

## News snaps

### Mother Tongue Day celebrated

KUSHITA, Dec 12: UNESCO's recognition of 21st February as International Mother Tongue Day was celebrated here in a befitting manner, reports BSS.

Local Shishu Academy organised a discussion meeting in the afternoon at the Academy premises. Abdus Salam, Deputy Commissioner, Kushita was the chief guest. The chief guest said, it is no doubt a matter of pride for us that like 1st May, the International Labour Day, 21st February will be observed all over the world as the International Mother Tongue Day. The students of different educational institutions also brought out a jubilation procession here on this occasion.

### Lathi Khela camp

KUSHITA, Dec 12: A two-day National Lathi Khela Shikkha Shibir concluded here at Mazarpur on December, reports BSS.

Fifty Lathi Khela Dal participated in the two-day shikkha shibir. The shibir was organised by Monjurul Haq Chowdhury. Every year on 6th and 7th December, a two-day Lathi Khela Shikkha Shibir is being held on the occasion of the death anniversary of late Shirajul Haq Chowdhury, founder of National Lathi Bahini on December 7.

### Workshop on jute

MANIKGANJ, Dec 12: A day-long workshop of the jute cultivators on production of jute and Kenaf was held at Bangladesh Jute Research Institute at Jagir recently, reports BSS.

Bangladesh Jute Research Institute and International Jute Organisation (IJO) jointly sponsored the workshop. Dr S B Siddique, Director (Agriculture), Jute Research Institute and National Project Co-ordinator, IJO (IFAP) Project was the main speaker in the day-long programme. The workshop was addressed, among others, by Shamsuddin Ahmed, Head of Kenaf Department of Jute Research Institute, Dhaka, Sadaruddin, Head of Kenaf, Reproduction Department and jute cultivators Manjur Ali, Hasanuzzaman and Badaruddin. A total of 80 jute cultivators of Manikganj Sadar, Saturia and Singair thana took part in the workshop.

### Youth festival held

CHUADANGA, Dec 12: The National Youth Festival was held in Chuadanga recently, in a befitting manner, reports BSS.

In observance of the day the Chuadanga District Youth Office arranged various programmes which included youth rally, procession of the youths, discussion meeting, loan distribution, friendly football match and volleyball competition for the girls. A discussion meeting was held at the conference room of the Deputy Commissioner, Chuadanga. Firoz Ahmed, Assistant Director, Youth Development Directorate, Chuadanga presided over the meeting. Abu Hussain, ADC (General) was present in the discussion meeting as the chief guest. Among others, Dr Ashabul Hoque, former MP, Mansur Ahmed, Additional District Magistrate and S M Saiful Haque, TNO, Chuadanga addressed the meeting.

### Discussion on human rights

GAZIPUR, Dec 12: A discussion meeting was held at Bhawal Ideal Academy on Friday in observance of the International Human Rights Day, reports BSS.

The programme was jointly organised by Manobadhiak Sangbadik Forum, Gazipur district unit and Bhawal Shishu Khishor Mela. The discussion was presided over by J H Molla, Principal of Bhawal Ideal Academy. Among others, Ataur Rahman, President of Manobadhiak Sangbadik Forum, Gazipur district unit and Director of Bhawal Shishu Khishor Mela, Nahid Sultan and Nurul Islam, teachers of Bhawal Ideal Academy, Moniruzzaman, Acting Editor of weekly Bhawal and journalist Nurul Islam discussed various aspects of human rights in Bangladesh.

### Vegetable cultivation scheme

KISHOREGANJ, Dec 12: A one-day training on cultivation of vegetables in the homesteads and prevention from insecticide concluded on December 7, at Kadir Jangal Union under Karimganj thana, reports BSS.

Organised by Karingang thana Agriculture Extension Office, the training course was participated by 30 women of the union. Insecticide Specialist Abdul Wadud and Enayetullah conducted the training. The Deputy Director of District Agriculture Extension Directorate, Wasifuzzaman Akhund supervised the training.

### Workshop on reproductive health

CORILLA, Dec 12: A day-long orientation workshop on "Advocacy on Reproductive Health and Gender Issues" was held at Chowdogram thana auditorium on December 8, reports BSS.

Whip Mujibul Hoque Mujib was present as the chief guest while Thana Nirbahi Officer Sayed Ahmed Safa presided over the workshop. Additional District Magistrate, Enamul Hoque, District Information Officer Jasim Uddin, UP Chairman, Ali Hossain and Abdul Karim Patwary addressed the participants. Forty representative of different government and non-government organisations took part in the workshop. District Information Department organised the workshop.

### Woman rescued

JESSORE, Dec 12: A housewife and a man with whom she left her father's house in Jhalakathi two weeks back were caught from a house here on December 2, reports BSS.

