

Traders frequently harassed by toll collectors

From Our Correspondent

GOPALGANJ, Nov 6: The traders transporting seasonal vegetables, fruits and spices from the Southern districts to the capital city through Daulatdia and Aricha ferryghats are frequently harassed by the unauthorised toll collectors.

Items are transported from the southern districts to the capital city. A trader must pay toll at the recognised places on the way. Any sort of resistance to pay toll can end in loss, said another trader.

The traders who make regular trips through the ghats with their perishable goods from Gopalganj, Madaripur, Barisal, Khulna, Bagerhat and other Southern districts alleged that police harassed them on the grounds of overloading and often demand toll. This happens every day, alleged one trader carrying on business for the last 18 years.

Traffic police stop our vehicles and ask their so called agents to collect toll from us, a businessman alleged. One truck driver alleged that we have to pay toll or remain standing there for the rest of the day for clearance.

The months of October and November is the peak period of the season as fresh vegetables, fish and other katcha food

accepting bribe. This is not true. They violate the rules and we are blamed for trying to curb the suchtime, he said.

A truck driver said a single trip from Bagerhat to Dhaka would cost a trader between Tk 8,000 and Tk 12,000.

We charge money for a trip including the toll at different points said another truck driver of Gopalganj, Bagerhat, Khulna, Pathghata and Takhat are some of the recognised points where we pay toll. At each point, a hundred Taka note is sufficient for 'transit pass', said the truck driver.

Crossing the Padma is a big problem. At Daulatdia, a five-ton truck has to pay Tk 720 as ferry charges as prescribed by the Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Corporation. If it is over-loaded, a trader has to pay between Tk 100 and Tk 500.

Trucks carrying perishable goods are entitled to priority to board a ferry. The traders alleged that the ticket masters and ferry workers allegedly create traffic jams at the points to create conflicts among the drivers leading to offering of bribe which is shared by the ticket masters and the ferry workers.

Reopening of Kushtia Textile Mills demanded

From Our Correspondent

KUSHTIA, Nov 6: Leaders and workers of Bangladesh Trade Union Sangha handed over a memorandum containing their demand for reopening of Kushtia Textile Mills and payment of the outstanding salary of the workers to the Minister of Home Affairs Major (Retd) Rafiqul Islam on Sunday at Kushtia Collectorate premises.

Police said the rickshaw-puller took a passenger from Parulia bazar to Gazaria and was sleeping on the rickshaw when six miscreants allegedly strangled him to death. They then fled the scene along with his rickshaw.

His body was sent to the local hospital morgue for post-mortem.

Youth beaten to death

From Our Correspondent

FARIDPUR, Nov 6: A youth, Ashoke Kumar Saha from village Nurallaganj under Bhanga thana was beaten to death on the night of October 23, according to a late information here.

According to police sources, a group of miscreants were teasing some girls at a night show pandal at Doctor Bazar in Sadarpur thana on October 20. Ashoke Kumar opposed the miscreants. Following the incident there was an exchange of hot words between Ashoke and the miscreants. On the day of the incident, two days later, the miscreants attacked Ashoke and beat him to death on the spot.

Food official indicted for misappropriating wheat, rice

KHULNA, Nov 6: District Anti-Corruption Bureau has filed a case against a food official for misappropriating rice and wheat worth over Tk 1.10 lakh, reports UNB.

Police today said the accused Mojibur Rahman misappropriated 7,079 metric tons of wheat and 3,048 metric tons of rice from Boyra Food Godown when he was the in-charge of the local Central Supply Depot during 1995.

After investigation, the bureau filed the case with the Khulshpur police.

More firearms recovered at Shaikupa

From Our Correspondent

MAGURA, Nov 6: Six different types of fire arms and five-round of bullets were recovered from Shaikupa thana of Jhenidah district in separate drives conducted from September one to October 21 this year.

Acting on secret information Shaikupa police conducted the raids and recovered one Indian revolver, five pipe guns and five-round of bullets of different types.

Three heroes awarded

From Our Correspondent

RAJSHAHI, Nov 6: The Bangladesh Railway, Western Zone awarded three persons for their outstanding contribution being able to avert a possible train accident recently.

Muhammad Syed Hossain, General Manager of Bangladesh Railway, Western Zone formally presented the rewards to the recipients on Oct 27 in a simple function held at the Rajshahi Rail Bhaban.

