

Fulfill demands of students

Two partners of AL's 14-party alliance urge govt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Workers Party of Bangladesh and Bangladesh Tarikat Federation, two partners of the Awami League led-14 party alliance, yesterday urged the government to immediately fulfill the nine-point demand of the protesting students.

In separate meetings, the parties also urged the government to sit with the leadership of the agitating students to resolve the crisis.

"A solution could be reached by ensuring justice to the killing of students during the protests, compensation for the dead and injured, opening of educational institutions and other demands of the students. If the leadership of the student protests agrees, the Workers Party can help start that process," said its president Rashed Khan Menon.

Meanwhile, Tarikat Federation urged the government to take the leading role in resolving the crisis.

AL, BNP

FROM PAGE 3 ATTACK ON BNP LEADERS' HOUSE

Mohammad Idris, former office secretary of Chattogram city unit BNP, said some 200 people threw stones at the car parking of Shahadat Hossain's apartment at Badshah Miah Road.

They torched two cars and vandalised eight others.

He alleged the attackers were ruling party men.

"The Awami League men also vandalised the residence of Amir Khasru Mahmud Chowdhury in Mehediagh area," he said.

Afterwards, they vandalised the residence of Chattogram city unit BNP convener Ershad Ullah in Panchlaish Residential Area.

Santosh Chakma, officer-in-charge of Panchlaish Police Station, could not be contacted for comments. Comments from the protest organisers or AL leaders were not available immediately.



Located between Patuakhali Sadar and Baufal upazilas, around an acre land of Kashipur canal is being filled up with sand for setting up a kitchen market with car parking.

PHOTO: STAR

Canal land grabbed for kitchen market

Locals allege Patuakhali-2 MP gave the directive

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

Around an acre land of Kashipur canal, located between Patuakhali Sadar and Baufal upazilas, is being filled up with sand for setting up a kitchen market with car parking.

The work is being done allegedly upon the directive of ASM Feroz, lawmaker of Patuakhali-2 (Bauphal) constituency, while being supervised by Majnu Howladar, chairman of local Adabaria Union Parishad.

According to locals, Bangladesh Water Development Board constructed a sluice gate and a dyke on the 300-foot wide canal around 1990, before the Local Government Engineering

Department constructed the Patuakhali-Baufal road on the dyke to connect Baufal, Galachipa and Dasmina upazilas with Patuakhali district town.

As such, Kashipur became the junction where the three roads to Patuakhali Sadar, Baufal and Galachipa upazilas meet, thereby paving way for hundreds of businesses emerge on the canal's banks, which eventually led to its encroachment.

Some local businessmen at Kashipur market, wishing anonymity, said the local UP chairman plans to expand the market and began filling up sand across one acre of the canal's land as part of it.

Some of the land may also be sold as plots later, they alleged.

"The market lacks adequate space. Often, fish and vegetables have to be kept on the busy road adjacent to the market due to space constraint. To ease the shop-owners at the market, the UP chairman has initiated to expand the market by filling up some portion of the canal," said Mojibur Rahman Howladar, a local UP member.

Contacted, UP chairman Manju Howladar claimed he has only been supervising the market's expansion upon directive of local lawmaker ASM Feroz.

"The road here is very narrow while numerous different vehicles including buses and trucks ply it every day. The kitchen market is largely set

up on the road, which makes it difficult for the shop-owners to run their businesses smoothly. So, lawmaker ASM Feroz directed to fill up some portion of the canal to provide space for the market. I am only supervising the work," he said.

ASM Feroz said the initiative has been taken in public interest.

"The canal has already been gradually filled up and largely abandoned, and hardly comes to any use," he added.

Contacted, Patuakhali Deputy Commissioner Noor Qutubul Alam said he was unaware about the canal filling.

"It is illegal to fill up or encroach on canals. Necessary legal actions will be taken in this regard after inquiry," he added.

74 villages submerged, thousands affected

15 points in flood control dams breached in Feni

UNB, Feni

Floodwaters have breached 15 points in the flood control embankments of the Muhuri, Kahua, and Shilonia rivers in Feni's Fulgazi and Parshuram upazilas, inundating 74 villages.

As a result, 28,000 families are stranded, with 64 families relocated to safer areas. By Saturday afternoon, river water levels had risen 220 centimetres above the danger mark.

Fulgazi Upazila Nirbahi Officer Tania Bhuiya reported that the area was first hit by floods on July 1. On August 2, the embankments of the Muhuri, Kahua, and Shilonia rivers broke once more, worsening the situation for residents. Continuous rainfall and upstream runoff have caused a significant rise in river water levels.

