

3,600
smuggled
chickens burnt
in Satkhira

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

The district administration yesterday burnt 3,600 smuggled chickens on Sunday.

Acting on a secret information, BDR members seized the chickens at Nalkura village in Sadar upazila while being smuggled into Bangladesh from India.

However, the smugglers managed to escape leaving two rickshaw vans, BDR sources said. They handed over the seized chickens to the Customs authorities.

The district administration burnt those at Satkhira Customs godown following a decision taken at a meeting held at the conference room of Satkhira deputy commissioner (DC).

Magistrate Maniruzzaman and District Livestock Officer (DLO) D Mrinal Kanti Roy were present on the spot.

Poultry traders of the district alleged a gang of smugglers are smuggling chickens from India with the help of unscrupulous members of the law enforcement authorities. They demanded immediate arrest and punishment to the culprits.

RU BCL leader
stabbed

RU CORRESPONDENT

A gang of unidentified criminals yesterday night stabbed a Rajshahi University (RU) unit leader of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) near the campus.

The victim is Mahfuz Kabir, organising secretary of BCL university unit. A masters final year student of Chemistry Department, Kabir was admitted to Rajshahi Medical College Hospital (RMCH) in a critical condition, campus source said.

A gang of unknown youths attacked Kabir with knife and iron rods at Binodpur Bazaar. They attacked him at about 11.00 pm while he was returning to his dormitory.

The attackers left Kabir on the ground apprehending him dead. Later, local people rescued him and admitted him to Rajshahi Medical College Hospital.

Tk 45cr life-saving equipment lying idle in Bogra hospital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Bogra

Life-saving equipment worth Tk 45 crore are lying idle in Ziaur Rahman Medical College Hospital here for the last two months since its establishment on August 31.

This is because of shortage of skilled manpower in the hospital.

The government imported cancer treatment equipment worth Tk 19 crore from abroad without appointing skilled operator, said hospital director Mainul Islam Sadek.

Other costly equipment included Magnetic Resonance

Image (MRI) worth Tk 9 crore 43 lakh and Angiogram worth Tk 4 crore 39 lakh, Electro Convulsion Therapy (ECT) worth Tk 8 lakh 85,000 and 26 Autoclave machines worth Tk 80 lakh 76,000.

Because of the phenomenon, three out of five modern X-ray machines are also lying unused. Earlier, the machines had been purchased at a cost Tk 2 crore.

Twelve Operation Theatres (OT) are ready for operation but all the OTs are lying unused due to lack of necessary equipment and man power, said a senior official.

The City Scan machine which was installed here at a cost of Tk 4 crore 43 lakh could not be brought into operation due to shortage of operator.

Moreover, no equipment was commissioned in the Pathology Department.

At present, the medicine department is functioning only here, authorities concerned said.

The hospital was established here at a cost of Tk 235 crore at Selimpur, on the outskirts of Bogra town. Former Prime Minister Khaleda Zia inaugurated the hospital.

Traditional
Ras Mela
postponed

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Manikganj

The 500-year-old 'Ras Mela,' the largest fair in the sub-continent was postponed here due to 'unavoidable political situation,' police sources said.

This 15-day traditional fair was supposed to begin at Betila Bazaar ground in Sadar upazila on Sunday. Thousands of Hindu devotees from home and abroad used to take part in the fair, said Fair Organising Committee member Sunil Kumar Ghosh.

On contact, Manikganj Sadar Police Station officer-in-charge (OC) Abu Yusuf Mollah said the fair was cancelled because they could not ensure proper protection to the devotees during the fair period.

However, the religious festival which began on Sunday will continue for 10 days although the fair was cancelled, the OC said.

Badsha, 14-party
combine workers
granted bail

RU CORRESPONDENT

About 55 leaders and activists of the 14-party Combine including Workers Party (WP) politburo member Fazley Hossain Badsha were granted bail in three cases on Sunday.

The leaders who granted bail are WP leader Advocate Liaqat Ali Liku, BCL city unit secretary Jedu Sarker, M a t i u r R a h m a n M a t i, Shechhasebak League president Dablu Sarker, Chhatra Maitri city unit president Mahfuzul Alam Hikal and Devashis Pramanik Debu.

Islami Chhatra Shibir and BNP filed the cases against them following a clash here on October 30, court sources said.

Metropolitan Magistrate Jobeda Khatun granted the bail.

Earlier, 30 lawyers moved for the bail when the party men were produced before court.

Hundreds of 14-party leaders and activists held a rally on the court premises. WP leader Badsha said, the cases were filed to harass them.



PHOTO: STAR

A colourful rally was brought out at Cox's Bazar resort town marking the 8th founding anniversary of Prothom Alo, the largest circulated Bengali daily in the country.

5x3

Training
imparted to
indigenous
women

STAR NATIONAL DESK

Weaving training is being imparted to female members of Tipra community near Lawachara National Park, says a press release.

The Forest Department organised the training programme under its Nishorgo Programme. The training was aimed at improving livelihood options for women.

Nishorgo Support Project is developing alternative income generation opportunities for the forest dependant poor to reduce pressure from the Protected Forest Areas.

The skill development training will create income generation opportunities for the indigenous women. This will help conserve the two parks where critically endangered Hoolock Gibbons reside.

Under the programme, a 30 day-training are being imparted to the Tipra women from 63 households at Dolubari Village of Lawachara National Park.

The training will continue till end November this year.

In the first phase of the programme, 8 women from the surrounding Tipra village received the training in Satchari National Park.

In the second phase, eight other women are still undergoing training.

Two local women who are expert in designing, is providing the training.

Training is being imparted to the women at a temporary room near Lawachara and Satchari National Park.

Thread and other materials are being provided to the trainees during the course by the Nishorgo Support Project.

Buet student
drowns

A CORRESPONDENT, Comilla

A student of Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (Buet) drowned while swimming at a pool here Sunday evening.

The victim is Hamiduallah Kawsar Tanim, 22, son of Buet teacher Prof Md Abdul Muktedir of Gouripur in Mymensingh.

Local people said, Tanim went to the swimming pool without informing his guardians. While swimming, he went deep in the pool and drowned.

The body floated in the swimming pool after one hour of the incident.

5x3

10x4

9x3