

Plaques with Razakar's name removed

A CORRESPONDENT, Magura

The local administration yesterday demolished the plaques of three set-ups named after Chand Ali Shikder, a notorious Razakar (collaborator of the Pakistan occupation forces during the Liberation War).

The demolished plaques were on Chand Ali Shikder Road in Binodpur union, Chand Ali Memorial at Nani Bala High School in the same area and a building of Binodpur Degree College in Mohammadpur upazila of Magura.

Chand Ali Shikder is accused of killing 12 freedom fighters in the area during the Liberation War.

A team from the administration led by Mohammadpur Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) Shaheen Hossain arranged breaking the name plaques yesterday afternoon.

As per the list prepared by the local government ministry, there are 32 roads named after the anti-liberation people in the country and four of them are in Magura district, said local freedom fighters and officials.

Those in Magura district are: Mokhlesur Rahman Road from Chowrangi crossing to

Diana crossing, Habibur Rahman Road from Chowrangi crossing to Natun Bazar area, Wazed Ali Khan Road in Abalpur area in the municipality and the road named after Chand Ali Shikder at Binodpur of Mohammadpur.

The High Court on December 6 last year ordered the administration to demolish all the plaques of roads and installations named after anti-liberation people in different parts of the country within 60 days.

"I removed the name plaques following directive from the local government ministry," said Mohammadpur UNO Shaheen Hossain.

The freedom fighters have breathed a sigh of relief after the demolition of the plaques with names of an anti-liberation person, said Binodpur union Muktiyoddha Sangsad commander Abdur Razzak Mondal.

He hoped that the roads and installations will now be named after freedom fighters.

Muktiyoddha Sangsad's Magura district unit commander Mollah Nabuyat Ali said the administration should immediately remove all other plaques of roads named after the anti-liberation people.

High Court ordered the administration to demolish the plaques of roads and installations named after anti-liberation people.

Coarse rice prices up in Dinajpur, Naogaon

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

The prices of rice, especially of the coarse variety, rose by Tk 2 to Tk 3 a kilogram in the retail and wholesale markets in Dinajpur and Naogaon within the span of a week, much to the worry of the middle and low income people.

According to local traders and rice mill owners, shortage of coarse paddy supply this season is the main reason behind the soaring price.

Traders at different retail rice markets said coarse rice like Swarna was sold for Tk 36 per kilogram, BR-49 for Tk 40 and Pajam for Tk 44 in local markets only a week ago, but the price has gone up by Tk 3 per kilogram within a week.

"It is very unusual as I bought Swarna rice at Tk 38 per kilogram which was Tk 36 only a few days ago," said Abdul Hakim of Baluadanga in Dinajpur municipality.

Abdul Jabbar, a rickshaw van puller in Naogaon town, said he earned about Tk 280 every day but the recent rise in rice price is a worry for him to manage his family of six with his little



income.

"It's a matter of concern for many like me," Jabbar said.

Mokbul Hossain, president of Naogaon retail rice traders' association, said each bag (containing 50kg) of coarse rice has gone up by at least Tk 80 in the last couple of days.

Farhad Hossain, general secretary of Naogaon Chal Kal Malik Group, said rice prices at retail and wholesale markets have gone up due to shortage of paddy of coarse variety this season.

According to the Department of Agriculture Extension (DAE) farmers in Dinajpur and Naogaon cut short their coarse paddy cultivation as they incurred losses in cultivating the item and preferred to cultivate fine rice as it is profitable for them.

While visiting different paddy markets in Dinajpur this correspondent found that each bag of coarse paddy (containing 75kg) is being sold for Tk 1750, which was between Tk 1400 to Tk 1500 a week ago.

NASIRNAGAR INCIDENT
3 more held

A CORRESPONDENT, Brahmanbaria

Police yesterday detained three more people in a case filed in connection with the October 30 attack on Hindu houses and temples in Nasirnagar upazila of the district.

The detainees are Ahammad Ali, 45, Md Mobarak Hossain, 45, and Md Saddam Hossain, 28, of Pashchimpara in the upazila, said police.

"The arrests were made based on several video footages filmed during the attack," said Abu Zafar officer-in-charge of Nasirnagar Police Station.

A group of bigots carried out a synchronised attack on October 30 on Hindu houses in Nasirnagar upazila, vandalised around 100 homes and looted valuables from at least 17 temples over a Facebook post, purportedly from the account of Rasraj Das, a local fisherman.

Police have so far arrested 112 people in the eight cases filed in connection with the attacks.



Santal people form a human chain in front of Bangabandhu Square in Chapainawabganj town yesterday demanding the textbooks in Santal alphabet.

'Prepare textbooks in Santal language'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chapainawabganj

Santal people at a human chain in the district town yesterday demanded for their children textbooks in Roman alphabet, which is used for writing Santal language since 1863.

