

Tension over holding tax heats up in Ctg Kordata Surakhkha Parishad, mayor's supporters face off

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

The tension between the Kordata Surakhkha Parishad Chattogram and the followers of city Mayor Rezaul Karim Chowdhury over holding tax is heating up.

Several hundred leaders and activists of Chhatra League formed a human chain and rallied in front of Chatogram Press Club yesterday, demanding the arrest of the Parishad president Nurul Absar over his recent remarks about the mayor.

Habibur Rahman Tarek, president of Omar Gani MES College unit of BCL, presided over the programme.

BCL activists from Government City College, Omar Gani MES College and Hazi Muhammad Mohsin College mostly took part in the rally, said sources.

The speakers warned the Parishad leaders of resisting them on the streets if they make any "derogatory" comments about the mayor in future.

Meanwhile, the Parishad brought out a procession from the city's Kadamtoli intersection that paraded some thoroughfares.

Contacted, Amir Uddin, its general secretary, said their procession was heading towards Chatogram Press Club. On the way, police requested them not to go there to avert an untoward situation. "As a result, we concluded the procession at Kodomtoli," he said.

Kordata Surakhkha Parishad Chattogram, a citizens' platform to protect taxpayers' rights, has been demonstrating for over a month against increased holding tax under the new assessment system.

Recently, a video went viral on social media where the Parishad president warned the mayor of driving him out of the city if he does not stop charging an increased holding tax.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 5

One killed, ten hurt in Rangpur road accidents

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

A man was killed and 10 were injured in three separate road accidents in Rangpur yesterday, said police.

At the city's Hasna Mor, the helper of a trucker was killed and the driver was injured as it hit another truck from behind.

The deceased was identified as Alamgir Hossain (34) of Modern Mor area in Rangpur.

Quoting locals, police said the Modern Mor bound truck hit another at Hasna Mor after one of its front tyres burst.

Fire service personnel rescued injured Jalal Mia, and sent him to Rangpur Medical College Hospital.

In another accident, seven bus passengers were injured as it fell into a ditch beside Dinajpur-Rangpur highway at Hajirmon.

The injured were taken to RMCH, confirmed Badsha Masum Alam, station officer of Rangpur Fire Service and Civil Defence.

Meanwhile, a driver and his helper were injured after a sand-laden truck plunged into a ditch after the driver lost his control over the vehicle in Keranihat area.

Road blocked for two hours demanding climate justice

A CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

Activists of various voluntary and non-government organisations observed a protest programme by blocking Kaliganj-Shyamnagar regional highway for two hours yesterday in Shyamnagar of Satkhira, demanding climate justice.

Sundarbans' Student

SEE PAGE 4 COL 6



GONE TOO SOON

The last of Lawachhara's African Teak Oak

MINTU DESHWARA

Among the 167 species of plants in Moulvibazar's Lawachhara forest, two rare species of trees, known as the "African Teak Oak", were the elements that attraction for hundreds of tourists to the forest.

Typically, this species of trees live upto 500 years.

The larger one between the two was uprooted during a storm around 15 years ago. Since then, the one remaining became the only trace of the species in Bangladesh.

But now, even that lone tree is slowly dying.

The researchers of Bangladesh Forest Research Institute have announced that the tree is dying, after collecting some samples of its roots, which have been rotting for quite a few days now.

Adding that not much can be done to revive the tree, scientists said whether the death is coming at its natural course or influenced

by any external factors, can only be determined after thorough research on the collected samples.

Sylhet Divisional Forest Officer Rezaul Karim Chowdhury said, "We think the around 100 feet tree was planted here in the 1930s. Probably the British brought the tree and planted it. It hasn't been found anywhere else in Bangladesh."

A British official planted several saplings of the African tree in Lawachhara, only two of which survived, said Saju Marchiang, a Lawachhara resident.

Lawachhara National Park's Bit Officer Md Anisuzzaman said,

"With the demise of the country's only surviving teak tree, a century old legacy in this region will also end."

