

SNAPS

One killed by tiger

**OUR CORRESPONDENT, Shatkira**  
A man was killed by tiger in the Sundarbans on Sunday. Eyewitnesses said, Motleb Gazi, 24 of Kadamtal village in Shyamnagar upazila on Sunday went for with permission from the forest department. A tiger swooped on him and took him into the deep forest. Later villagers recovered the body.

Bodies recovered

**OUR CORRESPONDENT, Netrakona**  
Two bodies were recovered from Satia village under Sadar upazila on Sunday. Netrakona Sadar thana police recovered the bodies. Police sources said, one person named Abdul Hasem of Satia village under Sadar upazila killed his wife Aysha, 25, and their only one son Anwar, 1, and threw the bodies behind his house at night. On a tip-off police recovered the bodies and arrested two women. A case was filed with Netrakona police station.

One held, pistol recovered

**OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal**  
Police arrested alleged extortionist Roman in the city on Sunday and acting on his confession, recovered a U S A - m a d e p i s t o l . Then pistol along with some ammunition was recovered from the house of one Shahin Sarder in Gawaswar area. Police lodged a case against Roman and his absconding associates Shahin, Alamin and Mamun under the Arms Act. **Child roasted alive**  
**OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chaudanga**  
A two-year-old child was roasted alive in a fire at village Modna under Damruhuda upazila on Sunday noon. The victim was identified as Sakib, son of Ziaur Rahman.

Violence against women

Human chain, rally held in Patuakhali

**A CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali**

Durbar Network, a forum of some NGO's, formed a human chain and held a rally in front of Patuakhali Press Club on Thursday protesting violence against women.

Hundreds women activist of different NGO's like Adarsha Mahila Sangstha, Suktara Mahila Sangstha, Golap Mahila Samitee, Krishnachura Mohila Samitee look part in the human chain.

Speakers at the rally urged the womenfolk to protest violence against them. They also called for launching campaign in rural areas to make women aware of their rights and laws against their violation.

Later in the day, a discussion meeting on 'Acid Violence in Patuakhali was held at the press club.

The speakers included Press Club President Golam Kibria, Patuakhali Government Women Collage Principal Prof. Nurul Islam, principal of Patuakhali Polytechnic Institute Dr Rezaul Karim, Sawar Das, Jakir Hossain, Sohrab Hossain, Dipali Rani Roy, Mizanur Rahman and Ashok Das.

They said a social movement should be build against violence against women.

18 kms of Moulvibazar-Dhaka highway repair uncertain

RHD cancels work order, plans fresh tender: Contractor goes to HC

**RAJAT KANTI GOSWAMI, Moulvibazar**

Reconstruction of about 18 kilometre stretches of highways linking Sylhet, Moulvibazar and Sunamganj districts with Dhaka have become uncertain due to a stand-off between the Roads and Highways Department (RHD) and the construction firm.

The RHD has cancelled work order of the construction firm for "not completing the work on schedule".

The firm has filed a case with the High Court challenging the RHD action.

The stretches of the highways are in Fenchuganj, Rajnagar, Moulvibazar, Srimongol, Shayestaganj and Jagadishpur.

The RHD had invited tender for reconstruction of the roads in September 2002.

On May 3, it gave work order to a Chittagong-based firm for reconstruction of eight kilometres of the highway between Moulvibazar and Srimongal at a cost of Tk four crore 90 lakh and 10 kilometres between Fenchugonj and Rajnagar at a cost of Tk five crore.

The work was to be completed by 120 days, RHD sources said when contacted.

But after expiry of the scheduled period, the firm completed only 16 per cent of the eight-kilometre road and one per cent of the 10-kilometre road, they claimed.

The sources said that seeing slow

pace of work, RHD had issued a notice to the firm to complete the work on scheduled. But they did not gear up the work, they said.

On the contrary, the firm applied for more time to complete the work. But it failed to enclose bank guarantee against the prayer as per rule. So the contract with the firm was cancelled, they said. Now RHD is planning to float fresh tender, they said.

The Managing Director of the firm told journalists that RHD cancelled the contract without legal procedure. He said his firm has the right to get more time to complete the work because it has invested money and made some progress in the work.

Shyampur Sugar Mill

Illegal power crushers make sugar output target bleak

**OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur**

The Shyampur Sugar Mill may not attain the production target this year due to free style production of molasses by unauthorised power crushers in the mill zone.

Sources said at least one hundred power crushers are running in Mithapukur, Badargonj, Taragonj and Lalmonirhat Sadar areas under the mill zone, producing a huge quantity of molasses every day.

Law prohibits operation of power crushers in the mill zone, but this is not

enforced, they said.

The mill's production target this year is 6,200 metric tonnes by crushing 80,000 metric tonnes of sugarcane. The recovery target is 7.75 per cent.

Sugarcane procurement price has been fixed at Tk 41 per maund.

The mill authorities earlier disbursed Tk three crore 60 lakh among 12,000 listed farmers to supply sugarcane to the mill.

Last year, the mill produced 5,735 metric tonnes of sugar, 500 metric tonnes less than the target. This was due to indiscriminate running of

power crushers in the mill zone, the sources said.

Momtaz Uddin, a farmer in Shyampur said farmers do not feel encouraged to supply sugarcane to the mill because of various reasons including harassment in procuring Purjee (permit for supply) and hassle in payments by bank. Farmers Abul, Keramat, Budu Mia and many others echoed the same sentiment.

The mill officials however denied the allegations. "We have fulfilled farmers' demands", an official said.



PHOTO: STAR

Molasses are being produced by a power crusher at a village in Mithapukur upazila, Rangpur. Large scale production of molasses in the mill zone poses a threat to sugar output in Shyampur Sugar Mills.

