

## National

## Six snatchers rounded up in Brahmanbaria

BRAHMANBARIA, May 16: Six alleged snatchers were rounded up by the police in separate incidents in the last week, reports UNB.

According to police, one snatcher was caught by a guard of Janata Bank of the town while the snatcher alongwith his two accomplices was snatching cash Tk 4,500 from a client of the bank on May 10.

The arrested was identified as Idris Miah. A case was lodged in this connection.

In another incident, local businessman Habibur Rahman was robbed of while shopping in a shopping centre at T A road. He said he drew cash Tk 96,000 from IFIC bank and while paying the shopkeeper a gang of hijackers snatched away the entire amount.

A case was filed and police later rounded up five snatchers namely Masum, Ramzan Miah, Ahmed, Hiru Miah and Mukhles Miah from the town in this connection.

Meanwhile, in a broad day light on May 8, a rickshaw passenger was robbed of Tk 54,000. According to the victim, while he was going to Pairta by-pass road with the amount in his bag, an unidentified passenger shared his rickshaw at Kalbari crossing.

When the rickshaw reached at the by-pass the unidentified man got down from the rickshaw and fled away.

Later the bag holder found in his astonishment that his bag was cut off and there was no money in the bag.

## Foundation of Gazipur district jail laid

GAZIPUR, May 16: The government is planning to set up one industrial unit in each jail of the country where the prisoners will be able to involve themselves in income generating activities, reports BSS.

This was informed by Home Minister Abdul Matin Chowdhury at the foundation laying ceremony of Gazipur district jail.

Jute Minister ASM Hannan Shah and State Minister for Science and Technology Prof M A Mannan attended the function as the special guests while Inspector General of Prison Brig. Abul Hossain explained different aspects of the jail.

Matin said the jails of the country would be turned into correction centres gradually so that after release the prisoners could lead a healthy social life. Several recommendations of the Jail Commission have already been implemented and the rest will be implemented in phases, he said.

Speaking on the occasion ASM Hannan Shah said the foundation laying ceremony of the Gazipur Jail was the reflection of the government's steps to develop the country's infrastructure.

After completion 800 prisoners could be accommodated in the jail to be built on six acres of land at a cost of Taka 8.85 crore.

## Truck plunges into ditch, 4 killed, three hurt

SIRAJGANJ, May 16: Four people were killed and three others injured seriously when a loaded truck turned turtle and fell into a road-side ditch Saturday morning near Shalchora poultry farm of sadar thana on New Bogra road, reports UNB.

Among the dead, three died on the spot. One was identified as Jobdul, 55, of Bhagura in sadar thana while the identification of two others could not be known immediately. All the passengers were cattle traders, local people said.

The other victim, identified as Abdul Hamid, 40, who received head injuries, succumbed at the Sirajganj General Hospital at 4 pm, hospital sources said.

The bodies were sent to morgue for autopsy.

Witnesses said, the driver of the cattle loaded Sirajganj bound truck coming from Bogra lost control and plunged into the ditch at 9 am.

The driver and the helper managed to escape. Police seized the truck and a case has been filed.

## Fugitive JCD leader held

PABNA, May 16: Police arrested a fugitive JCD leader, Momtajur Rahman, from his Hemayetpur residence in a raid, reports UNB.

The Jatiyatobadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) leader, wanted in seven cases, has been absconding for one year, police said.

He was sent to jail.

JCD Pabna district committee activists demonstrated in the town against the arrest and demanding immediate release of their leader.



MADRIPUR: The mighty Arial Khan river is gradually dying. Water level has abnormally fallen threatening navigational routes. Picture shows a part of the river in Shibchar thana. Communication through this river from the area had to be suspended recently due to largescale formation of small chars (shoals)

— Star photo.

## Vast areas in Kurigram remains uncultivated

## From Our Correspondent

estimated at about Taka 5 lakh.

## Seminar on

## Trading

A seminar on "Identification of Export Trade" jointly organised by Rajshahi Export Promotion Bureau and Kurigram Chamber of Commerce and Industries was held recently at the Kurigram chamber bhaban.

In this connection a discussion meeting was arranged at the local pourashava auditiorium with Aman Ukkil local Awami League leader in the chair.

Among others, Amjad Hossain Talukder, MP, Nozir Hussain Sarker, Sheikh Reazul Haque Babul, Nuruzzaman, and Nurul Islam took part in the discussion.

Zafar Ali was adjudged the best union parishad chairman with other 41 union parishad chairman of the country and awarded gold medals by the government recently. He is the chairman of Kanthalbari union Parishad of Kurigram sadar thana and general secretary of Kurigram District Awami League.

Six families were rendered shelterless following a devastating fire recently at village Kashipur in Fulbari thana of Kurigram district.

Originating from the kitchen of one Abu Taleb, the fire soon spread around and destroyed all the houses of six families with all household belongings. The total loss was

Rs 10,000.

It may be mentioned that a vast areas of river belt Kurigram and Lalmonirhat districts possess char land where ground nuts may be grown abundantly.

It is felt that planned scheme and assistance to the growers may encourage them

in ground nut farming.

The best union parishad chairman Zafar Ali was accorded a hearty reception by leaders and workers of Awami League, Kurigram district unit recently.

A source of Agriculture Department disclosed that ground nuts are cultivated on a few acres of land in the char areas. More lands are cultivated to grow sesame (teel), Kaun, and "dhyenchha".

In some parts of char land, tall grass (locally known as Kashia) grows which are used as fodder and in dwelling houses. Natural causes do not permit to grow high yielding variety of crops in the sandy land.

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