Chapainawabganj Adivasi Mukti Morcha, Chapainawabganj Uttarbanga Adivasi Forum and Santal Lekhak Forum, Bangladesh organised the human chain in front of Bangabandhu square in the town.

Speakers said responsibility of the government is to ensure that the textbooks are written in the Santal alphabet for Santal children. They urged the government to take steps to save their alphabet.

The Santal children are deprived of

their right to textbooks in their mother language, they said, adding that their language is being used in Roman alphabet in the sub-continent.

They urged the government to prepare pre-primary textbooks with Roman alphabet for Santal children.

The government must protect the languages of the indigenous people and ensure education in their mother tongues, they said.

Later, they submitted memorandums to minister for education and minister for primary and mass education through the deputy commissioner.

Uttarbanga Adivasi Parishad President Hingu Murmu, Adivasi Mukti Morcha President Jogendra Nath Saren, Tabitha Sangbad Editor Stephen Soren and Santal Lekhak Forum Secretary Provat Tuduspoke at the rally.

Rail line blocked for stoppage

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

People of Atrai upazila in Naogaon blocked rail lines again yesterday, demanding scheduled stoppage of intercity trains there.

Several hundred people had blocked the rail lines in Ahsanganj area for an hour on Saturday.

Atrai Upazila Parishad Vice Chairman Momotaz Begum said though five intercity trains pass through the upazila, the people of the upazila could not travel on them as there was no scheduled stoppage there.

Dinajpur-Dhaka intercity train Drujojan got stranded at the station due to the blockade. However, the agitating people allowed it to leave after 45 minutes.

Momotaz, also president of Atrai Mohila League, said the people of Atrai have been agitating for stoppage of intercity trains for long, but their demand has not been met.

She warned of a greater movement for realising the demand.

Stationmaster Saiful Islam said he would inform the authorities about the demand.

Stalker arrested

A CORRESPONDENT, Brahmanbaria

Police have arrested the youth who slapped a girl student inside Akhaura Shaheed Smrity Degree College in the district on Saturday.

The arrestee, Priyotom Ghosh alias Pritom Ghosh, 24, son of Rasmohon Ghosh of Ghoshpara at Radhanagar Mohalla in Akhaura upazila, was held from his house on Sunday midnight, said Mosharraf Hossain Tarafdar, officer-in-charge of Akhaura Police Station.

He had been stalking the girl student for the last two years.

On Saturday noon, he intruded into the college common room and slapped the girl student on the face.

The incident created tension in Akhaura upazila headquarters and the girl's father lodged a written complaint with the police the same day.

Law Minister Anisul Huq, also the local lawmaker, directed the police to arrest the culprit immediately.

Sugarcane farming profitable in flood-prone char land

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gaibandha

Sugarcane farming in flood-prone sandy char lands along Teesta and Jamuna river basin is gaining popularity among farmers as those lands stay under water during the rainy season and fallow in the dry season.

Many of the char lands have been brought under rabi crop farming during dry season using modern techniques of cultivation. Farmers of char lands are now growing maize, boro, kawn, chili and pumpkin during dry season.

Farmers said sugarcane cultivation is more profitable than other crops as they spend less for pesticide and fertilizer and do not need to irrigate the land.

Growers are getting profit of Tk 20,000 to Tk 25,000 per bigha farming sugarcane in barren sandy lands. Earlier, those lands would remain fallow.

Sugarcane is a flood tolerant crop and can survive in stagnant water for a long time. Char people have been farming it for the last few years and getting more profit than from other crops, as a result more farmers are showing interest in sugarcane farming in char lands.

"Sugarcane farming in flood prone

areas is profitable, as those lands are not suitable for other crops because of inundation for a long time," said Ramjan Ali of char Khatiyamari in Fulchhari upazila.

"We spend little for sugarcane farming and get handsome profit. We also sell the produce to sugar mills at Tk 110 per maund," said Amjad Ali, another cane grower.

"I have cultivated sugarcane on three bighas of land and expect a better yield than last year when I harvested 85

maunds from one bigha," said farmer Ismail Hossain.

If the weather is good, a farmer can get 120 to 130 maunds of sugarcane per bigha using HYV variety of seeds, said Gobindaganj Upazila Agriculture Officer Sahara Banu.

Managing Director of Rangpur Sugar Mills Abdul Awal said a large-scale sugarcane cultivation programme will be taken up to use the fallow char lands along Jamuna river basin for the longest possible time.



Youth crushed under train wheels

A CORRESPONDENT, Brahmanbaria

A young man was crushed under the wheels of a train in Brahmanbaria town yesterday.

The identity of the deceased, aged about 20 years, could not be ascertained as of filing of this report at 6:00pm yesterday.