3 killed by husbands

**OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira**

Three housewives were beaten to death allegedly by their husbands on Sunday and Monday.

Police said, Begum, 26, wife of Manirul Islam of village Char Khejuria in Debhata upazila was beaten by her husband on Sunday night for dowry. She died on the spot. Later the killer husband tried to suppress the killing as suicidal by pouring liquid insecticide into her mouth.

Police sent the body to the Satkhira hospital for autopsy. A case was lodge with Debhata thana. The killer husband is absconding.

On the same night, Selina Parvin, 23, wife of Mainul Haq of Bhat Shala village in the same upazila was beaten to death by her husband for dowry.

Police recovered the body and sent it to Satkhira hospital for autopsy. A case has been with Debhata thana.

On Monday, housewife Rahima Khatun was beaten to death allegedly by her husband Kamrul Islam as she came to know his extra-marital affairs with another woman.

The incident took place at Komorpur village in the Sadar upazila.

Police recovered the body and sent it to Satkhira hospital morgue for autopsy.

Brother, sister injured in acid attack

**OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal**

A young man and his teenaged sister sustained serious burn injuries when acid was thrown on them at Pirojpur town in the early hours of Monday.

Unidentified miscreants threw acid on Jahangir Alam, 22 and Morsheda Begum, 18 through the window when they got up from bed to take Sehri.

They were rushed to Pirojpur Sadar Hospital and then sent to Barisal Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital. They are son and daughter of Solaiman Khan of Chhoto Khalisakhali area in the town. No case was filed till writing of the report Monday evening.

Kidnapped UP member released after torture

**OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal**

A Union Parishad member from Hizla upazila was kidnapped from the road in Barisal city during daytime on Sunday, tortured and left in a critical condition in front of Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital.

Dhulkhola Union Parishad member Abdur Razzak, released on bail on Sunday in an extortion case, was going to his lawyer's chamber with his younger brother Alamgir. A gang of miscreants swooped on them near the Zila School crossing, whisked Razzak into a microbus and sped away.

About two hours later, the abductors left him in front of SBMCH in an unconscious state. Marks of injury by sharp weapon and torture by hammer were seen on his body. He was admitted at SBMCH. Doctors advised for sending him to Dhaka, his family said.

Alamgir lodged a case accusing two persons-- Mamun and Munir. None was arrested till Monday evening.

Rajshahi BNP leader murder

Workers' Party leader, 5 family members arrested

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi**

Police arrested a leader of the Workers' Party (WP) and five of his family members on charge of killing BNP leader Abdul Hamid.

Arrested leader Khwaja Md Abdul Majid, Rajshahi district president of the party's front organisation the Bangladesh Krishak Samity was termed in the case by police as the Rajshahi regional leader of the outlawed Purbo Banglar Communist Party (PBCP).

Immediately protesting the arrest, local WP leaders and workers demonstrated on the court premises and demanded his release.

WP politbureau member Fazle Hossain Badsha in a press statement on Monday termed the incident as the

ruling party's bid to blame opposition leaders for the worsening law and order.

In the case, plaintiff Abdul Wases Lal alleged that Abdul Majid, also chairman of Jhikra Union Parishad in Bagmara was the 'main culprit' in the killing incident.

Police seized the motor cycle of Majid and alleged that it was used in the killing incident.

Five other arrested are -- Majid's nephews Zahangir Alam Boltu and Rashed Kabir, Majid's cousins -- Zillur Rahman and Mojahar Ali Sardar and Jhikra Union Parishad member Shukur Ali.

Abdul Hamid, 52, vice president of the district BNP and former president of Bagmara upazila BNP was shot and

later slaughtered to death by underground outlaws at Ghospara in the city on Sunday evening.

However, an unidentified telephone caller claiming himself to be a regional leader of PBCP took the responsibility of murder.

He said that he identified Hamid as one of their 'class enemies' and took his life at 6.10pm.

The victim's family members told this correspondent that Hamid filed at least 10 general diaries to the concerned police stations alleging that he was threatened to be killed by outlaws.

"He (Hamid) sought security measures from police several times for his life safety, but all his appeals went in vain", alleged Mitali, university going daughter of the victim.

Hartal for BRTC service in 3 Sylhet upazilas

Supply of stone snapped

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet**

Extraction and supply of stone and sand from quarries in Jaintapur, Gowainghat and Kanaighat upazilas remained suspended on Monday due to hartal there protesting withdrawal of BRTC bus from the Sylhet-Tamabil road.

People of the three upazilas are boycotting private buses and minibuses as private transport owners compelled the government to withdraw the BRTC service.

The boycott was called by the Brihattar Jainta Samannaya Samity.

The Samity held a big rally at the Jaintapur upazila headquarters Sunday, where its leaders said tougher agitation programmes would be announced if BRTC service is not re-introduced as per the finance minister's commitment.

With former Jaintapur upazila chairman Sirajuddin Ahmed in the chair, the meeting was also addressed by political leaders and local body representatives.



A four-day training workshop on fish and prawn cultivation and its management concluded at Trinamul auditorium, Kashinathpur, Pabna recently. ATDP and Trinamul jointly organised the workshop.

Death threat to Purbanchal reporter for corruption news

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna**

A contractor of the Public Works Department (PWD) has given a death treat to a local journalist over mobile phone following publication of a report against him in local newspaper.

The contractor, Mostafizur Rahman has threatened the crime reporter of

Dainik Purbanchal, Syed Tariqul Islam over mobile phone on Monday for filing a story on alleged malpractice by the contractor in the construction work of Khulna Medical College Hospital (KMCH) annex building.

Syed Tariqul Islam filed a general diary with Sonadanga thana at noon on the day seeking security of his life.