'BCL men' beat up journo at **PUST**

OUR CORRESPONDENT,

A university reporter of Pabna University of Science and Technology (PUST) was beaten allegedly by Chhatra League activists yesterday, over issuing a press release.

The victim Abdulla Al Mamun, university correspondent of the daily Noya Shotabdi, a student of statistics and joint convener of PUST Press Club -- is undergoing treatment at Pabna Medical College Hospital.

Mamun said the press club had issued a release protesting the recent attack on journalists at Jagannath University.

Following this, BČL men intercepted Durjoy Kumar, secretary of the press club, at the university cafeteria yesterday and asked him to withdraw the release.

"When I came to know the matter and went to the spot, BCL men attacked me," Mamun alleged.

"After assaulting me they took us to the PUST proctor who defended the attackers," Mamun said.

Contacted, Proctor Dr Kamal Hossain denied the allegation. "If I get a written complain, I will take action in this regard," said the proctor.

Faridul Islam Babu, president of the university unit of BCL, said he is not involved in any such attack and unaware of the incident.

BATIBARI CANAL

Once a lifeline, now a source of misery

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bagerhat

Batibari Canal in the Khanjahanpally-Gobardia area of Bagerhat Sadar's Karapara union is now on the verge of extinction.

Running nearly three kilometres, this crucial waterway has fallen prey to relentless encroachment by powerful individuals over the past three decades.

As a result, the canal's navigability has significantly declined, making it nearly invisible during the dry season.

With the canal now being a narrow ditch, accumulated rainwater following drizzles is unable to flow into it and thus inundates the nearby areas.

With waterlogging a regular occurrence amid rains, the local's plight has reached a breaking point.

Desperate for a solution, residents have appealed to various governmental bodies, including the district administration and Bagerhat municipality, but to no avail. Unless immediate action is taken. Batibari canal's tragic fate seems all but certain, the locals added.

The recent downpour has filled the canal to the brim, spilling over onto nearby roads and houses. Among the debris clogging the waterway, heaps of waste and wooden pilings obstruct the canal's flow, exacerbating the problem.

This canal was once a vital resource for daily chores, such as bathing and washing dishes. However, due to pollution and encroachment, people have been forced to stop using the canal entirely, said Md Kamal, a local.

"The stench from the canal water is unbearable," he added.

Shariful Islam, another local, blamed the lack of proper water drainage system for waterlogging in the areas.



"The illegal structures on the canal's banks further add to the clogging. The canal needs to be restored as soon as possible," he urged. Rustam Ali Mallik, a local,

has been tirelessly advocating for the canal's restoration. He blamed locally influential people, including Selim Kabir alias Selim Muhuri and Zahangir Kazi Babu for the encroachment.

However, the issue remains unsolved despite his repeated appeals to various government offices, including the district commissioner's office, he said.

"The situation demands immediate intervention from the administration. It is $necessary \, to free \, the \, canal \, from \, encroach ment$ and safeguard it for the community's benefit," he added.

Contacted, both Selim and Zahangir denied the allegations.

"I have the land's records in my name. I have not grabbed any canal land," said Selim.

Local union parishad member Shafiqul Islam said, "Dams erected at various points along the canal have contributed to its decline. I have repeatedly informed the administration about the urgency of saving the canal."

Masum Billah, executive engineer of Water Development Board in Bagerhat, said a comprehensive project aimed at re-excavating several canals, including Batibari, has been

"The project awaits approval from the relevant authorities," he said.

Contacted on July 20, Bagerhat Deputy Commissioner, Mohammad Azizur Rahman, said, "This year alone, several canals have been freed of illegal encroachments, signaling the government's determination to reclaim the region's vital water channels. I have instructed the UNO to take necessary measures as soon as possible."

AL LEADER'S DEATH Two weeks gone, no headway yet

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

No headway has been made into the investigation 14 daysafter an Awami League leader was found dead in Kishoreganj.

Police recovered the body of Badal Rahman, 62, industry and trade affairs secretary of the district AL, from a pond at the town's Char Sholakia on July 9.



Badal, a father of two, was also former president of Kishoreganj Chamber of Commerce and Industry, said police.

Kishoreganj Sadar Police Station Officer-in-Charge (investigation) Shamol Miah told this correspondent that they are probing into the incident with "utmost" importance since the body SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

41st BCS results likely this month

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The result of 41st BCS may come before the 40th BCS non-cadre recruitment recommendations.

The Bangladesh Public Service Commission in a meeting yesterday decided that they will not keep the final result of a BCS examination unpublished due to incomplete works of previous BCS.

The meeting was held to decide on the final result of 41st BCS and recruitment in non-cadre posts from the 40th BCS.

The top priority of the PSC is now publishing the final result of the 41st examination. We are working on that," a PSC official told The Daily Star, seeking anonymity.