Director of Forest Research Institute Rafiqul Haider said the soil under the base of this tree was changed a year ago. They initially thought the tree died due to some bacteria that came with the fresh

soil.

Md Zillur Rahman, research officer of Forest Conservation Department of Bangladesh Forest Research Institute, and Abdul Rashed Molla, research officer of its Soil Science Department, were in the team that collected they dying tree's root samples recently.

"A plant may die due to a disease, insects, microorganisms or soil problems. It can also happen because of multiple other factors. We cannot immediately tell what happened," he said.

"The sample roots and the soil around the tree will be researched and analysed in the laboratory of our institute, after which we can submit a report on the matter to the relevant authorities," he added.

Rashed Molla said, "The tree is still partially alive. But the chance of survival is very low because its roots have rotted. Since it can't produce food, it's dying."



Marking global climate strike, various climate activists and organisations, including Fridays for Future Bangladesh, held a rally in front of Jatiya Press Club yesterday. They demanded a stop to activities harmful to the environment, increased use of renewable energy, and climate justice.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

Is this the way to treat a champion?

SAFF winner Akhi's family in legal trouble over land gifted by PM

AHMED HUMAYUN KABIR TOPU, Pabna

When the entire nation has been celebrating the victory of female football players for winning SAFF Women's Championship, footballer Akhi Khutun's family from Sirajganj's Shahjadpur upazila is facing legal trouble for a land gifted to her by the prime minister.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on June 4 gifted the piece of khas land to Akhi, who won the golden boot in SAFF U-18 Women's Championship, for building a house.

A local court on September 19 imposed section 144 on the eight-decimal land and ordered local administration to submit a report.

Since then, her family has been facing legal troubles regarding the ownership of this land. A local man filed a case with the court claiming the land originally belongs to a mosque.

Akhi's father Md Akter Hossain said, "I am a labourer. I am lucky that my daughter has been performing well for the nation. When we got the prime minister's gift, we were elated. Now I am worried if we will ever get possession of the government-donated land."

Akter also blamed the local administration for giving him the



Akhi's family was gifted an eight-decimal land from the prime minister for winning the golden boot in SAFF U-18 Women's Championship. However, what was meant to be a new start for the family turned into a series of perilous legal battles as her family has been facing legal troubles regarding the ownership of this land.

PHOTO: STAR

"disputed land".

"When the land was selected by the local administration, they might not have checked the land's present situation. When I visited the spot, I came to know that this is a wet land, occupied by others in the name of building a mosque," he said.

Shahjadpur UNO, however, said the khas land is under Khotian No-1, so this is originally government land. "Nobody has the right to occupy the land. If the right papers are submitted at the court as per its order, the complexity will be

resolved," he said.

Meanwhile, two policemen of Shahjadpur Police Station have been closed and attached to the district police lines on charges of misbehaving with the family members over the land issue. Akhi's father said the two policemen visited his family to deliver the court order on September 21 and misbehaved with them. A committee was formed to investigate the matter, said Additional Superintendent of Police (Shahjadpur circle) Md Hasibul Islam.

2 govt hospitals limping along Understaffing, equipment shortage hamper services in Narsingdi

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Narsingdi

The two government hospitals in Narsingdi are struggling to provide healthcare services to patients due to a shortage of doctors and basic equipment.

Around 800-1,000 service seekers come to Narsingdi Sadar Hospital and Narsingdi District 100 bed Hospital every day, from Narsingdi, Kishoreganj and Brahmanbaria.

Patients alleged that doctors mostly remain absent as they remain engaged at some 40-45 private hospitals around these two government facilities.

The doctors also refer patients to private hospitals for "proper treatment", stating limitations at the government facilities.

Besides, most doctors are reluctant to get into such government facilities in the first place, meaning most of the openings remain vacant.

