

NEWS SNAPS

One killed in Comilla road accident

**UNB, Comilla**  
A man was killed and three others were injured in a road accident on Comilla-Feni road Friday.

Police said the mishap occurred in the morning when an auto-rickshaw hit a bus at Barpara on the road leaving the three-wheeler's driver Ohid Mia, 25, of Baludhum village in Sadar upazila, dead on the spot and the three injured. The injured were admitted to Comilla Medical College Hospital in critical condition.

Training on disaster management

**UNB, Brahmanbaria**  
A five-day training course on "Society-based Disaster Management" began at local Nursing Institute Training Centre on Friday.

Advocate Harun Al Rashid MP inaugurated the training course organised by local unit of Red Crescent Society. Some 25 people, including journalists, teachers and Red Crescent members, are taking part in the training course.

Rickshaw-puller arrested in rape case

**UNB, Pabna**  
A rickshaw-puller was arrested from Lashkarpur in the town Wednesday in a rape case. Police said they arrested rickshaw-puller Rajab Ali, 19, on charge of raping a 10-year-old girl Tuesday. The girl was being treated at General Hospital. Local unit of Bangladesh Mohila Parishad filed the case Thursday.

Killer husband gets life-term in Tangail

**UNB, Tangail**  
Aman was sentenced to life-term imprisonment by a court here on August 21 for killing his wife in 2001. The court also fined Abdul Aziz Mia of Hotea village in Shakhipur upazila Tk 2000, in default, to suffer two years more in jail. The case history in brief: Aziz strangled his wife Shefali Begum following a family feud on January 28, 2001. After examining the records and witnesses, the District and Sessions Judge handed down the judgement.

Best college in Jhenidah

**UNB, Jhenidah**  
Government KC College was adjudged as the best college in Jhenidah by Jhenidah Foundation. Prof Shahidul Islam of the college was adjudged the best teacher. Fisheries and Livestock Minister Sadek Hossain Khoka handed over a crest to principal Dr Mukbul Hossain for the college at a function on August 21. Prof Shahid also received crest at the function. Set up in 1960, the college offers honours and master's degree courses in five subjects.

Transfer triggers agitation at Natore Sadar Hospital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Natore

The Third and Fourth Class Employees' Welfare Council of Natore Sadar Hospital are observing strike from 8 am to 11 am daily from Wednesday protesting transfer order of three employees.

The employees were transferred allegedly for their misbehaviour with the driver of an additional secretary of the health and family planning ministry.

The agitating employees held processions and rallies at the hospital premises on the first day. Rois Uddin Ahmed, president of the employees' council and general secretary Abdur Razzak addressed the rally, among others.

The speakers at the rally gave an ultimatum to the higher authorities to withdraw the transfer order and threatened of tougher programmes unless their demands were met soon.

The speakers at the rally also demanded removal of the Rajshahi regional health director, Dr Fazlur Rahman.

Meanwhile, following assurance from civil surgeon (CS) of not releasing the transferred employees, the agitating employees withdrew their seize around the offices of the CS of Natore Dr Mujibur Rahman and Residential Medical Officer (RMO) of the hospital Dr Abul Kalam Azad on Wednesday night.

Director of Rajshahi regional health directorate in separate notices transferred the three employees Hashem Patwari, Habibur Rahman and Nadira Begum outside Natore.

The three employees were transferred for their 'misbehaviour' with Babu (nick name), driver of an

additional secretary of the health and family planning ministry.

On the night of August 23, the three employees barred Babu from entering into the female ward of the hospital. Babu wanted to enter into the hospital while smoking.

Babu came to Natore as a guest of the additional secretary. And he demanded some extra privileges from local health officials taking the opportunity of a 'weak point' of the additional secretary, it was learnt.

The weak point is that the secretary's son had an accident at Lalpur upazila while driving his father's official vehicle.

Babu came to Natore to recover the damaged vehicle as well as to save his boss from possible official harassment.

Acting on a request of the additional secretary to extend his cooperation to the driver, Dr Abul Kalam Azad, RMO of the hospital arranged his place of night halage at a local hotel.

But Babu demanded it at the circuit house and later demanded a packet of Benson cigarette.

When his demands were met, Babu started demanding more things and at one stage he demanded to supply him 'a girl'.

And with an ulterior motive after seeing the attending female nurses, he entered into the hospital wards at the dead of night, it was learnt.

The three-member committee headed by Dr Ishtiaque Ahmed to investigate into the incident of alleged misbehaviour of the employees with the driver was asked to submit its report within Sunday.

Separate incidents claim 3 in Satkhira

UNB, Satkhira

Three people, including a little boy, were killed in separate incidents in Satkhira on Friday.

They were identified as Sajib, 6, and Momena Khatun, 26, of Devhata upazila and Monu, 30, of Tala upazila.

Police said Sajib, son of Prof. Monirul Islam of Bohera village in Debhata upazila was slaughtered by unknown assailants at a garden in the noon.

