

SNAPS

Police informer slaughtered

**UNB, Chuadanga**  
A police informer was slaughtered by the extremists of outlawed Purba Banglar Communist Party (PBCP) in Belgachhi upazila on Monday night. Police said the culprits picked up Zakir Hossain, 35, son of Abdul Aziz, from his Daulatdia residence and slaughtered him near the rail gate. The same group abducted and chopped Zakir following a previous enmity. The body was sent to hospital morgue for autopsy. A case was filed

Timber trader killed in road accident

**UNB, Bandarban**  
A timber trader was killed in a road accident at Manurtek on Bandarban-Keranihat road on Tuesday. Police said a foodgrains-laden truck overturned on the road leaving its passenger, a timber trader Mohammad Osman, 40, dead on the spot. Two people including the driver of the truck were also injured in the accident.

Foreign liquor recovered

**UNB, Sylhet**  
Police arrested the owner of a department store with 80 cans of foreign beer from Amborkhana area of the town on Saturday. Plainclothes police went to Farooque and Brother's store in the guise of beer buyers and found 80 cans of banned foreign beer. They arrested the owner of the store Rafiqul Islam and sent him to jail hajat.

Extortionists rule 2 Sirajganj upazila

Crime on the rise in the district

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sirajgonj

Panic gripped Ullapara and Kamarkand upazila (UZ) as criminals gave letters to two school-teachers for Tk 70,000 and threatened with death for failure, four days after four persons were killed for Tk two lakh toll. The letters were sent to two Kiron Kanti Goshami and Kishore Kanti Goshami of Raidowlotpur village under Kamarkand upazila on May 14 for payment of the amount by 7 pm on May 18. After receiving the letters signed by a "leader of ETI group", the two brothers lodged a case with Kamarkhand police and fled home fearing reprisal by the criminals, family sources said. Police said they arrested one Shafiqul Islam, who allegedly sent the letters. On May 14, four persons including an women were killed at Kaliakair village in Ullapara by miscreants for failing to pay Tk two lakh. Police are yet to identify the killers or find any clue to the car-

Phensidyl recovered

**UNB, Rajbari**  
Police in a raid recovered 10 bottles of Phensidyl from Khulna-Daulatdia Nakshi Kantha express train on Tuesday. Passengers alleged that the train is being used for transportation of Phensidyl to other parts of the country for long but police always kept their eyes closed.

nage although they arrested five persons in this connection, police sources said. Besides extortion, crimes including murder, acid throwing, rape and abduction for toll have increased in Sirajganj. At least eight murders, two incidents of kidnapping and four of acid throwing were committed in the district since April 15, according to police. The murders include the four at Kaliakoir. An unidentified blind beggar fell victim to acid violence at Purbocharkojhuri village under Shahjadpur upazila. Anju Khatun, 16, of Gopinathpur village under Tarash upazila died from acid burn injuries at Dhaka Medical College Hospital. Acid was thrown on her as she refused a marriage proposal. A couple -- Shamsul Haque and his wife Jorina Khatun -- were seriously injured when miscreants threw acid on them while they were asleep at their house at Vataria village under Raiganj upazila on the night of May 7. A young man --Jahidul -- was murdered by miscreants at Saguna village under Belkuchi upazila recently. Police recovered beheaded body of another young man from Ratan Khandi char in the same upazila on 10 April. On 12 April, police recovered the body of two woman from char areas in Chowhali upazila. On the same day, one Abul Mondol was murdered by miscreants at Naggati village under Belkuchi upazila. A school girl --Salma Khatun (14) -- was kidnapped by miscreants from a village in Ullapara upazila. Another school girl -- Chamli Khatun was murdered by miscreants on May 3 at Kunkunia village under Kazipur upazila. Police recovered the body of Planning Commission employee Abdur Rasshid of Saidpur village from a char in Jumuna near Sirajganj town on May 3. A teenaged girl was raped on April 22 night at a village under Raiganj upazila.