Sources at Narsingdi District 100 bed Hospital said out of 33 doctor's posts, only 13 are currently filled. There is only one pharmacist against six,

SEE PAGE 4 COL 6



AGRANI BANK LIMITED

ESTABLISHMENT & ENGINEERING DIVISION

HEAD OFFICE, 9/D DILKUSHA C/A, MOTIJHEEL, DHAKA

Invitation For Tenders (IFT)

1. Procuring Entity Name	Agrani Bank Limited, Establishment & Engineering Division, Head office (7th floor), 9/D. Dilksa, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000.		
2. Procuring Entity District	Dhaka.		
3. Invitation for	Supply & Installation of an Air Cooler for Agrani Bank Limited, Jatiya Press Club Corporate Branch, Dhaka.		
4. Invitation Ref No	F&E: ENGG/ MECHA-2/370/2022		
5. Date	Date : 21/09/2022		
6. Procurement Method	Open Tendering Method (OTM).		
7. Budget and Source of Funds	Own fund of Agrani Bank Limited		
8. Tender Publication Date	21/09/2022		
9. Tender Last Selling Date	25/10/2022 during office hour		
10. Tender Receiving Date and Time	26/10/2022 at 10:00 AM to 03:00 PM		
11. Tender Closing Date and Time	26/10/2022 at 03:00 PM		
12. Tender Opening Date and Time	26/10/2022 at 03:15 PM in presence of Tenderers or their representatives (if any present)		
13. Name & Address of the office (s)	Selling Tender Document		
	Agrani Bank Limited, Establishment & Engineering Division, Head office (7th Floor), 9/D, Dilksa, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka.		
	Selling Tender Document (Others)		
	N/A		
	Receiving Tender Document		
	Agrani Bank Limited, Establishment & Engineering Division, Head Office (7th Floor), 9/D, Dilksa, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000.		
	Opening Tender Document		
	DGM's Chamber, Agrani Bank Limited, Establishment & Engineering Division, Head Office (7th Floor), 9/D. Dilksa, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka 1000.		
14. Completion Time	14 days from the date of Contract Signing.		
15. Brief Description of Goods	Any brand manufactured or assembled in Bangladesh/China/ Turkey/Vietnam or equivalent to these countries accepted/ approved by the bank authority in accordance with fulfillment of the given specifications and having relevant certificates as mentioned & as per detailed specifications & standard as mentioned in STD		
	Sl. No.	Capacity	Type
	01	4 6000-48000 BTU/Hr	Cassette
16. Brief Description of Related Services	As mentioned in STD.		
17. Tender Document Price	Tk. 500.00 (Taka Five Hundred) only per set (non-refundable) by Pay order/ Bank Draft from any scheduled bank in favour of Agrani Bank Limited, Head Office, Dhaka.		
18. Tender Security Money (Tk)	The amount of the Tender Security will be 5,176/- (Five Thousand One Hundred Seventy Six Taka Only) in the form of Pay Order/Bank Draft (refundable) from any branch of Agrani Bank Limited in favour of Agrani Bank Limited, Head office, Dhaka.		
19. Name of Official Inviting Tender	Md. Yousef Khan		
20. Designation of Official Inviting Tender	Deputy General Manager.		
21. Address of Official Inviting Tender	Agrani Bank Limited, Establishment & Engineering Division, Head Office (7th floor), 9/D. Dilksa, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka.		
22. Contact details of Official Inviting Tender	Deputy General Manager, Establishment & Engineering Division, Agrani Bank Limited, Head Office (7th floor), 9/D. Dilksa, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka. Tel: 02-223381674; e-mail: dgmeed@agranibank.org.		
23. Special Instructions	<p>i. Tender security money must be submitted along with the tender documents through Pay Order: Bank Draft favoring Agrani Bank Limited, Head Office, Dhaka from any branch of Agrani Bank Limited.</p> <p>ii. If it is not possible to receive/ open the tender on the schedule date & time for any unavoidable circumstances the same will be received/ open on the next working date at the same time & same venue.</p> <p>iii. All submitted documents must be signed by the tenderer in every page of tender. All photo copy must be attested as per prevailing Laws & Rules.</p> <p>iv. If the tenderer submits any false, incorrect or forged certificate, action may be taken as per PPA-2006 and PPR-20</p>		