Police said Shirin Akther Eva, wife of Manik Kazi of Bhandaria of Pirojpur district, had been missing with her child from her father's house at West Putkhal of Jhalakathi since November 15. After her missing, Eva's father Mofakkar Hossain filed a kidnapping case against Emdadul Haque Nayan, a former fiancée of Eva. On information, Jessore Police raided a house belonging to one relative of Nayan at City College Para in the town on December 2 and caught them. Police said Eva has been residing with her father's house, as her husband to whom she got married beyond her will found fraud. Both of them were produced before the Court on the same day.

### Body recovered

BAGERHAT, Dec 12: Police recovered the body of an unidentified old man from Phulhat launch terminal area in Morang thana on Wednesday, reports BSS.

Police said some miscreants killed the old man aged about 55 and threw it in the nearby River Tanguchi. The body was sent to Bagerhat Sadar Hospital morgue for autopsy.

### Workshop on health

RANGAMATI, Dec 12: A day-long orientation workshop on health information for mother and childcare concluded at thana council auditorium of Kaptai on Thursday, reports BSS.

Kaptai Thana Information office organised the workshop. Forty people, including Ansar-VDP members, soci workers, teachers, imams of mosques and priests took part in the workshop. Local medical officers and Health and Family Planning officer delivered lectures on various aspects of mother and childcare.

### Savings drive

BAGERHAT, Dec 12: The Savings Directorate has undertaken a programme to motivate the people to save a portion of their incomes in different savings certificate schemes for future safety, reports BSS.

The directorate launched the campaign even in the rural areas of the district and sold some 33,80,000 savings certificates during the first five months of the current fiscal. It earned a profit of over Tk 1 crore selling the certificates of different terms to 73 people and two organisations in the district. The buyers include two organisations, 48 town dwellers, and 25 rural people.

### Office opens

RANGAMATI, Dec 12: In a bid to solve housing problem in hilly areas, the regional office of House Building Finance Corporation was formally inaugurated here on Wednesday, reports BSS.

CHT Affairs Minister Kalpa Ranjan Chakma as present in the inaugural ceremony as chief guest while CH Refugee Affairs Taskforce Chairman Dipankar Talukder MP and Rangamati CHT Council Chairman Ching Ku Rowaza as special guests. Chairman of the corporation Shah Mohammad Ataur Rahman presided over the function held at Rangamati pourasava auditorium. Managing Director of the corporation SM Moniruzzaman and Deputy Commissioner Abu Haider Sardar also spoke on the occasion.

### 4 hurt in rivals' clash

BAGERHAT, Dec 12: A clash among rival villagers in Chitalmari thana left four people injured on Friday, reports BSS.

Police and witnesses said the clash ensued when a group of people led by Hidhu master attacked on the opponents over occupation of a pond at Barabari village in the area. There has been a quarrel since long between two rival groups over the land.

Three of the injured — Quanirul, 17, Moni Sheikh, 26, and Rafiq, 32 — were admitted to local thana health complex. Other injured identified as Shahjahan and caught by local villagers with a country-made pipe gun, was admitted to Tungipara Thana Health Complex in Gopalganj district. A case was filed with the police in this regard.

## National

# Chargesheet of Meeta murder case framed

From Abdul Wadood

RAJSHAHI, Dec 12: The Investigating Officer (IO) of the case of killing of Rajshahi University student Sabina Pervin Meeta, submitted chargesheet of the case to the court.

Meeta's classmate Mahfuj Ara Akhter Shimul was made the main accused. The two others accused are Meeta's classmate Delwar Hossain and night guard of Rajshahi Karmajibi Mahila Hostel Rezaul Karim.

The IO, sub-inspector Asadullah excluded Shahjadi Tahmina Ananda, room-mate of Shimul and Monsoor Rahman, night guard of Rajshahi Karmajibi Mahila Hostel from the case for having no evidence against them.

Meeta was killed on last July 5 in Shimul's room in Rajshahi Karmajibi Mahila Hostel. Police recovered the dead body being informed by the superintendent of the hostel.

At first, Shimul explained that her classmate Meeta had come to her room in a sad mood and wanted to stay with her. At one moment she fell sick and expired.

Police suspected it a murder

case and sent the dead body for autopsy. Police also arrested Shimul, her room-mate Ananda, night guards Rezaul Karim, Monsoor Rahman and Meeta's classmate Delwar Hossain, one by one, in two weeks. Police found bottles of cold drinks and sleeping pills in the room.

Investigations and viscera reports revealed that Shimul, with the help of Delwar and Rezaul Karim, killed Meeta for the last time in their house at noon.

In the mean time, Shimul informed the superintendent of the hostel that his friend Meeta died of sudden sickness.

IO of the case sub-inspector A B M Asadullah found that it was a planned case of killing. Meeta had come to know some unfair thing done by Shimul. So Shimul killed her with the assistance of her lover Delwar and the night guard Rezaul Karim.

The city dwellers had observed a number of agitation programmes to demand proper investigation into the murder of Meeta and punishment of the killers.

home

for a long time, her brother Dr Shamim went to the Karmajibi Mahila Hostel twice to trace her sister. At first he was told by the night guard and Shimul that Meeta had not gone there. But on the second visit, Shimul said that Meeta had gone there but left soon.

