in Kotankauk village".

Suu Kyi's office named four officers involved in the operation including constable Zaw Myo Htike, who looks nonchalantly into the camera smoking as he records the video.

"Those who [were] initially identified were detained," it said in a state-

ment. "Further investigations are being carried out to expose other police officers who beat villagers in the operation." 'SADISTIC CINEMA VERITE'

The footage shows police hitting a young boy around the head as he walks to where dozens of villagers are lined up in rows seated on the ground, hands behind their heads.

Three officers in uniform then start attacking one of the sitting men, beating him with a stick and kicking him repeatedly in the face.

A Rohingya activist contacted by AFP said the footage had been verified by a refugee from the nearby camp, Shilkhali.

Analyst David Mathieson said the video "brings into sharp question the government's denials of security

forces abuses in Rakhine since October, when here is sadistic cinema verite of how they are treating the local Muslim population".

Around 600 people have been detained since the start of the military operation, according to state media, including six who died in police custody in largely unexplained circumstances.

Matthew Smith, chief executive of Fortify Rights, said the video adds to a growing body of evidence of widespread abuse by security forces.

"Unfortunately the scene this video depicts isn't unique or an isolated event," he said. "Impunity still rules the day in Rakhine state."

Myanmar has long discriminated against the stateless Rohingya, whom rights groups say are among

the most persecuted peoples in the world.

More than 120,000 have been trapped in squalid displacement camps since violence erupted in 2012 in Rakhine, where they are denied citizenship, access to health care and education.

Over a dozen Nobel laureates wrote to the UN Security Council last week urging action to stop the "human tragedy amounting to ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity" in northern Rakhine.

Under Myanmar's junta-era constitution Suu Kyi's civilian administration has limited power over the army, which maintains control of the defence, home and border ministries.

The video can be viewed at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OvXgnJfZx0>

SHORTAGE OF PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHERS

Schooling hampered in Tangail

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

Academic activities at government primary, registered primary schools in the district are being seriously hampered due to shortage of teachers.

According to the district primary education office, a total of 219 government primary schools and 208 registered primary schools in 12 upazilas of the district are running without any regular headmaster.

Besides, about 470 posts of assistant teachers, including those in 344 government primary schools, are also lying vacant, much to the sufferings of

the school kids and fellow teachers.

As many as 153 posts of headmasters and assistant teachers are lying vacant in Nagarpur upazila, 94 in Gopalpur, 93 each in Mirzapur and Sakhipur, 86 in Ghatail, 79 in Kalihati, 70 in Bhuaipur, 52 each in Sadar and Madhupur, 45 in Basail, 43 in Delduar and 27 in Dhanbari upazila.

A number of teachers and students said shortage of teachers is not only hampering children's education, also other regular activities of the institutions.

In absence of regular headmasters, other teachers performing their duties cannot properly carry out administrative work of the institution due to lack

of experience and training.

Abdus Samad, headmaster of Narandia Government Primary School, also president of Kalihati Government Primary School Teachers' Association, said acute crisis of primary school teachers is depriving the school kids of proper learning.

District Primary Education Officer (DPO) Ataur Rahman said retirement of many teachers in recent time and complications in both recruitment and promotion are the reasons behind prevailing teacher crisis.

Steps are being taken to fill up the vacant posts of the teachers soon, the DPO added.



THE FEDERATION OF BANGLADESH CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (FBCCI)
FEDERATION BHABAN
60, MOTIJHEEL COMMERCIAL AREA, DHAKA-1000
www.fbcci-bd.org

Invitation for Re-Tenders (IFT-Goods)