The rising waters of the Muhuri, Shilonia, and Kahua rivers have submerged six unions in Fulgazi upazila, affecting 43 villages and isolating 8,000 families.

According to the Water Development Board, water levels are currently 10 centimetres above the danger mark. The Feni Bilonia regional highway is also submerged in Fulgazi and Parshuram, severing road communication with the district.

New areas continue to be inundated.

Parshuram Upazila Nirbahi Officer Afroja Habib Shapla stated that approximately 20,000 people are stranded due to the floods caused by excessive rainfall and upstream runoff. The WDB reports that the Muhuri River is flowing 150 centimetres above the danger level, with the number of stranded families increasing daily.

In response to the crisis, the Fulgazi Upazila administration has distributed dry food to 300 families and prepared an additional 250 food packages. They have distributed 13 tonnes of rice and stockpiled 5 tonnes. The Parshuram Upazila administration has distributed 550 packages of dry food.

Abu Abdullah from Mirzanganj area reported that he has never seen water enter homes with such force. "We are struggling through the night," he said.

Mohammed Khalil Ullah added, "Normally, this high ground does not flood, but the heavy rainfall has submerged roads, homes, crops, and fish ponds. If the water level rises further, the situation will become dire."

Jasim Uddin, chairman of Chitholia Union Parishad, criticised the Water Development Board (WDB) for negligence, which has led to repeated breaches in the flood control embankments.

28,000 families are stranded, with 64 families relocated to safer areas. By Saturday afternoon, river water levels had risen 220 centimetres above the danger mark.

Who will call

FROM PAGE 5

during the unrest and died in Kurmitola Hospital. I got a call after he died, and then I brought his body back to Barguna," said Liton's elder brother Bashir Matubbar.

"Liton not only supported our parents, he also used to help us. He took care of all of us despite being the youngest," he added.

"My brother was not involved in any politics. Then why was he shot? How do we accept his death?," asked Bashir.

Solidarity amid strife

FROM PAGE 3

They called for lifting the curfew, reopening of educational institutions, stopping the harassment of students and the public, providing compensation to the families of those killed, treatment for injured protesters, and addressing the protesters' demands promptly.

They also urged a national dialogue to resolve the crisis.

The Bangladesh Krishak Sangram Samiti expressed solidarity with the students' demands, emphasising the difficulties in receiving education and unemployment after graduation.

They condemned the

government's authoritarian response and urged the eradication of the entire authoritarian system to advance the movement for public liberation.

Under the banner of "Development Professionals' Alliance for Freedom and Justice", around a thousand development professionals from different organisations yesterday joined a rally at Justice Shahabuddin Park in Gulshan.

Rubaiyath Sarwar, a development professional and researcher, read the official statement, strongly asserting that injustice and state-led brutality must end, and that the people's right to speak and write must prevail.

"Bangladesh cannot afford to lose any more of its people in the fight for democracy," he added.

Various bands, solo musicians, lyricists, and composers organised the "Get Up Stand Up" event at Dhanmondi's Rabindra Sarobar to show solidarity with the student movement. Over 5,000 people attended the event, later marching to the Central Shaheed Minar.

Musicians outside Dhaka also expressed solidarity by organising similar events in their respective districts. Artists created banners and t-shirts with lines from Bangla songs that have historically inspired movements and protests.

Hamin Ahmed, the current president of Bamba and a member of Miles, said, "We want no more shootings, no arrests, and a proper investigation into those who have lost their lives."

He went

FROM PAGE 5
so happy for him."

"He was not involved with any political parties as he had no interest in politics. My son hoped to get a job after finishing his internship, with which he would support our family."

Farida has been inconsolable since Hasan's death. She keeps fainting over and over again, and has stopped eating properly while grieving for her son, according to family members.

Hasan's father, Jamal Uddin, who is an NGO worker, said he last spoke to his son on the afternoon of July 18. Hasan planned to return to Noakhali by a bus once the situation improved.

However, Hasan did not return. He was the oldest of three brothers and sisters. His younger brother is a ninth-grade student in a high school in the district town, while their youngest sister is a fourth-grade student.

PRAYER TIMING					
AUGUST 4					
Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha	
4:20	12:45	5:00	6:47	8:15	
JAMAAT	4:55	1:15	5:15	6:50	8:45
SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION					

2,000 families

FROM PAGE 5

Brahmaputra river has become blocked over the years and is therefore unable to serve its purpose anymore, further worsening waterlogging, they also said.

