

## SNAPS

**Prisoner dies in Kushtia**

**OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia**  
A prisoner at Kushtia jail died on Monday.

The dead was identified as Mamtazul Islam, 25 son of Aminul Islam of Purbomajampur area.

Jail authority said Mamtazul felt pain in his chest at about 4.00 am. He was taken to Kushtia general Hospital at about 5.30am where the doctors declared him dead. Mamtazul, an accused in two cases, was arrested on December 26 last year. His family accused the police of torture. Jail superintendent said Mamtazul was a drug-addict and he had been suffering from various diseases.

**One kg ganja recovered**

**OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh**  
Phulbaria thana police recovered one kg of ganja and arrested four people from village Betmari Mazir Ghat on Monday.

The arrestees are Golam Mustafa, 50, his wife Bhanu Begum, 35, their daughter Fatema, 18, and Shahidul Islam, a ganja trader.

**8 policemen killed in three months**

**OUR CORRESPONDENT, Magura**

Eight policemen were killed and 16 others critically injured by outlawed party cadres and criminals in south-western region in the last three months, according to police sources.

Panic and feeling of insecurity have gripped the police deployed in the region.

Murder of two constables Shah Alam, 40, and Abul Kalam Azad, 40, on April 27 has heightened the tension. They were killed in a bomb attack and gun shots fired by unidentified assailants near Phakirhat bus stand in Bagerhat district.

A top police official in Khulna range said, "Policemen have already been asked to prepare to face such a situation, particularly in the outlaw-infested areas."

Those who were killed by miscreants during the period are constable AK Fazlul Huq and Abdul Motalib. They were stabbed to death near Itagachcha police outpost in Satkhira Sadar upazila on February 5.

Constable Shaheb Ali of Khulna Metropolitan Police (KMP) was killed on February 27. He was in a police team that came under attack during a drive to nab a criminal in Khalishpur.

Traffic Sergeant Ariful Islam of KMP was critically injured and died on way to hospital when powerful bombs went off outside the International Trade Fair venue at Khulna circuit house maidan on March 1.

Two constables Romesh and Shariful in KMP were killed in a bomb attack near Sheikhpara branch of Janata Bank in Sonadanga thana of Khulna district on the night of March 11.

During the same period, 16 other policemen identified as Ahad Ali, Abdul Karim, Alamgir Hossain, Mofizur Rahman, Naziur Huq, Shahidul, Serajul Huq, Harun-ar-Rashid, Monwarul alam, Rahman, Paritosh (1), Moniruzzaman, Nizamuddin, Atiar, Paritosh (2) and Tariqul were injured in attacks carried out by the miscreants



**Prothom Alo Bandhusava organised a cycle rally in Meherpur on Thursday to raise awareness about acid violence. Over one hundred students took part in the rally.**

**Housewife commits suicide**

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi**

A young housewife committed suicide by hanging herself at her residence at Sagarpara in the city on Sunday.

Police recovered the body of Farida Begum, 20, wife of Md Khalilullah, in the evening and sent it to Rajshahi Medical College Hospital morgue for autopsy.

Family members said Farida hanged herself after Zohr prayers, but the neighbours did not rule out the possibility of murder as she was often tortured by her in-laws.

Ataur Rahman, brother of Farida, filed a case accusing her husband and in-laws of compelling her to commit suicide.

Khalilullah married Farida as his fifth wife eight months ago after his four wives deserted him due to torture by his family members.

"We are waiting for the autopsy report. It is too early to say whether it is a suicide or murder," said SI Rabiul Islam.

**Transport worker killed in gunfight**

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg**

One person was killed in a gunfight between the rival groups trying to establish control over a taxi stand at Tollardeep Ghat in Banskhali upazila on Sunday.

A group of taxi drivers and local influential people traded fire for some time at around 11.00am, leaving Mohammad Hanif, general secretary of Pukuria Taxi Sramik Union, and Hossain Ahmed, a tea stall owner, injured, police said.

Hanif died on way to Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH).

**Campaign to create AIDS awareness**

**UNB, Cox's Bazar**

Bangladesh Betar has launched a community campaign on HIV/AIDS in Ramu upazila to help break the silence on the deadly disease.

It organised a programme to raise awareness about HIV/AIDS in front of Ramu Khijaro Model High School on Saturday, said a UNICEF press release yesterday.

A large gathering including community leaders, young people and parents and children witnessed the event when songs, drama and dance carried the key messages for prevention of HIV/AIDS.

The UNICEF-supported broadcasting programme was chaired by Deputy Director General of Bangladesh Betar Apel Mahmud. UNICEF Chief of Communication Naseem-ur-Rahman, Superintendent Syed Taufiquddin Ahmed, Civil Surgeon Dr Mohammad Abdul Wadud Miah and Additional Deputy Commissioner (Revenue) Harunuzzaman Bhuiyan addressed the function.

Engineer M Shahiduzzaman MP urged all to join hands in the fight against the deadly disease and highlighted government's priority on HIV/AIDS as it is emerging as public health issue.

**Death anniversary observed**

The 19th death anniversary of AF Mohammad Nurullah, a renowned social worker and political personality, was observed at Kuliarchar, Kishoreganj, on April 27, says a press release.

A doa mahfil and discussion was held at Tendome mosque.

Nurullah served the Kuliarchar Union Board/Council for 42 years as elected president/chairman.

Founder of Kuliarchar Pilot High School and Nurul Ulum Madrassah, he was associated with a number of social and religious organisations.

He renounced the title of 'Khan Saheb' as part of the anti-British movement.

**100 upazilas identified as drought prone**

**OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gaibandha**

One hundred upazilas in northern region are identified as drought prone, according to Bangladesh Agriculture Research Council (BARC).

Twenty-two of them are marked as acute drought prone.

Crops on ten lakh hectares of land in drought-prone areas are considered most vulnerable to damage, said a BARC report published recently.

Farmers in northern zone are mainly dependent on Boro cultivation. About 95 per cent of lands are used for Boro cultivation. But prolonged drought takes a heavy toll on its output, affecting the socio-economic condition badly.

The acute drought-hit upazilas are Rajshahi Sadar, Paba, bagha, Godagari and Tenore under Rajshahi district, Noagaon sadar, Badalgachi, Shapaher, Patnitola, Mohadevpur, Neeyamatpur, Mandha and Porsha under Naogaon district, Chapainawabganj Sadar,

Gomosthapur and Nachole under Chaipainawabganj district, Dinajpur Sadar and Birampur under Dinajpur district, Adamdighi under Bogra district, Joypurhat Sadar and Akkelpur under Joypurhat district and Lalpur under Natore district.

**Madrassah student killed**

**OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal**

A girl student of Bauphal Madrassah was slaughtered by criminals at village Kanakdia on Sunday night.

Six or seven criminals stormed into the house of Shahjahan Khan at about 8.00pm and killed his daughter Tahmina Begum, a student of class six. Police sent the body to hospital morgue for autopsy. The motive behind the killing could not be known. Two people were arrested in connection with the killing.