The rewarded persons are Nurul Islam, 12, Insar Ali, a rickshaw puller, and Abul Kalam, 28, a day labourer. Each of them were given Taka one thousand cash money.

It is to be mentioned here that the Kobata Intercity train was about to face an accident on

Contractors demand cut in security deposit

NARSINGDI, Nov 6: Enlisted contractors of the Roads and Highways Department here stopped submitting tenders for new projects demanding reduction of the security deposit, reports UNB.

The contractors said they submitted memorandum to the authorities calling for a five per cent cut in the security deposit.

But the authorities did not pay any heed to the demands and instead called new tenders on the basis of the existing rules which require 10 per cent security deposit.

In a rally, held recently, the contractors decided not to submit the tenders till the authorities accept their demand. Chaired by Nazmuddin Gazi, the rally was addressed, among others, by Noor-e-Alam Nannu and Ikbak Khan.

Rickshawpuller killed

NARSINGDI, Nov 6: A gang of miscreants allegedly killed a rickshawpuller asleep midnight Saturday at Gazaria bazar in Falash thana of the district, reports UNB.

The victim was identified as Harun-Ur-Rashid, 35, of Parulia village in the same thana.

Police said the rickshaw-puller took a passenger from Parulia bazar to Gazaria and was sleeping on the rickshaw when six miscreants allegedly strangled him to death. They then fled the scene along with his rickshaw.

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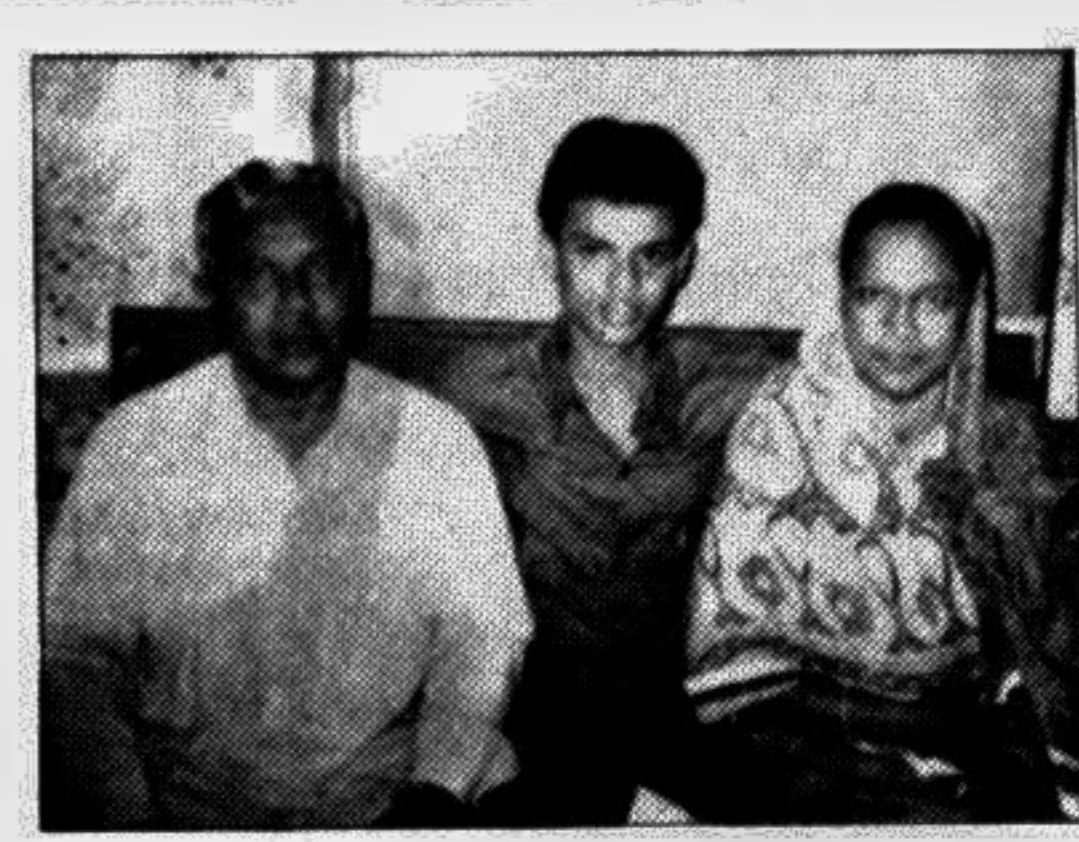
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RAJSHAHI: Sabrina Anjum Tonu, seen with her parents, who secured the second position among the girls and 14th in the combined merit list of Science group in the HSC examination of 1996 under Rajshahi Board.