Son kills father in Comilla Four women commit suicide, another beaten to death

A CORRESPONDENT, Comilla

Five persons including four women committed suicide and another women was beaten to death in four days from May 14 in the district. A father was killed by his son in another incident during the period. Sajeda Akhter, 34, mother of four children, committed suicide at Peerjatrapur village under Burichong upazila on May 15 allegedly due to torture by her father-in-law, police said. She was the wife of one Tajul Islam. She was taken to Comilla Medical College Hospital after she took poison, but doctors declared her dead. Md. Shaheen Mia (30) son of Safiqur Rahman, committed suicide by taking poison at Neamotpur village under Muradnagar upazila on May 14. A case was lodged with Muradnagar police. Fatema Akhter alias Rekha, 18, daughter of Mahe Alam of Nurpur in Comilla town, committed suicide by hanging herself from the ceiling on May 16 allegedly following a family feud. On the same day another young girl took her life by taking poison at Mongolpur village under the Sadar upazila. The victim has been identified as Shahena, 16, daughter of Mamtaz Mia. Shahena Akhter, 22, wife of Golam Mostafa of Hoaninagar village under the Sadar upazila, committed suicide by taking poi-

son on May 17.

Shahana Akhter, 20, was beaten to death by her sister-in-laws at Basantapur village under Chowddagram upazila on May 14 following a family feud. She was the wife of Obaidul Haque. Her father Abul Khair filed a case with Chowddagram police station. Police arrested Begum Akhter, 40) the victim's sister-in-law. Abdul Berek, 75, was killed by his son Shafiqul Islam at Pombaish village under Barura upazila on May 16. Police said Shafiqul Islam and his brother Anwar Hossain (52) were locked in a quarrel. Their father came in to stop them when Shafiqul hit him on the head. He died on the spot. Two killed by truck in Rangamati OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangamati Two young men were killed when a Chittagong-bound truck hit their motorbike in Mobachhori area on Monday morning. The victims have been identified as Anwar, 22 and Farooque, 20, both residents of Ghagra area. They were going to Kawkhali. They died on the spot. The truck escaped. A case has been lodged with Kawkhali police.

Lack of record 42 new cases await disposal by Barisal Speedy Trial Tribunal

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Forty-two cases are awaiting disposal by the Speedy Trial Tribunal, Barisal. The cases can not be tried as their records have not yet reached the tribunal, according to the public prosecutor (PP) Majibur Rahman Nantu. Of these, 22 are under Arms Act, 18 under Women and Children Repression Act and two are smuggling cases. Ten of the cases are from

Barisal, 16 from Patuakhali, five each from Bhola, Pirozpur and Banguna and one each from Jhalokathi. Earlier, 24 cases were sent to the tribunal, of which 17 were disposed of and four stayed by the High Court. Three of the four cases are against former chief whip of Jatiya Sangsad Abul Hasanat Abdullah and the other is against Liaquat Ali Badsha, Pirozpur municipality chairman and local Awami League leader.



Winners in the Debate for Democracy are seen in the picture with Sher-e-Bangla Agriculture University Vice -chancellor Dr AM Faruk, Prof. Hasan Ahmed Chowdhury, Student Affairs Advisor Prof Kamal Uddin Ahmed and moderator Md Rafiqul Islam. The debate, organised by the university debating society, was held in the city on Sunday.

Four houses in Moulvibazar border burnt by Indians

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Armed Indian criminals backed by Indian Border Security Force (BSF) intruded into Bangladesh territory and burnt four houses near Rajki border in Kulaura upazila in Moulvibazar on Monday. BDR Battalion Commander at a flag meeting on Tuesday at Fultala check post protested the incident and claimed compensation for the loss caused by the fire. The houses belonging to one Mashuk Miah of village Chungabari near border pillar No. 1836 was burnt after a woman's body was found inside the Indian territory two days ago. BSF told BDR to take the body, saying it was of a Bangladeshi national. But after an inquiry, BDR informed BSF that the victim was not a Bangladeshi.

