

## NEWS SNAPS

## Housewife

## killed

**OUR CORRESPONDENT, Nilphamari**  
A housewife was beaten to death allegedly by her husband at village Hazipara in in Sadar upazila on Sunday.

Jamiar Rahman beat his wife Tanzina Begum, 28, to death at night when she refused to serve him food following a family feud, family sources said. The killer husband went into hiding after the incident. A murder case was filed with the police.

## Jubo Dal leader arrested

## UNB, Satkhira

The Army-led joint forces arrested Jubo Dal president of Tala upazila Badruzzaman from a tea stall in Patkelghata bazaar on Monday.

The army troops earlier took several attempts to nab him but failed. Police said Badruzzaman, a chairman candidate for upcoming UP election, is a listed terrorist. He was handed over to the police.

## Valuables looted

## UNB, Gazipur

An armed robbery was committed at the house of one person named Abul Quasem at Surtaranga road in Tongi early Monday.

Police said armed robbers entered into the house at about 3.30am by cutting the window grill and looted cash, gold ornaments and other valuables worth Tk 2.28 lakh at gunpoint. They also beat up the inmates of the house when they tried to resist them. A case was filed.

## Garments worker

## raped

## UNB, Keraniganj

A teenage garments worker was raped after abduction in Aganagar area in the upazila Sunday night.

Family sources said local criminal Mannan and his accomplices abducted the girl, 14, at gunpoint at 10 pm on her way back home. They took her to an abandoned house and raped her by turn. On information police rescued the girl in an unconscious state next morning. She was rushed to Mitford hospital. A case was filed in this connection.

## Tk 86 lakh road construction project

## UNB, Tangail

An 11-kilometer road will be constructed in Ghatal upazila here at a cost of Tk 86 lakh.

State Minister for Labour and Employment inaugurated the construction work of the Hamidpur-Deopara road Monday. Besides, the State Minister inaugurated the newly constructed Haripur Government Primary School.



PHOTO: HOSSAIN SERAJ

The sun sets for the last time in 2002. The picture was taken from the Modhumati River in Magura.

## Cold wave claims two in Sirajganj, one in Satkhira

## STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Cold wave has claimed two lives in Sirajganj and one life in Satkhira. **Our Sirajganj Correspondent reports:** Two people died of cold related diseases in Sirajganj in the last three days.

Two hundred people affected with cold related diseases such as bronchitis, pneumonia, asthma and cold diarrhoea have been admitted to the General Hospital and other upazila health complexes.

The dead are identified as Afsar Sk, 82, of Chowhali upazila and Rahima Bewa, 62, of Kazipur upazila.

A shivering cold wave has been

sweeping over the northern region including Sirajganj for the last few days.

The cold wave has paralysed normal life of the people of the district. Kazipur and Chowhali upazilas shoal lands and Water Development Board embankment areas are the most worst affected areas. People are seldom found on the road during the daytime due to the biting cold and working in their respective offices closing doors and windows.

Civil Surgeon of Sirajganj Dr A F M Nausher Ali said a few patients were admitted to Sirajganj General Hospital and other upazila health

complexes in two days.

Police Super (SP), Sirajganj A K M Shahidul Haque on Sunday distributed warm clothes 300 cold affected destitutes. Police personnel of 10 police stations donated their one day's salary including warm clothes for distribution among the cold affected people.

**UNB from Satkhira reports:** An elderly man died from shivering cold in Satkhira Sunday.

He was identified as Abul Hossain of village Dhulidhar in Sadar upazila.

Diarrhea also has broken out in the district following severe cold wave.

## Sharp fall in water level of rivers

## Railway ferry service affected

## K M REZAUL HAQUE, Gaibandha

Railway ferry service between and Bahadurabad ghat is being affected owing to sharp fall in water level in the Brahmaputra basin.

At the advent of winter water level of every river came down below navigable draught. As such water transports cannot move smoothly.

Every year the same situation prevails along Teestamuk ghat presently located at Balashi and Bahadurabad ghat railway ferry route in Brahmaputra basin. The

situation turns alarming during winter season when innumerable shoals emerge at different points throughout the route causing acute navigational problem.

Very often the ferry boats run aground mid-steam and remains stranded for hours together causing untold sufferings to the passengers.

At least six feet draught water is required to move railway ferry boats but during winter at many points water level comes down to four or below which causes serious hindrance in the movement of water transport, according to the Railway

Marine Department.

During the lean period the Marine Department seeks alternative navigable channel either up or downstream. It requires three to four hours to cross the river while in the rainy season it takes one-and-a-half or two hours. Ferry boats consume more fuel during the winter.

So, during winter season connecting trains of both the ghats cannot maintain the time schedule. Moreover, the trains run late as ferry boats move slowly to avoid grounding.