Dr Shamim then rushed to Delwar in Madar Box Hall of Rajshahi University at about 10 pm. Delwar told him that he saw Meeta for the last time in their house at noon.

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members.

Referring to the risk of the policemen during their operation to nab the terrorists, the Home Minister Sheikh Hasina's pledge to ensure public security stamping out terrorism, reports UNB.

"Go tougher to nab the terrorists and recover illegal arms for ensuring public security," he said addressing a huge rally at Narail Dakbungalow Field. District Awami League organised the rally.

Nasim observed terrorism could not be uprooted from the southwestern region as people of the area still remained insecure.

Many terrorists are yet to be arrested while many illegal arms to be recovered," he said making a repeated call for continuing vigorous hunts.

He directed the policemen not to show any leniency to any terrorist. "Arrest all whoever

### Liberation Day celebration

CORILLA, Dec 12: 'Comilla Mukto Day' was celebrated here on December 8 amidst great enthusiasm. Rally, discussion, meetings and cultural functions were held to mark the day, reports BSS.

A colourful rally was organised at local Town Hall on this occasion.

Law Minister Abdul Matin Khashru inaugurated the rally as the chief guest while whip Mujibul Hoque Mujib was the special guest.

District Awami League President Khorshed Alam, Principal Abdur Rouf, Deputy Commissioner Chowdhury Golam Mowla spoke before the start of the rally. The rally, after moving through the main roads ended at Town Hall.

Members and workers of different socio-cultural and juvenile organisations, students, freedom fighters, elite and journalists took part in the rally.

A discussion meeting was held at the Town Hall, presided over by Mesbaul Alam, Additional Deputy Commissioner (Gen).

Prof Khorshed Alam, Principal Abdur Rouf, Jashimuddin Chowdhury, Advocate Rustam Ali, Advocate Zahurul Islam and Abdul Awal spoke in the meeting.

Principal of the college left the headquarters on a seven-day leave to avoid further untoward incident.

Finding no other alternatives the college authority announced its closure for an indefinite period.

### Production of date molasses falls

From Our Correspondent JHENIDAH, Dec 12: Raicharan-Tarinicharan College in Jhenidah sada thana has been closed for an indefinite period following controversial appointment of some teachers.

Local people and some teachers said that a group of local people locked the room of the principal of the college on December 2 last in protest against an attempt to appoint some teachers from a particular political party.

Principal of the college left the headquarters on a seven-day leave to avoid further untoward incident.

Finding no other alternatives the college authority announced its closure for an indefinite period.

Prices of patali and date molasses have also gone beyond the purchasing capacity of common people now-a-days.

A small jar of raw date juice containing 8 to 10 glasses is being sold at Taka 15 to Tk 16. One kilogram of 'Patali' sells at Tk 32 to Tk 35 in the retail markets. A small jar of date molasses is being sold at Tk 100 to Tk 120.

Indiscriminate felling of date trees for fuel and for construction of houses has attributed to such situation.

Facilities relating to marketing of date juice products and preservation of the same beyond winter season are totally absent. Scarcity of firewood for boiling date juice is another problem in this trade.

Sontia Bazaar, Nandina Bazaar, Kendua Bazaar, Ghatal, Hazipur Bazaar, Madur Bazaar, Barowakhal Bazaar, Sreepur Bazaar and Bhata Bazaar are the main markets of date molasses and patali.

Extraction of date juice has already been started in Jamalpur district in the ongoing winter season.

—Star photo



Minister for Home and Telecommunications Mohammad Nasim offered munajat after laying the foundation stone recently of Police Hospital at Sardah Police Academy in Chharghat thana of Rajshahi district.

## Nasim asks police to uproot terrorism

STAR photo

He called upon the people to be aware of the opposition "conspiracy" and take part in upazila elections to be held after Ramzan.

Presided over by district AL president Abdul Kalam Azad, it was also addressed, among others, by State Minister for Social Welfare Dr Mozaammel Hosain, Sharif Khasruzzaman MP, Dhirendranath Shah, chairman of Narail municipality Khan Nizamuddin, district AL general secretary Siddique Ahmad and local leaders of the party.

Later, the minister inaugurated a police camp at Naldi in Lohagarah thana. Inspector General of Police Ayub Siddique was also present.

Speaking on the occasion IGP Siddique also directed his force to work with more sincerity.

"Risk allowance" is going to be effective from next month.

Accusing all the past governments of patronising the terrorists who held people hostage, the Home Minister said "... they (terrorists) failed to buy or pursue the ministers and administrators of the present government".

Referring to the recent opposition summit he said Khaleda Zia and Ershad betrayed with 30 lakh martyrs who sacrificed their lives for independence of the nation.

"They may go on holding more summits to oust the democratic government, but we will not relinquish power before completion of the five-year term," he said.

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