Student body submits memo to minister

CU CORRESPONDENT

The Socialist Student Front (SSF), Chittagong city unit, on Monday submitted a memorandum to the finance minister through the Deputy Commissioner to press their eight-point demand. The demands include 25 percent allocation of the national budget for education sector and solution to problems now faced by the National University. They also held a rally and brought out a procession in the city in support of the demands. The speakers at the rally said colleges under the national university are facing various problems like fund crisis, teacher shortage, inadequate classrooms and lack of library, laboratory facilities, transport and students' dormitory. Presided over by Adnan Habib, president of Chittagong City SSF, the rally was addressed by, among others, Sanjoy Ghosh, Fakhrul Kabir Atiq and Saifuzzaman Khokan.

'Free RU Press Club from Shibir occupation'

A RU CORRESPONDENT

A group of RU correspondents of different national and local dailies submitted a memorandum to RU Vice-chancellor Prof Faisul Islam Faruki on Monday to free RU press club from the occupation of Islami Chhatra Shibir (ICS) activists. The journalists led by Nazrul Islam and Zamiul Ahsan Shipon also gave copies of the memorandum to pro VC Prof KHM Shahadat Hossain Mondol and Students' Advisor Prof Rafiqul Islam. On May 16, 2002, a small group of local journalists representing pro-Jamat-e-Islami newspapers and Shibir cadres led by the then RU proctor Nurul Absar drove out all journalists of leading newspapers from the club and captured it. Two days later, at a meeting with a few journalists, the RU VC and Students' Advisor formed a new three-member convening committee and changed the club's constitution in absence of majority of journalists. This was protested by journalists of leading national dailies.

Body recovered from Cox's Bazar hotel

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar

Police recovered the body of a young man from a residential hotel in the town on Tuesday. The body was found hanging from the ceiling at room number 301 at SK International Hotel. The victim has been identified as Shaharier Hossain, 28, son of Anjad Hossain of N/8, Nur Jahan Road, Mohammadpur, Dhaka, police said. He had rented the room on May 11. As the room remained closed till 3 pm Tuesday, the hotel authorities informed police who broke open the door and recovered the body. Police sent the body to Cox's Bazar Sadar Hospital for autopsy. An unnatural death (UD) case was registered with Cox's Bazar Sadar thana.

Snatchers held with arms

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Two snatchers were arrested along with a shutter gun from the Barisal Medical College campus on Monday. They are Saiful, 35, and Sharif, 20. Two others of the gang managed to escape, police said.



PHOTO: AKM MOHSIN

As the law and order is deteriorating, big size steel trunks are on sale in some north-western districts. The photo was taken recently from Patisar fair in Atrai, Naogaon. Sellers say the trunks are in good demand now for keeping valuables as armed robbery is rampant. Their price varies between Tk 1,000 and Tk 3,000 depending on the size.

RCC demolition Evicted family members living under open sky

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

The family of retired army sergeant Anwarul Islam is now living under the open sky after their house was bulldozed by the Rajshahi City Corporation (RCC) on May 18. His house was demolished unlawfully and without any prior notice although he produced valid records to RCC officials, he told The Daily Star. "There is no law in the country. They evicted me unlawfully from the house I built with my life saving", he said. "My wife and two

young daughters now under the open sky. I don't know to whom I will go for justice", he said. Islam said he was living in the house for 19 years since he built it on a 4.31 decimal land bought from one Gajul Haq in 1984. As per Settlement Acquisition and Revisional Settlement records, the land belonged to Gajul Haq, he said. RCC Magistrate Mujibur Rahman had told this correspondent that the land belonged to RCC as per old CS records. The house was demolished to construct a drain.

RCC Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Khalilur Rahman when contacted yesterday claimed that the land was property of RCC. He also said a civil court had rejected Islam's case that RCC was trying to evict him from his house. This proved that the land belonged to RCC, the CEO claimed. But Islam, citing documents, said the case was rejected by court as it was filed without notifying RCC. "I was not aware of Section 38 of RCC Act 1987 that prohibits filing of a case against RCC without any notice".