ASI Babul Mia of Brahmanbaria Government Railway Police (GRP) said an Akhaura-bound local train hit the youth while he was crossing the railway track near Shimraikandi area around 1:15pm, leaving him dead on the spot.

Punish Shimul's killer Demand journalists all over the country

STAR COUNTRY DESK

Journalists formed human chains in Sadar and Kawkhali upazilas in Pirojpur, Benapole and Sharsha upazila in Jessore and Chandpur and Satkhira, demanding punishment of the killers of journalist Abdul Hakim Shimul in Shajadpur of Sirajganj.

A human chain was formed in Pirojpur Sadar and Kawkhali upazilas of the district yesterday, demanding exemplary punishment of the killers of daily Samakal correspondent Shimul.

Pirojpur Press Club and Samakal well-wishers' organisation arranged the programme at Club Road of the

Abducted college girl rescued

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

Police on Sunday night rescued a college girl and arrested the prime suspect of her abduction, seven days after the incident.

The girl, 17, a Higher Secondary Certificate examinee of Holy Child International School and College in Mymensingh Sadar upazila, was abducted allegedly by Sarwar Hasan Nayan, 26, and his associates from Dapunia in the upazila on January 29, police said.

Sarwar, son of Abdul Kadir of the area, used to tease the girl for long, said family members.

Police rescued the victim from a house at Seedstore in Bhaluka upazila of Mymensingh and arrested Sarwar from there around 11:15pm on Sunday, said Saiful Islam Mondol, sub-inspector of Kotwali Police Station.

Police earlier arrested six people including Sarwar's two uncles and driver of the microbus used in the abduction, said the officer-in-charge of Kotwali Police Station.

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Capacity Building of Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority Project
Implementing Agency
Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority
BEPZA Complex
House # 19/D, Road # 06, Dhanmondi, Dhaka-1205
No. 03.307.026.00.00.140.2016-130 Dated: 02 February 2017

Request for Expression of Interest (EOI) for Selection of Social Counselor (National)

The Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh (GOB) has received a loan and DFID Grant (IDA Credit No. 4866 BD and DFID Grant No. TF 099730) from the IDA for Capacity Building of Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority (BEPZA) and it is intended that part of the proceeds of this loan and grant will be applied to appoint Social Counselors to train and motivate the workers working in the industries located in different EPZs. Application is open for the qualified persons who have qualification stated under clause of this notice.

2. **The main task of the counselors shall be:**
 - a) Implementation of "The EPZ Workers Association & Industrial Relations Act, 2010 (Act No-43 of 2010) phase wise".
 - b) Implementation of BEPZA Instruction No. 1 & 2 of 1989.
 - c) Improvement of workers morale.
 - d) Achieving optimum productivity.
 - e) Minimizing workers grievances.
 - f) Ensuring the proper working environment in the factory premises (as per ILS).
 - g) Ensuring human rights and legal rights of the workers concerned.
 - h) Boost up the participation of female workers in Workers Welfare Association and Executive Committee.
 - i) Motivating workers in learning English and computer operation.
3. **No. of Post: Only 01 (one) person will be appointed.**
4. **Qualifications & experience:**
 - a) At least 2nd class Masters degree in any subject and or LLB/MBA from recognized University or equivalent degree preferably with diploma in HR or Industrial Management.
 - b) Two years experience in a large industrial unit/NGO/Marketing Company/Law Firm/Govt. and Semi-Govt. organisation.
 - c) Practical experience in Human Resources Management from any reputed Labor intensive industrial unit will be given preference.
 - d) Fluency in spoken and written both in Bangla & English is essential.
 - e) Shall have sound knowledge in computer operation.
5. **Other terms and conditions:**
 - a) Age limit: 45 years maximum (As on February 19, 2017).
 - b) Duration of employment: Temporary.
 - c) Monthly Pay (Consolidated): Negotiable.
 - d) Place of work: Industries location in EPZs of Bangladesh (Chittagong, Karnaphuli, Dhaka, Adamjee, Comilla, Mongla, Ishwardi, Uttara (Nilphamari) EPZs.
6. **All application must be accompanied by:**
 - a) Attested copies of the academic certificates.
 - b) Attested copy of Nationality Certificate/Voter ID.
 - c) 2 (two) copies of attested passport photographs.
 - d) Experience certificates.
7. The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all application without assigning any reason whatsoever.
8. Any persuasion by the applicant will be treated as disqualification.
9. The Social Counselors will be selected under the operating cost of Financing Agreement as an increment staff. Interested applicant shall obtain information at the address below from 0900 to 1700 hours in working days or visiting website www.bepza.gov.bd
10. Application must be delivered to the address below by 4.00pm on February 19, 2017.

Md. Ashraf Kabir
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