

## NEWS SNAPS

## Truck driver killed in road accident

**BSS, Khulna**  
A truck driver was killed in a road accident at Siromoni bazaar in Khulna city on Friday morning.  
Police said the sand-loaded truck was coming from Kushtia and heading towards Khulna. When it reached the Siromoni bazaar in Khan Jahan Ali police station, suddenly the driver lost control over steering. As a result it hit a roadside tree. As a result the driver died on the spot. The identity of the body could not be known. A case was registered with Khan Jahan Ali police station in this connection.

## One dies of dengue in Barisal

**BSS, Barisal**  
One person died of dengue fever at Galachipa upazila in Patuakhali on Thursday.  
Family sources said one person named Mainuddin, 20, and Dulal, 28, of Charkazol in Galachipa upazila of Patuakhali were infected with the dengue virus when they were working as day labourers in Bandarban upazila about 15 days ago. They came back to their village home after taking treatment there. Later, the condition of Mainuddin aggravated further and he died. Meanwhile, the condition of Dulal has been deteriorating day by day. The chairman of Charkazol union confirmed the death.

## Man sentenced to life-term for killing wife

**BSS, Khulna**  
Diadar Ali Fakir, Additional Sessions Judge and the judge in charge of the District and Sessions Judge Court convicted one person and sentenced him to suffer imprisonment for life killing his wife.  
The judge also fined him Tk 10,000, in default, to suffer six months rigorous imprisonment (RI) more. The case history, in brief, is that Jahangir Mollah strangled his wife Jahanara Begum on July 4, 1996 in their rented house at West Toot Para in the city and fled away. A case against the convicted husband was lodged with police. Police arrested Jahangir Mollah on August 6, 2001, after five years of the murder.  
The Judge examining all the documents and statements of the witnesses announced the verdict.

## Smuggled salt, sugar seized at Rajshahi

**BSS, Rajshahi**  
The Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) personnel in an anti-smuggling drive on November 8 seized Indian smuggled salt and sugar from a house at Godagari in Rajshahi, a BDR source said.  
Acting on a tip-off, a BDR special party from the sector headquarters raided the house and recovered 32 sacks of salt and seven sacks of sugar worth about Tk 39,950. None was arrested in this connection. The contraband goods were deposited with the local Customs authorities.

## Three miscreants held with arms

**BSS, Sirajganj**  
Combined forces arrested three miscreants with a modern pistol from their possession at Singairganti in Sadar upazila on Monday.  
Police said the arrested persons are Nannu Miah, 30, Harun-or-Rashid, 28 and Abdul Gaffar from Singairganti in Sadar upazila. A case was recorded with Sirajganj Sadar police station in this connection.

## Magura traders feel safe as criminals go into hiding

**Hossain SERAJ, Magura**

A sense of security has returned to the peace-loving people and businessmen in four upazilas of Magura district as extortion, mugging and other criminals activities have decreased here significantly following the army crackdown.

Motor-bikes of yellow, red, black and violet colours which were smuggled from India and locally called 'Tana Gari' are now out of scene. Some of the owners of these 'marked' motor-bikes have gone into hiding. Some of them are now moving by rickshaws.

Most of those motor-bike owners were engaged in extorting money from the local businessmen in the town silently.

"Always we were compelled to meet their demands whenever they or their representatives came to us with their multi-coloured motor-bikes," said a businessman at 'Baby Plaza' in Magura town on condition of anonym-

ity. While talking to The Daily Star, more than half a dozen shop owners at 'Super market' and 'Chowrang square in the town total that they got rid of silent extortion by these extortionists. They said the criminals are not seen after the army crackdown on miscreants.

But prominent businessmen in the town have expressed their doubts whether the criminals would claim toll including the 'arrear', after the withdrawal of army. They demanded a permanent solution so that criminals do not return on the conclusion of the crackdown.

"Earlier, we used to receive telephone calls or letters demanding money for holding meeting, cultural function and many other purposes. But it has been stopped totally," said a renowned businessman in the town.

The drivers of bus and trucks also said that toll collection on the highway has been stopped in Magura following the army crackdown on criminals.



