

Hasina 'discovered' death from starvation, relief minister says

Chhayon Ali died from prolonged intestinal disease, his widow tells minister

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Nilphamari
Minister for Relief and Disaster Management Chowdhury Kamal Ibne Yusuf categorically said there was no death from starvation in moga-affected northern districts.

district BNP president Shahrin Islam Tuhin spoke at the meeting.
The minister said Awami League (AL) chief Sheikh Hasina was trying to tarnish the image of the government by "discovering a so-called death from starvation".

widow Noor Nahar Begum, 45, in presence of journalists and villagers.
However, sideways standing Chhayon Ali's sister told the minister that her brother died from starvation. Noor Nahar alleged to the minister that they were very poor and passed days half-fed, but the local Union Parishad member did not give her rice under VGF programme.

to take him to Rangpur but he died on November 10.
However, sideways standing Chhayon Ali's sister told the minister that her brother died from starvation. Noor Nahar alleged to the minister that they were very poor and passed days half-fed, but the local Union Parishad member did not give her rice under VGF programme.

The minister and the state minister then visited the house of Md Nizamuddin, whose 14-year-old son Kazol was killed by Sheikh Hasina's motorcade on November 17.
Kazol was a student of VIII at Kaliganj Junior High School.



(From left in circles) State Minister for Education ANM Ehsanul Haque Milon and Minister for Relief and Disaster Management Chowdhury Kamal Ibne Yusuf talking to the widow of Chhayon Ali Noor Nahar (middle in circle) in front of her house on Thursday and (right in circle) Kazol's father Nizamuddin talking to the minister and the state minister. Kazol was killed by Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina's motorcade on November 17.

BNP MP tells rally Tougher programmes after Eid for BRTC service in Sylhet

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet
Ruling party lawmaker Dilder Hossain Selim has said people of Jainatapur, Gowainghat and Kanaighat upazilas will not accept closure of BRTC service on Sylhet-Tamabil-Jafflong road and others roads in the region.

People of the three upazilas are boycotting private buses since October 13 as their owners compelled the government to withdraw BRTC service from the three upazilas.
The people will go for tougher agitation programmes after the Eid for reintroduction of BRTC service, he said.

Upazila Parishad Sirajuddin Ahmed presiding, the rally was addressed by, among others, thana BNP's General Secretary Abdul Malik Manik, UP Chairman Kamal Ahmed, Jaintia Janakalyan Federation Convenor Abdul Ahad, Fayeze Ahmed, Sarbadaliya Chhatra Oikya (All Party students Unity) convenor Abul Kalam Azad and Thana Juba Dal leader Abdur Rab.

Firearm snatching case

Four sons, 15 'followers' of Charmonai Pir granted interim bail till Dec 7

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal
A Division Bench of the High Court comprising Justice Gour Gopal Shaha and Justice Jubayer Rahman Chowdhury on Wednesday granted interim bail till December 7 to the four sons and 15 'followers' of Charmonai Pir, charged with snatching firearm and money from a local BNP leader.

former chairman of Charmonai Union Parishad, had filed the case with Barisal Kotwali thana against the case on November 11.
Barisal Kotwali police on Tuesday filed charge sheet against the four sons and 15 relatives and followers of Charmonai Pir under the Speedy Trial Act for snatching fire arms and money from Salam Rari and desecrating a mosque.

attacked Salam Rari inside the Biswaser Hat mosque and snatched away his revolver and money on November 11.
It has also been alleged that the attackers entered the mosque wearing shoes and also assaulted Rari.
The attackers demanded Tk 20,000 toll from the Tk 50,000 grant from BCC Mayor Majibur Rahman Sarwar to the mosque committee fund.

SNAPS

NU decision protested

CU CORRESPONDENT, Ctg
The Chittagong city unit of Samajtantrik Chhatra Front (SCF) has strongly protested the National University (NU) authority's decision of holding the final examination of Degree (pass course) after three years.

3 PBCP cadres given life term

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna
A Special Tribunal here on Wednesday gave life term to three members of Purba Banglar Communist Party (PBCP) in an arms case in Tala upazila in Sathkira district.

Absconding convict held in Sylhet

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet
An absconding convict was nabbed by Kotwali police from the Akhalia area here on Wednesday night.
The arrested absconder, Mansur, was a cadre of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) who was sentenced to life term imprisonment for possessing illegal arms.

Notorious pirate of Sundarbans arrested

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna
The Joint Forces arrested a notorious pirate of the Sundarbans area from Khalishpur Industrial Area on Tuesday night.
He was identified as Ariful Alam Akkas, ring leader of 'Akkas Bahini'. The listed criminal possesses huge arms. He maintains three strong organised gangs in the Sundarbans, sources in the Joint forces said.