RAJSHAHI: Hasibur Rahman stood second in the revised combined merit list of Science group in the HSC examination of 1996 under Rajshahi Board published recently. He is seen with his parents.

Main accused of Dilip murder held

From Our Correspondent

JESSORE, Nov 6: Jessore detective branch arrested one Kazi Abul Kashem, a ward member of Arabpur union of Kotwali thana in the district following his involvement in the murder of Dilip, a local leader belonging to district committee of BNP Sunday from Vikuttia village under the same union.

According to police, he was arrested while he was busy talking with a friend in the village. He was absconding since long.

Kashem was accused in the murder case of Dilip of Pakdia under the same union according to FIR. He was killed on Nov-3 in 1995. The case no is 150 in Kotwali police station.

Office shifting resented

KISHOREGANJ, Nov 6: Bhairab chamber leaders, pourashava authority and politicians have expressed strong resentment at the attempt of shifting the Income Tax Circle office from Bhairab to Kishoreganj town, reports UNB.

In a joint statement last week they said since the establishment of circle office in Bhairab in 1992, tax collection has increased to a great extent as it reduced the sufferings of the income tax payees to go to Kishoreganj sadar.

They said in the first year, Tk 2.20 lakh tax was collected while in the last fiscal, it was Tk 13.50 lakh as against the collection of Tk 9.50 lakh in Kishoreganj Sadar Circle office.

The business community of the riverport Bhairab town urged the government not to shift the Bhairab Income Tax Circle office to Kishoreganj town for the sake of public interest.

Fuel crisis in N-district

From Our Correspondents

SIRAJGANJ, Nov 6: Acute crisis of kerosene, diesel and loop oil has been persisting in the northern region for the last few days due to work abstention of fuel dealers of Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation (BPC) and Rajshahi divisional Tank Lorry Workers Union recently.

It is learnt that the Divisional oil dealers Association and tank lorry workers union jointly called the strike for realising their 2-point demands, which include withdrawal of punishment from Shaha Filling of Kurigram and removal of Kurigram based Padma Oil

Company. The stocking groups have created hindrances in lifting oil from Baghabari oil depot of Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation in Sirajganj district.

Extension work of Satkhira Jail remains stalled

SATKHIRA, Nov 6: Extension work of the Satkhira Jail remains suspended for a long time for want of fund allocation from the central authorities, reports UNB.

An official source said the existing jail was constructed in 1861 for accommodating 42 prisoners. The capacity was extended for 80 prisoners, including two females, in 1961.

It was given the status of a District Jail in 1990 to hold 400 prisoners after Satkhira was upgraded to a district.

Accordingly, 5.55 acres of land was acquired at the cost of Tk 25.62 lakh in 1992. But due to lack of sanction for the Jail building the construction work could not be started yet.

At present, eight to nine hundred prisoners are being accommodated without any classification within the space meant for 80 persons.

As a result, the prisoners have been suffering seriously from various problems including diseases.

Dhaka WASA Tender Notice. পানির অপচয় বন্ধ করুন. ম্যানহোলের ঢাকনা চুরি রোধ করুন. Tenders are invited from Dhaka WASA enlisted 1st, 2nd & 3rd class civil contractors for the undermentioned works.

Notice Inviting Tender No-01/1996-97. A. Description of works: Table with columns for Sl No, Name of works, Group No, Location, Estimated cost, Class of contractor.

Chittagong Port Authority Civil Engineering Division. ছেলে হোক মেয়ে হোক দুটি সন্ধানই যথেষ্ট. Tender/Re-Tender Notice. Sealed tenders are invited from experienced contractors for water proofing work of the roofs of the undermentioned different residential buildings under Chittagong Port Authority.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh. Office of the Executive Engineer. Local Government Engineering Directorate. Moulvibazar-3200. Memo No. LGED/EE/Moul/96/1716. Dated: 24-10-96. LGED/Moulvibazar Tender Notice No. 05/96-97.

List of work. Table with columns for Name of scheme, Name of scheme, Schedule cost, Time limit for completion of work, Estimated cost (in Taka).