**State Minister for Energy and Mineral Resources A K M Mosharrar Hossain offers munajat after inaugurating the extension work of Titas gas supply to Mymensingh town and its adjoining areas on November 2. Local member of parliament (MP) Delwar Hossain Khan and managing director of Titas Gas Transmission and Distribution Company MA Baset were present on the occasion.**

## 124 community clinics in Jhenidah closed down

**OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jhenidah**

One hundred twenty four community clinics built in Jhenidah to provide essential health and family planning services to the rural people were closed down due to an

unknown reason.

Each community clinic was constructed for giving health care service to 6,000 people.

This clinics were constructed at a cost of Tk 2.73 crore in two phases. According to district civil sur-

geon's office sources, out of the target of 167 community clinics, 121 were constructed in Jhenidah. Of these, 22 clinics were situated in Jhenidah Sadar, 37 in Saikupa, 19 in Harinakundu, 11 in Kaliganj and Kotchandpur each and 21 in Mohepur upazila. Seventy community clinics were constructed in first phase, while rest 54 were constructed in second phase in the 200-2001 fiscal. One health assistant, one family welfare assistant and part time family welfare visitors were posted in each community clinic.

Now the authorities have stopped supplying medicine to all the community clinics while the health assistants and family welfare assistants were given jobs in upazila health complexes.



**A cow grazing beside a closed community clinic at village Baroipara in Saikupa upazila in Jhenidah. All the 124 clinics built earlier to provide essential health and family planning services to 6,000 rural people in the district were closed down due to unknown reason.**

## Minor suffers acid burn injury

**OUR CORRESPONDENT, Magura**

A baby aged 3 years suffered severe burn injuries as he unknowingly poured out acid on his body which was stored in a bottle in the house of Amjad Hossain at the police line para area in Magura town. He was admitted to Magura Sadar Hospital at 1-20 pm on October 20.

The victim was identified as Shakib, 3, son of Shabu Molla of village Koya in Pangsha upazila, Rajbari.

Family sources said, baby **268 tubewells to be installed in Pirojpur**

**UNB, Pirojpur**

Department of Public Health Engineering (DPHE) will install 268 deep tubewells in four upazilas here for supplying pure drinking water in the current fiscal.

Of the tubewells, 40 will be set up in Sadar upazila, 169 in Swarupkathi, 49 in Bhandaria and 10 Mathbaria upazilas under the scheme to be financed by DANIDA.

Work on the project will be started soon and ended by June next year, official sources said.

During the period, the department will also establish 23 deep tubewells in Najirpur and six tubewells in Kaukhali upazila.

## Brutal!

**OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur**

A cruelty of a dowry greedy man costs his a 9-month-old man on October 22 at Pirgonj.

Eyewitnesses said, Ashrafur Alias Catu, 30, of village Parbalpur in Pirgonj upazila married to Ratna, 20, of village Kashimpur about one year back.

At that time it was settled that he would be paid Tk 10,000 as dowry. At the time of marriage, Abdus Samad, a day labourer paid Tk 6,000 to his son-in-law and promised to pay the rest amount of dowry some time later on. But, when Ashrafur found the delay in payment of the rest amount of dowry, he began to torture his wife Ratna frequently.

About a month back Ashrafur forcibly sent Ratna to her father's house to bring the rest amount of dowry. Before sending Ratna to bring the rest amount, he kept his newborn 9-month-old baby as hostage and asked her to return immediately with dowry money. But, after one week, when he found that her wife did not turn up.

Ashrafur cut his minor son's diet. In this way the innocent child fell ill and ultimately he died on October 22. Ratna's father Abdus Samad on October 5 lodged a complaint with Pirgonj Police and requested them to rescue the minor boy and hand over him to his mother. But police allegedly did not pay heed to his complaint. As a result the child died. A case was filed in this connection with the respective police station and an inquiry was started. But none was arrested till filing of the report.

## Bus dacoity on Dhaka-N'ganj link road

**BSS, N'ganj**

Armed robbers looted money in cash and other valuables from bus passengers at Jalkuri on Dhaka-Narayanganj link road in Fatullah police station Tuesday morning.

According to police and witness, a gang of six robbers boarded a Gawsia-bound bus (Dhaka Cha-497) in guise of passengers from Kalirbazar of the town.

The bus was carrying about 50 wholesale cloth traders. They were going to the weekly market at Gawsia in Rupganj upazila.