## MOULVIBAZAR diary

## OUR CORRESPONDENT

## Moulvibazar

## New club for bankers

Bank officers and employees who work in different government and non-government commercial banks in Moulvibazar have formed two separate organisations namely Moulvibazar Bank Officers' Club and Moulvibazar Bankers Club recently.

Moulvibazar Bank Officers' Club was formed recently at a meeting of bank officers at a local hotel.

Presided over by Md Mahbul Haque, Assistant General Manager (AGM) of the Sonali Bank, Moulvibazar regional office, the meeting was attended by officers of different commercial banks of Moulvibazar town.

An 11-member convening committee for the club was formed in the meeting with Md Mahbul Haque, AGM of Sonali Bank and H M Mustak Ahmed, an officer of the same bank as president and member secretary respectively. A decision was adopted to form a full fledged committee of the club within 90 days of this meeting.

Moulvibazar Bankers Club was formed at a recent meeting of officers and employees of different government and non-government commercial banks at the regional office of Janata Bank, Moulvibazar region. The meeting was presided over by Kamal Krishna Goswami, Senior Officer of Janata Bank. Officers and employees of different government and non-government commercial banks attended the meeting. An 11-member convening committee was formed with Md Salah Uddin Ahmed of Janata Bank as convener and Md Omar Faruque of Sonali Bank as joint convener.

Diarrhea also has broken out in the district following severe cold wave.

## Scholarship awarding ceremony

The Scholarship Awarding Ceremony of Shahbender Jubo Sangstha (SJS), an welfare organisation, was held at its office recently.

Presided over by Md Emdadul Haque, President of the organisation, the scholarship awarding ceremony was attended by Md Mukhlesur Rahman, Deputy Commissioner of Moulvibazar as the chief guest, while Musharrif Hussain Additional District Magistrate and Md Musleh Uddin, Deputy Director of the district Social Welfare Department attended as special guests. Abdul Molik babul, General Secretary of the organisation conducted the function. The chief guest distributed prizes among the school students who obtained scholarships.

## Udichi's 12th biennial confce

Twelfth biennial conference of Srimongal upazila unit of Udichi Shilpi Gosthi was held at Srimongal Municipality auditorium recently.

Proesh Roy, President of Moulvibazar district Drama Council hoisted the national flag while M A Rahim, Chairman of the Preparatory Committee of this conference hoisted the organisational flag respectively.

Presided over by M A Rahim, the conference was attended by prominent drama artiste M Hamid and Central Organising Secretary of Udichi Probir Sarker as chief guest and special guest respectively. It was addressed, among others, by the district president of Udichi Advocate Biswajit Ghose, Md Abdul Matin and Dipendra Bhattacharyya.

A new committee was elected there. 1

## Training for UP polls officials

## UNB, Patuakhali

A daylong training for the concerned union parishad (UP) election officials was held at Collectorate office auditorium here Monday.

The training course focused on election rules, code of conduct and order with Deputy Commissioner (DC) of the district Prosanta Bhusan Barua in the chair.

Assistant Election Commissioner M Altaf Hossain, Police Super Aurongazeb Mahmud, District Election Officer Mesbauddin Ahmed were among the trainers.

A total of 75 officials including seven Upazila Nirbahi Officers (UNO), eight Officers-in-Charge (OC), seven Upazila Village

Defence Party (VDP) officers, 27 Returning Officers and magistrates took part in the training.

BSS from Munshiganj reports: A daylong workshop was held Sunday at the conference room of the Deputy Commissioner here focusing on the ways and means of holding the ensuing Union Parishad elections in a free, fair and peaceful atmosphere.

Rules relating to the conduct of Union Parishad polls, duties of the officials and maintenance of law and order in and around polling centres were discussed in detail in the workshop, district election office sources said.

## Drive to collect warm clothes

## UNB, Natore

The district administration has started special motorcade drive to collect warm clothes from affluent sections in the town for distributing among the distressed people.

Under the leadership of Deputy Commissioner (DC) of Natore Sadaruddin, Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) and a group of magistrates in the motorcade are visiting house-to-house for the warm clothes. District Relief Officer is also included in the warm clothes collection drive.

Official sources said the step was taken to help the distressed cold wave affected people.

## Mystery over death of domestic help in Nilphamari

## OUR CORRESPONDENT, Nilphamari

Mystery shrouds the death of a domestic help at village Titpara in Dimla upazila on Sunday.

Local residents informed that Rupali, 14, daughter of Motiar Rahman had been working in the house of one person named Gazi in the area for the last two months and she died following physical torture of owner of the house.

They alleged that Gazi confused Rupali's parents by saying that she died of diarrhoea and he buried her hurriedly keeping them confined in a room.



PHOTO: STAR

M Mukhlesur Rahman, deputy commissioner (DC), Moulvibazar hands over a prize to a competitor who won the Moulvibazar Government College Cultural Competition on December 23.