

Kotirbazar bridge opens next month

BSS,Narsingdi

The 160-metre Kotir Bazar-Adiabad bridge on Arial Kha river is expected to be opened for traffic next month.

Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) is implementing

LGED sources said 98 per cent work on the project has been completed and the rest will be done within the stipulated time

Narsingdi LGED Executive Engineer Elias Morshed visited the onconstruction bridge recently to see the progress of work.

Sons hand over father to police

UNB, Meherpur

Sons handed over their father to police for killing their mother at village Komorpur in Mujibnagar upazila on

Police said Shahan Ali beat his wife Chan Moni,32, to death following a family dispute on Monday noon.

When Shahan Ali tried to flee, his two sons and neighbours caught him and handed over to Komorpur police

Woman killed by husband

A woman was beaten to death allegedly by her husband for protesting his extra-marital affairs at Azibpur village in Siddhirganj thana

Monday night. The killer, Suruj Mian, along with other house inmates went into hiding after killing her wife Nasima Akhter China 23. A case

Human chain formed

A CORRESPONDENT, Manikganj The Manikganj district unit of Bangladesh Mohila Parishad on Monday formed a human chain in the district town protesting killing, rape and torture on women and children.

Wearing black badges, people from all walks of life including students. teachers, lawyers, journalists and NGO workers participated in the human chain formed in front of Manikgani Press Case against 32 Barisal AL men

HC stays hearing by lower court, issues rule nisi

The High Court on Tuesday stayed for six months the hearing of a case against 32 Barisal Awami League leaders and workers in a court here, according to a message received

The HC also issued a rule nisi on the relevant authorities to show cause why the case would not be transferred from the Barisal court, court sources here said.

The HC ruling by a Vacation Bench comprising Justice A B M Chairul Huq and Justice Salma

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

A joint anti-piracy operation by

police. Coast Guard and Navv

begins today in the Meghna estuary

and coastal areas of Barisal and

Bhola against the backdrop of

several recent incidents of piracy

fishermen were reportedly abducted

from Latakhali in Monpura on

begin yesterday, but delayed as the

naval force was not deployed in

Barisal Deputy Commissioner told

this corespondent that he sent an

urgent message and expects the

naval force would reach the area by

The district law and order review

When contacted yesterday, the

September 4 and feared killed.

In the latest such incident, four

The operation was scheduled to

and killing of fishermen.

Masud Chowdhury followed a writ by the AL leaders in the HC earlier on Tuesday

Laskar Nurul Huq, president of Barisal district Awami Ainjibi Parishad, who is among the 32 accused, filed the writ under Section 526 of CRPC for transfer of their case from the lower court in Barisal. All the 32 are now on two month's

interim bail, granted by the HC on Earlier, hearing was scheduled

charges would be framed against

Joint anti-piracy drive in

Police, Coast Guard, Navy to fan out

discussed the situation.

the sources said.

the operation.

coastal areas from today

Tuesday with state minister in

charge of the district Mosarraf

Hossain Shahjahn in the chair

Mallick Fakrul Islam will coordinate

the operation and Commander Lt.

Roisuddin Ahmed will be in charge

of Coast Guard personnel, sources

the five upazilas of Monpura,

Charfesson, Lalmohan, Borhanuddin, Tazumuddin and

Daulatkhan and their territorial

waters to nab pirates and trace the

abducted fishermen, dead or alive,

Bhola, Laxmipur, Ramgoti and

Noakhali have joined the operation.

Bhola Additional SP Lutfar Rahman

expressed hope about success of

Police teams from Barisal,

Talking to this correspondent

The combing operation will cover

Bhola Police Superintendent

for September 13 (Monday) at a Barisal Magistrate Court whether the 32 accused.

The case against the 32 was lodged under the Speedy Trial Act on August 14 after some vehicles were ransacked during an AL procession in the town when the party leaders and workers were on the their way to Tungipara to join Bangabandhu Sheik Mujibur Rahman's death anniversary celebration there.

NATIONAL

The lower court in Barisal then ordered confiscation of movable properties of the accused as they went into

But local people and fishermen

said constant vigilance is needed to

stop piracy. Pirates go into hiding

during such temporary operation

and later reappear with more

If pirates are arrested, their

The four fishermen reportedly

godfathers become active to free

abducted on September 4 have

been identified as Hazi Abu Taher,

50, Yusuf Dalal, 40, Alam Maihi, 38

were abducted by a gang led by

Joynal Speaker. The fishermen

were killed and bodies thrown into

lodge cases with Monpura thana,

but police declined to take any case,

The victims' relatives tried to

the deep sea, they claimed.