When the bus reached Jalkuri, the robbers looted money and valuables from the passengers at gun point and decamped with the booty.

Passengers handed over the bus driver to army personnel.

Later, he was handed over to the police.

A case has been registered with Fatullah police.

## New chairman of Narail Municipality

**OUR CORRESPONDENT, Narail**

Khan Mohammad Kabir Hussain has been nominated as the chairman-in-charge of Narail Municipality by the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development (LGRD). He replaced the elected chairman of the municipality Nizamuddin Khan Nilu. Three time bombs were recovered from his under construction residence at Kurigran here. He was hiding since recovery of the bombs. Charges were framed against him by police. The LGRD ministry also directed Kabir to handle the fund of the municipality. The offices and staff of the municipality have expressed their full faith on the new charmen. The staffers remained off from office for a long time after the incident.

Meanwhile, various social, cultural and other organisations welcomed and congratulated the new chairman. As a well-known personality the new chairman asked all to pray for him in discharging the responsibilities as the chairman of the municipality.

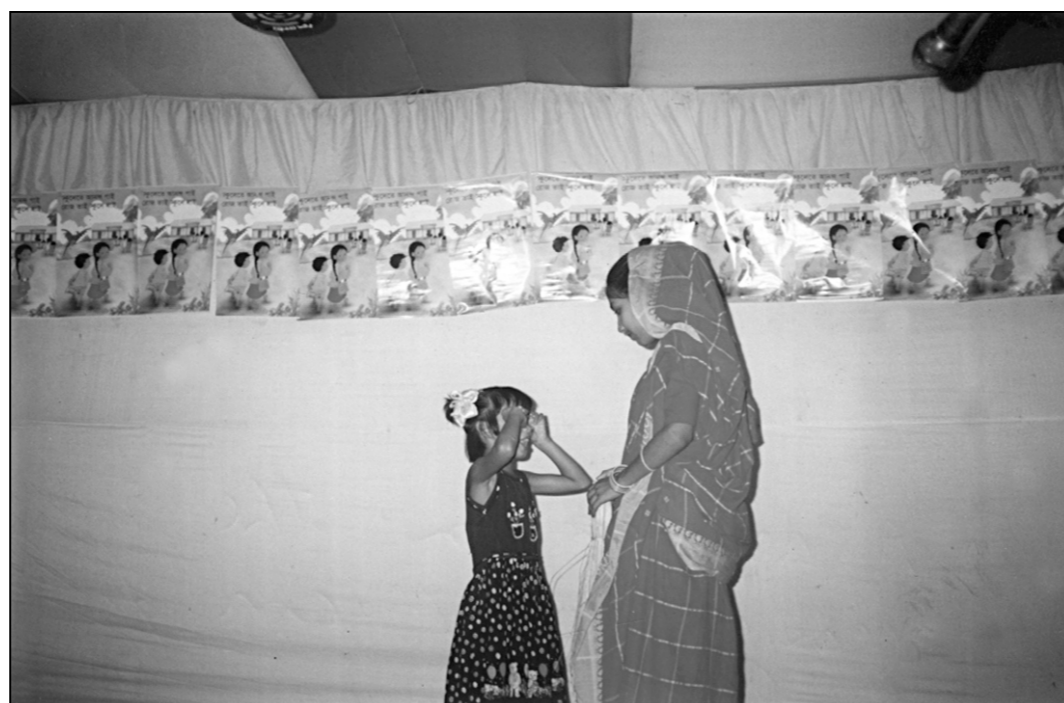


**Chairman of the Privatisation Commission Enam Ahmed Chowdhury speaking on the occasion of the silver jubilee of rural electrification programme at the Sylhet Palli Bityut Samity-1 office recently.**



**PHOTO: STAR**

**A beautiful arch in Magura town, built on the occasion of five-day Katayani Puja which started from November 10. Every year this puja is held here just after one month of the Durga Puja, the largest religious festival of Bengali speaking Hindus. Thousands of people from the neighbouring India have come here to celebrate the puja turning the district town as 'a town of festival'.**



**PHOTO: STAR**

**Two child artistes Moni and Lata of Spondon Shilpi Goshthi, a cultural organisation, staged a drama 'Bhuler Mashul' at the two-day Meena Fair held recently in Gaibandha town.**