Moreover, as there is no dustbin in the area, people are compelled to leave their garbage in the open, thereby posing risk of environmental and health hazards, the locals added.

"Even though the Mymensingh City Corporation authority has been repeatedly claiming to be working on solving waterlogging menace by

construction of new drains and repair of old ones across city areas, there is no visible development in the city's drainage system," alleged Nazrul Islam Chunnun, convener of a citizens' forum.

Md Rafiqul Islam Miah, chief engineer of MCC, said, "A Tk 10 crore project to construct a culvert has been taken for Balashpur Madhyapara area to drain away rainwater."

"The work would be completed by October. We are also working to unblock the drains in the area," he added.

Don't try to buy

FROM PAGE 3

students, who were unjustly arrested in false cases, and also demanded the withdrawal of the cases.

Fakhruul alleged that the government is pushing the country towards an extreme conflict by providing the ruling party cadres with the arms, to

suppress the movement by killing and torturing the students and people.

"The Awami League government is solely responsible for all the killings, destruction, anarchy and crisis as it tried to brutally suppress the student-led mass movement," he said.

Why did they shoot

FROM PAGE 5

Abdul Gani Mridha, elder brother of Jahangir, said Jahangir lived in a rented house with his wife and two children in the Rayerbagh bus stand area. Due to poverty, Jahangir was not able to provide Sujana with an education.

He demanded that the government take responsibility for his late brother's wife and children.

Laiju Begum said as they had no food left in

the house, Jahangir had ventured out of their home on the morning of July 19.

"Who will take responsibility for the death of my innocent husband? Who will judge his killers? How will I survive now with my two sons?" she asked.

Sujan said, "My father did not participate in the movement. He does not support any political party. So why was my father shot? I want his death to be investigated."

Are they even

FROM PAGE 3

curfew is going on and in light of recent attacks on Narsingdi District Jail.

Shamsuzzaman Ome, a seventh semester student of Dhaka University's Institute of Education and Research, was arrested from Uttara area on July 18. He was in Dhaka Central Jail in Keraniganj after a Dhaka court ordered to send him to jail.

Like Shahrear's family, his near ones could not meet him or talk in over two weeks.

"He was never arrested before. Police arrested him this time as he went to a logical movement. We do not know yet how he was in the police custody and in jail now," a relative of Ome told The Daily Star, preferring anonymity.

Suvash Kumar Ghose, senior jail super of Dhaka Central Jail, said they suspended meeting with inmates for security reasons amid the ongoing events.

He said there are 9,921 inmates in the jail now against the capacity of 4,590, which is almost a regular scenario.

"We often transfer inmates to four jails in Gazipur when it is overcrowded. The transfer was also suspended for some days due to road conditions," he added.

Contacted, Mashur Rahman, senior secretary to the security services division of Home Ministry, said "As unrest is going on in the country, we have stopped phone call and meeting with inmates at all of the country's jails."

"We will restore this service once the situation becomes normal," he added.

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Government of The People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of The Director
Chittagong Medical College Hospital
www.cmch.gov.bd

Memo No: CMCH/Tender/2024-2025/e-GP/Non-MSR (Diet & Non-Diet)/9070 Date: 03-08-2024.

:e-GP Tender Notice (Time Extension):

The following corrections are hereby made on the tender notice of Procurement of Non-MSR Goods (Diet & Non-Diet) Tender for Chittagong Medical College Hospital in the fiscal year 2024-2025 vide the office reference no: **CMCH/Tender/2024-2025/e-GP/Non-MSR (Diet & Non-MSR)/7081 Date: 22-06-2024.**

SL. No.	Tender Id	Name of Goods	Previous Timeline		Correction Made	
			Tender/ Proposal Last Selling Date & Time	Tender/ Proposal Closing & Opening Date & Time	Tender/ Proposal Last Selling Date & Time	Tender/ Proposal Closing & Opening Date & Time
1	999517	Procurement of Diet goods (Milk, Bread, Egg, Banana etc) for the fiscal year 2024-2025.	21-July-2024 14:00	22-July-2024 14:00	08-August-2024 14:00	11-August-2024 14:00
2	999518	Procurement of Diet Goods (Dressed Mutton & Chicken Meat etc) for the fiscal year 2024-2025.	21-July-2024 14:00	22-July-2024 14:00	08-August-2024 14:00	11-August-2024 14:00

The other terms and conditions will remain unchanged.

(Brigadier General Mohammed Taslim Uddin)
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