1. Agency	The Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI)			
2. Procuring Entity Name	President, FBCCI			
3. Procuring Entity Code	Not used			
4. Invitation for	Pkg-I: Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of 1000 KVA Sub-station works. Pkg-II: Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of 400 KVA (Prime) Diesel Generator set & Related Services.			
5. Invitation reference no. & date	Memo no. FBCCU/Hatkola Bhaban/ , Date : 31 Dec, 2016			
6. Procurement Method	Open Tendering Method (OTM)			
7. Budget and Source of Funds	Own fund/GoB			
8. Tender selling date & time	03 January, 2017 to 23 January, 2017 During office hours 10:00AM to 4:00PM & Saturday 10:00AM to 2:00PM			
9. Tender closing date & time	24 January, 2017, at 12:00 noon			
10. Tender opening date & time	24 January, 2017, at 01:30 PM			
11. Name & Address of the office(s) a. Selling Tender Document b. Receiving Tender Document	FBCCI Office, Federation Bhaban, 60, Motijheel Commercial Area, Dhaka-1000 FBCCI Office, Federation Bhaban, 60, Motijheel Commercial Area, Dhaka-1000 FBCCI Office, Federation Bhaban, 60, Motijheel Commercial Area, Dhaka-1000			
12. Place of opening Tender Document	FBCCI Office, Federation Bhaban, 60, Motijheel Commercial Area, Dhaka-1000			
13. Eligibility of Tenderer	<p>Tenderer(s) shall have to fulfill the following eligibility criteria:</p> <p>I. Tenderer(s) shall be Manufacturer or Principal from eligible source countries to participate in the Tender through their authorized local Agent in Bangladesh for Pkg no. I & Pkg no. II.</p> <p>II. Tenderers shall have minimum 5 (five) years specific experience for Pkg no. I & Pkg no. II.</p> <p>III. Experience in successful completion of minimum 2 (two) nos. of supply, installation, Testing and Commissioning of minimum 1000 KVA Sub-station for Pkg. no. I and minimum 2 (two) nos. of supply, installation, Testing and Commissioning of minimum 500 KVA Generator for Pkg. no. II in the last 4 (four) years in Bangladesh. Experience Certificate has to be issued by an Officer similar to the Rank of Executive Engineer with his contact number.</p> <p>IV. Tenderer(s) must have Credit line facilities and/or Liquid assets at least Tk. 75 lac on tender publication date for each Pkg. no. I & Pkg. no. II supported by documentary evidence.</p> <p>V. Tenderer(s) must have complete physical facilities to provide after sale services during and after the warranty period is over for Pkg. no. I & Pkg no. II.</p> <p>VI. Tenderer(s) shall have up to date valid Trade License, Income Tax Certificate with TIN No, VAT Registration Certificate and ABC Electrical Supervisory License for Pkg. no. I & Pkg no. II.</p> <p>N.B. The intending tenderer(s) shall have to submit attested copies of the following Certificates along with application to the Project Director in the Letter Head of the Company to purchase the Tender document(s):</p> <p>I. Certificates confirming the experiences as stated in clause (ii) and (iii) of the Eligibility of Tenderer(s).</p> <p>II. Up to date valid Trade License, Income Tax Certificate with TIN No, VAT Registration Certificate and ABC Electrical Supervisory License.</p>			
14. Price of tender Document (Tk.)	Pkg-I: Tk. 2500.00 (Two thousand five hundred) only, non refundable Pkg-II: Tk. 2000.00 (Two thousand) only, non refundable			
15. Pkg. no.	Name of the Work	Location	Tender Security	Completion Time in Months
Pkg. no. I	Pkg-I: Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of 1000 KVA Sub-station works.	25, Shahid Nazrul Islam Sarak, Hatkhola, Dhaka-1000	Tk. 3,15,000.00 (three lac fifteen thousand in the form of Pay order/Bank draft/Bank Guarantee in favour of FBCCI)	6 (six) months
Pkg. no. II	Pkg-II: Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of 400 KVA (Prime) Diesel Generator set & Related Services.	25, Shahid Nazrul Islam Sarak, Hatkhola, Dhaka-1000	Tk. 1,85,000.00 (one lac eighty five thousand) in the form of Pay order/Bank draft/Bank Guarantee in favour of FBCCI	6 (six) months
16. Name of Official Inviting Tender	Mir Shahabuddin Mohammad			
17. Designation of the Official Inviting Tender	Secretary General, FBCCI.			
18. Address of the Official Inviting Tender	Federation Bhaban, 60, Motijheel Commercial Area, Dhaka-1000			
19. Contract Details	Secretary General Tel-PABX- 9560102-3, 9564174, 9560590 e-mail no- fbcci@bfof-online.com, Website : www.fbcci-bd.org			
20. The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders.				
21. Special instruction	(a) All activities in connection with the said procurement of works will be guided as per rule of "The Public Procurement Rules 2008 and public Procurement Act-2006.			



Mir Shahabuddin Mohammad
Secretary General
FBCCI, Federation Bhaban, 60, Motijheel Commercial Area, Dhaka-1000