Pneumonia takes alarming turn in Khulna 67 dead, 116 medical teams working, special team from Dhaka due today

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Khulna
Pneumonia claimed 67 lives and attacked over 21,000 in the district from January to November 15.
The district health department has formed 116 teams to combat the disease, which has turned alarming as winter is creeping in, according to sources at the district health department.

take blood samples from patients.
A high-level team from the Health Directorate, Dhaka is expected here soon to assess the situation and take preventive measures.

teams have started working in affected areas to prevent spread of the disease and give proper treatment to patients, said Khulna Civil Surgeon Jamal.
The civil surgeon said there is enough stock of medicines for treatment of this disease.



Eighteen successful students of Manikganj SK Girls' High School got Junior Scholarship this year.

Accused snatched from police van: 8 arrested

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal
Police arrested eight persons from Amtali and Arpangashia area on charge of snatching an under-trial accused on Wednesday.
The arrested are Bashir, Omar Faruk, Latif, Mizanur, Delwar, Ibrahim, Sobahan and Mamun. Mamun is a nephew of a local member of parliament (MP) Matiur Rahman.

Four Lankan fishermen released

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna
Four Sri Lankan fishermen were released on Tuesday from Bagerhat District Jail.
The released fishermen are Mariel, 40, Shyam, 32, Lalit, 38, and Monga, 34.

Bagerhat BNP leader missing

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna
A front-ranking leader of Bagerhat district unit of BNP and President of Bagerhat district unit of Hindu-Buddho-Christian Oikya Parishad has been missing from the city since Tuesday afternoon.
According to family sources, Dr Anup Kumar Biswas went to Upasham Clinic on Ahsan Ahmed Road under Khulna thana to see the ailing chairman of Baroipara Union Parishad Akbar Azad.

Production in Joypurhat Sugar Mill begins Nov 30

BSS, Joypurhat
Sugar cane crushing at Joypurhat Sugar Mills will begin on November 30, mills sources said.
The mill has set a target to produce 12,000 metric tons (MTs) of sugar by crushing 160,000 MTs of sugarcane in the current crushing season.

Two snatchers caught in Sylhet

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet
Two snatchers were caught red-handed from Mirzajangal area in the city on Thursday morning.
A foreign made pistol and a dagger were recovered from their possession.
A group of four miscreants snatched away Tk 30,000 from a grocer named Abdul Matin of Bhatolia area at about 11 am.

Trader injured by BNP men in coma

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna
A businessman, severely injured allegedly by some BNP activists for refusing to pay toll, is now in coma in Khulna General Hospital.
Businessman Harun-ar-Rashid Mridha of Icacagati union in Rupsha upazila was seriously injured when he came under armed attack by the activists on Wednesday night for refusing to pay them Tk 20,000, sources said.

Gun battles with pirates in Monpura: 12 held, firearms recovered

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal
Bhola police arrested five pirates and detained seven suspects after gunfights in Monpura in the Meghna estuary in the early hours of Thursday.
A fisherman-- Babul, 26 -- was injured.
Police said Monpura thana officer-in-charge received a secret information on Wednesday night that the notorious pirate gang led by Faruk was at Char Nizam.

Meanwhile another pirate gang led by Kalam was crossing the area. As police challenged them, they fired. Police replied with shots.
Police arrested three pirates there. They are Shaheb Ali, 50, Hannan, 30 and Nazir Ahmed, 56. Police also detained seven others as suspects. They are Khalek, Malek, Gias, Nizam, Mofiz, Mazbul and injured fisherman Babul.

Internee doctors' assoc executives
STAR NATIONAL DESK
A seven-member executive committee of Faridpur Medical College Hospital Internee Doctors' Association for the year 2003-2004 was formed recently with Dr Abu Bakar Siddique (F-4) and Dr Muhammad Muneer Hussain as President and General Secretary.

Monju for Padma Bridge at Mawa

BSS, Barisal
Former communications minister and Jatiya Party (JP) Chairman Anwar Hossain Monju has said the proposed Padma Bridge should be constructed at Mawa point because it will benefit five crore of the south and south-western districts.
A bridge at Mawa will reduce the road links of southern districts with the capital by at least 100 kilometres, he said.
Monju was addressing at a pre-iftar gathering on the premises of the JP office on Sadar Road here on Wednesday.

Former OC gets bail in death in custody case

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira
A court here granted bail to former officer-in-charge (OC) of Kaligonj thana in a case for alleged death in custody.
Biswa Nath Mondal of Ghona village was arrested on July 30, 2001. He was found dead in police custody on the following morning.
His father Judhistr Mondal filed a case with a magistrate court on August 5, 2001, against OC Ershadul Bari Chowdhury alleging that his son was tortured to death in custody.
On September 18, the court issued arrest warrant against Ershadul.
Magistrate MI Siddique granted bail when Ershadul appeared before the court on Thursday.



Sherpur Awami League organised a discussion meeting and an iftar party at local town hall recently.