Some sources claimed that they

strength, they said.

them, they said.

and Kalu 17.



A canal dug over a century to keep Rangpur town clean and disease-free is now a breeding ground for germs.

A laudable initiative

'Citizens rally' at Rangpur today for re-excavation of century-old canal

feet in breadth. But in several areas,

it has been encroached by land

will also be handed over to the

Deputy Commissioner for removal

After the rally, a memorandum

The rally will be followed by mass

grabbers, choking the outlet.

of encroachments.

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur

A 'citizens' rally' will be held in the town today demanding re-excavation of the century-old 'Shayama Sundari' canal passing through the town and to free it from

Natun Dhara, a local sociocultural organisation, organised the

The canal, dug in 1890 at the initiative of the then Zamindar of Dimla Raja Jonaki Ballav to drain out stagnant and polluted water from the town, is now virtually derelict and filled with garbage. Sayings go that he had taken the initiative as diseases like malaria, cholera, typhoid, and skin infection became almos endemic in the small town as rain water remained stagnant for long creating dirt and filth.

After excavation of the nine-mile canal through the town, the diseases tapered off. The canal falls into the Tepa river.

But the derelict canal is now a breeding ground for germs, mosquitoes and flies, spreading diseases and polluting the environment.

The original canal was 30 to 35

Market now a desolate place

Panicked traders witnessed five murders in front of Khulna AL office

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Shankha Market, where Awami League office is situated in the town,

is now a desolate place. Most of the shops closed soon after Saturday's murder of AL leader Kamrul Islam Kutu in front of the AL office are yet to reopen.

"We are in panic", said a medicine shop owner

"It has become highly risky for us to do business near a political party office", said Mansur Azad who owns an electronic goods

Another shop owner said he is planning to shift his business from

"Business is not all. Security is important. We are apolitical, but might be implicated in any dirty matter any time", he said.

Businessman at Shankha Market have witnessed five political murders in front of the AL office in last one decade. The victims belonged to AL, its

Natun Dhara has also planned

They said people of all strata of

pisciculture in the canal and tree

plantation on its banks, sources

life and all political parties and socio-

cultural bodies have extended

vouth front Jubo League and student front Chatra League. After every murder, police come

but in most cases, the killers

escape the police net, another

trader said. Jubo League leader Tutul was gunned down in front of AL office in

Chtra League activist Bikash Jubo League leader Anwar Hossain were gunned down there 1996 and 1999 respectively. Another Jubo League activist,

Shajahan, was shot dead in 1999. All these murders were committed in presence of large number of people and policeman deployed to guard the AL office

Investigation of three of the murders have been stalled for reason yet to be known.

Joy turns into tragedy

One killed, 15 hurt in boat race

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sirajganj

Joy and excitement turned into a tragedy when one person was killed and 15 were injured during a boat race on Korotoa river in Kaliganj in Ullapara yesterday.

Fifteen tastefully decorated boats were racing amid thunderous cheers and clapping from enthusiastic crowds when an engine boat coming from the opposite direction hit one of those

In the collision, the racing boat was damaged and it capsized, injuring 16 on board.

Seven of the injured were rushed to a local hospital where Rezaul Karim died at night. He was from Pukurpar village udner Bhangura upazila in Pabna district.

Six of the injured are now being treated at the hospital A case has been lodged with

Ullapara police station

Hired killer to die in Habigani

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, sylhet

One person has been sentenced to death for killing a person at a tea garden in Habiganj. Habiganj Additional District and

Sessions Judge Md Aminul Islam handed down the punishment to

Maku Rabi Das for killing Nainka Rabi Dass, 50, on October 30, 2001 at Chandpur tea garden in Chunarughat upazila. In a sequel to previous enmity,

one Girish Rabi Dass of the same garden had hired Maku for Tk 2000 to kill Nainka Robi.

Girish died during investigation.

Brahmaputra, Teesta rising again 4 upazilas flooded

in Gaibandha **OUR CORRESPONDENT,**

Low laying areas including

charlands in four upazilas have been flooded afresh following increase in water levels of Teesta and Brahmaputra.

Transplanted Aman seedling on vast areas in Gaibandha Sadar, Sundarganj, Fulchari and Shagata upazilas have gone under water.

According to Water Development Board sources. water level in the Brahmaputra swelled by 96 cms at Balashi point in the last 72 hours till 6 pm yesterday. The river is rising at all points in the district due to onrush of water from across the border. thev said

ট্রিয়ার স্বাভাবিক সৃত্যু নয় পরিকক্ষিত সৃত্যু ।। ত্যা হত্যাব বিচাব চাত্

Members of the Christian community brought out a mourning procession in Lalmonirhat town on Monday (left), demanding proper inquiry into the death of housewife Tia (right).