The circular of 41st BCS was published on 27 November of 2019. A record number of 475,000 applicants registered for the preliminary exam. This BCS was supposed to appoint 2,135 officials for different posts. However, the number of posts increased to 2,505 later.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 6

উন্নয়নের গণতন্ত্র

শেখ হাসিনার মূলমন্ত্র

Date: 23-07-2023

SI, two others sued over extortion

COURT CORRESPONDENT

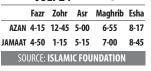
sub-inspector of Hatiriheel Police Station and two others were sued vesterday for extorting Tk 1 lakh from a man earlier this month.

The accused Mohammad Zahid Hossain, Ayesha Ruby, and her husband Jasimuddin Ravat.

Azad Mahbub, a resident of Rampura, filed the case with the Court of Metropolitan Magistrate Md Ashek Imam against the three.

After the hearing, the magistrate statement of recorded complainant and ordered Police Bureau of Investigation to look into the matter and submit a probe report by August 28. SEE PAGE 4 COL 7





Govt using 'digital tools' to oppress people: Fakhrul

UNB, Dhaka

BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir yesterday alleged that the government is using "internet shutdown" as a weapon to suppress the movement of the opposition.



chairperson's Gulshan office, he said the current regime is also using the Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission as a tool to oppress people. Apart from the internet shutdown, he said

the government has continued various other forms of digital torture, including monitoring the smartphones of the opposition leaders, violating their personal privacy, and checking their cell phones.

The BNP leader demanded the government immediately repeal the Digital Security Act.

Fakhrul highlighted the incident of shutting down mobile internet services during BNP's rally in front of its Nayapaltan central office on July 12 and during BNP's divisional rallies in Khulna, Barisal, Faridpur, Sylhet, Cumilla, Rajshahi and Dhaka in November and December last year. According to a report released by digital rights

watchdog Access Now this year, the BNP leader said Bangladesh ranked fifth in terms of the number of internet shutdowns. He said four countries -India 84 times, Ukraine 22 times, Iran 18 times, and Myanmar 7 times -- shut down the internet due to a state of insurgency or a war-like situation.

BNP has become desperate for power **Quader tells** Noakhali rally

BSS, Noakhali

Awami 🛮 Secretary Obaidul $Q\,u\,a\,d\,e\,r$



said the country's people do not support BNP as they know if the party goes to power, it will destroy the country.

Quader addressing a "peace and development" rally at Basurhat upazila in Noakhali.

He said 70 percent people of Bangladesh are waiting eagerly to cast their votes in favour of Sheikh Hasina. But BNP to give only 10 seats to AL. BNP has become desperate for power.

Expressing hope that the next polls will be free, fair and neutral, he urged foreign elections observers to send officials to Bangladesh.



Students bring out a candle march from the Central Shaheed Minar to Dhaka University's Shamsun Nahar Hall yesterday evening to commemorate the police attack on students of the hall on July 23, 2002. Around 200 female students were injured as police charged batons on them after they protested against Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal leaders on the campus.

CCC/PRD-22/23-24

Size: 11" x 4 Col

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Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

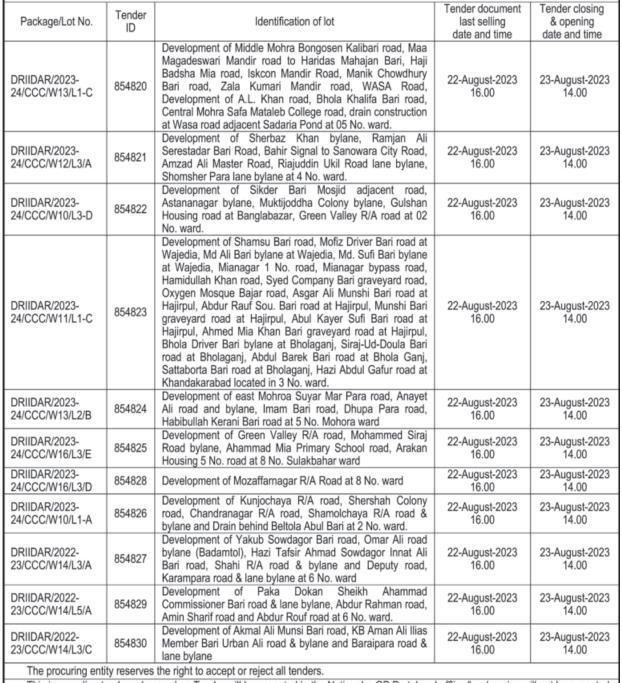


Chattogram City Corporation Tigerpass, Chattogram www.ccc.gov.bd

Memo No. 46.11.1600.002.14.23.0069

e-Tender Notice – DRIIDARP/2023-24/01

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



This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and offline/hard copies will not be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank branches up to particular date and time specified on the tender notice.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

> Md. Jashim Uddin Deputy Project Director "Different Roads and Important Infrastructural Development including Airport Road under Chattogram City Corporation" & Executive Engineer Chattogram City Corporation