Police suspected that Sajib was killed by rivals over property related dispute.

In the same upazila, Momena Khatun allegedly killed by her husband Yakub Ali over dowry demand.

Besides, rivals gunned down outlawed party leader Monu, son of Biswajit in Baruihati area in Tala upazila, early Friday.

One person was arrested over the incidents. Separate cases were filed with respective police stations.

Growers suffer for stalled jute procurement

UNB, Jamalpur

Jute growers are in deep trouble as they are being denied of fair price of their produces in the market.

Farmers said official jute procurement remained stopped. They urged the authorities concerned to procure their jute to save them from huge loss.

Fariahs (middlemen) said they could not leave the jute business, as they have been involved with this profession for long. Hence they are buying jute carefully because they have no certain place to sell jute following closure of the Adamjee Jute Mills (AJM).

They wait at hats and bazaars with jute from morning with the hope of getting satisfactory price but buyers or fariah are buying jute as per their will frustrating the

farmers.

Local variety of jute was being sold between Tk 200 and 230 per maund while local tosha variety at Tk 240 to 260 and Indian variety Jaltosha at Tk 240-270 at various hats of Nandina, Chontia, Aramnagar, Shimla, Bausi, Bhatara, Balijuri, Shamganj Kalibari, Melandah, Hajrabari, Islampur, Dharmakura, Ghuthail, Dewanganj, Baha-durabad, Jhalorchar, Katharbil, Sanandabari, Kaunia Char, Baksiganj and Naim Mia Bazar.

Local godown owners buy jute at their opportune moment with the thinking of gaining profit. Adamjee Jute Mills was the only place for farmers as well as fariahs to sell jute but the biggest Mills in Asia was closed down.

Local cultivators reported good jute harvest this year.

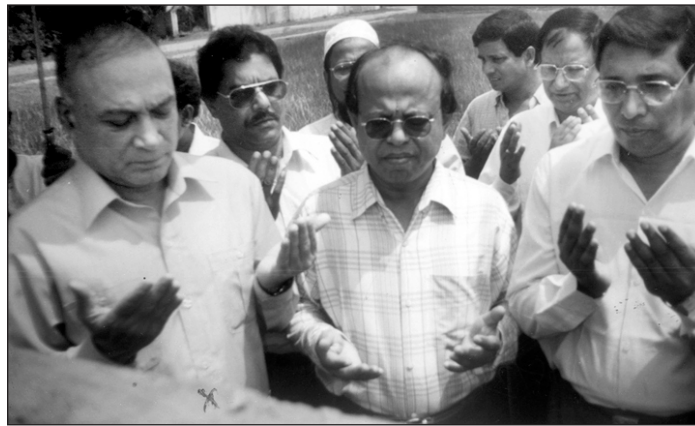


PHOTO: STAR

Al-Amin Chowdhury (left) Secretary, Ministry of Industries offers 'munajat' after laying the foundation stone of Grihini Food Products at Bangladesh Small and Cottage Industries Corporation (BSCIC) Industrial Estate in Satkhira on August 21.

Armed robbers stab sexagenarian to death in Feni

UNB, Feni

Armed robbers stabbed a sexagenarian to death while committing robbery at a house in the town's Shahodebpur area Thursday night.

Locals caught two of the bandits red-handed and handed them over to police after giving a good beating.

Locals said Zahed, one of the members of the gang, stabbed Abdul Haq as he caught him while committing armed robbery in Haq's house at about 2.30am. He died on way to hospital.

As the family members of Haq

raise hue and cry, locals rushed to the spot and caught - Zahed of Char Kalidas village in Sadar upazila and Kartik Chandra Shil, son of Amullaya Ratan Shil of Darbar village in Kachua of Chandpur.

Other members of the gang, including Jasim, managed to flee the scene, said the caught robbers.

But, police said extortionists caught Jasim on his way to his house in the town's Alokdia area.

As Jasim cried for help locals, including Haq, rushed to the spot. Haq was killed by the stabbing of the extortionists.

Miscreant held with arms in Comilla

UNB, Comilla

An alleged miscreant was arrested along with arms and ammunition from Companiganj in Muradnagar upazila headquarters Thursday.

The arrested was identified as Nazrul Islam, 25, one of the main associates of top listed criminal Pichchi Kamal.

On information, plainclothesmen raided a cinema hall at the upazila headquarters and nabbed him.

The law enforcers later searched his body and recovered a revolver loaded with four rounds of bullet and a sharp weapon.

Police said Nazrul, who hailed from village Vinglabari of Devidwar upazila, had long been carrying out different criminal acts in Muradnagar and Companiganj areas.

A case was filed under Arms Act against him.



PHOTO: STAR

Plantation of saplings going on in full swing by Dakshin Surma Samaj Kalyan Sangstha in Sylhet at Silam union under its massive afforestation programme. The organisation recently took up a programme to plant saplings at the villages of all the nine unions in Dakshin Surma police station.