Housewife's death in Lalmonirhat **Hunger strike, procession**

for 'proper' probe A CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

Members of the Christian community, joined by primary school stuhour hunger strike at the Mission Crossing in the town demanding "proper" inquiry and punishment to the "killers" of housewife Tia.

Tia, 25, died from burn injuries she suffered at her husband's residence in the town on August 29 The Christian community also

brought out a mourning procession

Claims and counter-claims were made by Tia's father and her husband's families about the cause

On September 7, a press confer-

ence was organised by the local Christian community at a Christianpara house where the

The victim's younger brother Arvin Sihir Adhikari alias Tota submitted a complaint to the Lalmonirhat superintendent of police (SP) on September 6 for a proper inquiry into the death.

Family members of her husband Pavel told journalists that Tia was injured as the stove burst when she was boiling milk at the kitchen.

'Fake' doctor in jail for cheating patients

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

A fake doctor who allegedly cheated patients by impersonating highly qualified physician has been sent to jail hajat by a magistrate.

Swapan Kumar Majumdar of Nakipur village in Shyannagar upazila, one of the three fake doctors accused of cheating patients, appeared before court and prayed for bail recently.

Magistrate Ibrahim Khan rejected the bail prayer and sent him to jail hajat.

A case was filed with Shyamnagar thana against the three 'fake' doctors who had well furnished chambers at Shyamnagar upazila headquarters. The two others are Amjad

Hossain of Sora village and Shahjahan Ali of Rasulpur village in Satkhira Sadar upazila. Though they have no academic qualification, they used degrees like

MBBS and MD after their names on

pads, it is alleged. When their forgery was published earlier in newspapers including The Daily Star. Satkhira Civil Surgeon SM Mostofa Anowar formed an inquiry committee headed by the Shyamnagar upazila

health and family planning officer. After investigation, the civil surgeon recommended action against them for cheating patients. Shyamnagar thana Subinspector Faisal Jamal filed a case

against the three. Swapan Majumdar appeared before court but the rest two wet into

The Satkhirta unit of Bangladesh Medical Association (BMA) earlier identified nine other 'fake' doctors in the district who were cheating patients for long in the same way. The BMA recommended action

against them. Their forgery was also published

in national and local dailies. But the authorities have not yet taken any action against the nine 'fake' doctors for reasons unknown

New body of **Barisal Reporters** Unity elected

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

A new executive body of Barisal Reporters Unity for 2003-2004 has been elected at a general meeting.

Anisur Raman Swapan (New Age, Holiday and Bhorerkagoj) has been elected president and Shawkat Milton (Janokantho)

Syed Kajol (Bangla Bazar)is treasurer and Iftekhar Ali (Sangram) is office and publicity secretary. Other members are Susanta Ghosh (Matribhumi). Ali Jasim (Prothom Alo), Shamim Ahmed (Khaborpatro), Nasimul Alam (Inqilab) and Mir Muniruzzaman (Ajker Kagoj).

The meeting was presided over by outgoing president of BRU Nasimul Alam.

Baishtila will now be a children's park cum zoo

Tender floated by Sylhet Zila Parishad last week

IQBAL SIDDIQUEE, Sylhet

The site selected for a proposed 'natural park' in Sylhet city's suburban Baishtila area years ago will now be used for establishing a children's park cum zoo.

It will be set up and run commercially by a private company under contract, official sources said.

Sylhet Zila Parishad owns the huge area. The site covering 43.39 acres of land was acquired decades ago for establishing a natural park. About 10,000 trees of different species are there.

Last week, the authorities floated

tender for establishing the proposed children's park cum zoo. Proposals have been sought from private firms to set up and run the park and zoo for a period of ten years.

The successful bidder will have pay revenue on yearly basis in compliance with terms and condition of the contract. It will construct all necessary

infrastructures keeping the biodiversity and environment as it is. It will collect all animals for the zoo. The project may involve about Tk three crore, said an expert.

Earlier, the Zila Parishad had leased

the site to a private firm in 1999 for

ten years through tender for establishing a 'natural park'. The firm had made an initial payment of Tk 2.5 lakh in December

1999 as revenue for the first vear (2000). A total Tk 36 lakh was to be paid to the Zila Parishad in three But after the initial payment, the

iect. The agreement provided for completion of the project in three Now, the defaulter firm will have

to pay Tk six lakh or face legal

action, said an official.

party neither made any more payment nor did any work on the pro-



From planned 'natural park' to children's park cum zoo... will the latest plan be implemented?