

## SNAPS

## Body of outlaw recovered

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Khulna thana police recovered the body of an alleged outlaw, Zabar Howlader, from Rupsha ferry terminal on Sunday.

Police said he belonged to outlawed Turbo Bangla Communist Party.

Quoting Zabar's mother and wife, police said he was missing from his house in Milky Darha area under Rupsha thana since Thursday. He might have been abducted by some unidentified persons and shot dead, they said.

## Orientation course for UP chairmen

BSS, Rajbari

A day long orientation course for the newly-elected Union Parishad (UP) chairmen of 42 unions was held at the Deputy Commissioner's conference room on Sunday.

A H M A b u l Q a s h e m, Commissioner of Dhaka Division was present as the chief guest while Mohammad Khoda Buxsh Chowdhury, Deputy Inspector General of Police (DIG), Dhaka Range was the special guest.

## Afforestation drive

A massive afforestation drive started at BAF Base Paharkanchapur in Langal, says an ISPR press release.

Environment and Forest Minister Shahjahan Siraj inaugurated the programme by planting a mango sapling at the operations wing premises of the BAF Base on Saturday.

## Timber seized

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangamati

A timber-loaded bus was seized by a team of police and army in Reserve Bazar area of the town Saturday night.

## BDR-BSF Flag meeting held

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chuadanga

A commander-level flag meeting between Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) and Border Security Force of India (BSF) was held on Saturday in the no man's land at Benipur in Chuadanga.

The meeting discussed problems like killing of Bangladeshis by BSF, smuggling and cross-border crime in border areas of Jhajhia, Chuadanga and Meherpur in Bangladesh and Nodia in India.

The meeting was held in a cordial atmosphere and lasted about seven hours, BDR sources said.

## 4,348 cases pending with Narail courts

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Narail

A total of 4,348 cases are awaiting trial in courts in the district.

Of the cases, 1,424 are in Kalia, 1,312 in Lohagra and 1,612 in Narail Sadar.

Seventy-eight of the cases are relating to torture on women and children, official sources said.

The Additional and Session's Judge, who is in charge of the District Judge, told this correspondent that cases have piled up due to shortage of judges.

This correspondent learnt that there is only one judge for three courts in Narail, Lohagra and Kalia.



The O' Level Graduation Convocation 2003 of Anandaniketan School, Sylhet, was held at a hotel in the divisional city on Wednesday. This is the second batch of GCE O' Level graduates from this school.

## 12 die of malaria in Khagrachhari in a month

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chittagong

At least twelve people died from malaria and pneumonia in Khagrachhari district last month.

Five of deaths were in Ramgarh upazila, according to official sources at in Ramgarh. Seven others were in other areas of the district.

Scores of people including women and children are also suffering from the diseases, they said.

The most affected areas are Patachhara, Nakapa, Taichala, Chowdhury Para, Master Para, Jagannath Para, Daragapara, Fenirkul and Sadukathapara under Khagrachhari, Mahalchhari and Dighinali upazilas.

They said incidence of attack by

a deadly fever locally called "hill malaria" has increased with the onset of the monsoon.

But necessary drugs are scarce. Though three doctors are posted at the upazila health complex, but none stays at their workplace, they alleged.

Only one 'community doctor' is attending about 250 patients everyday, they claimed.

When contacted, the community doctor said malaria will soon turn epidemic if urgent steps are not taken. The doctor said children are very much vulnerable to the diseases.

The officials said health ministry has been informed about the problem.

ing during the study, he said.

Experts working under the RBM programme earlier conducted a research on 100 malaria patients in two upazilas in Khagrachhari and Bandarban.

Deadly Malaria claims hundreds of lives every year in the malaria prone-CHT region.

In Africa, anti-malarial tablet 'Maploquine' is much effective, but it is not commonly available in Bangladesh, he said.

"Each tablet costs Tk 90. This is costly for CHT people", Samarsaid.

Assistant Professor of Chittagong Medical College Hospital Dr Redwan is conducting the research.

## New study on malaria treatment in CHT

MONIRUL ALAM, Rangamati

The Health Directorate has launched a study titled Roll Back Malaria (RBM) in the Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) to ensure better treatment of malaria patients as the old system of treatment is not effective in the hills.

Chloroquine has lost its effectiveness in treatment. The study under RBM combines three medicines - Chloroquine, Pyrimethamine and Sulfadoxine, says doctor Samar Kumar Barua, civil surgeon of Rangamati.

The study has been started first in Kaptai upazila and it will cover the three hill districts. It will continue one year. Malaria patients will be treated

## 266 youths given govt loan

BSS, Khulna

The Karmo Sangsthan Bank, Khulna branch, disbursed Tk 73, 74,000 loans to 266 unemployed youths in the district during the current fiscal.

According to official sources, an amount of Tk 70, 9,000 were recovered from the borrowers during the same period.

The bank gave the loans for setting up poultry farm, shrimps farm, fisheries, boutique and block shop, grocery shop, engineering

workshop, and purchasing computer, photostat machine, and swing machine.

The bank started its function in Khulna on March 4, 1999. Since then, it gave Tk 3. 32 crore loans to 1173 youths.

Total recovery of loans during the period is Tk 1. 95 crore.

Total defalcated loan is Taka 24, 82,000. The bank is taking preparation for filing case against the defaulters by December next, the sources said.

## Momtaj killing in Natore

# AL protests police 'manipulation' in investigation

ROVING CORRESPONDENT, Natore

Awami League staged a big demonstration at Lalpur and held a press conference in Natore protesting alleged police manipulation in investigations into the murder of former Awami League lawmaker Mamta Uddin.

AL leaders claimed that police are following "ruling party prescription" in the investigation to blame AL for the murder and to save the killers.

Hundreds of AL activists put up a demonstration in front of Abdulpur Police Investigation Center and on the premises of Lalpur upazila office on Saturday chanting slogans against police.

They protested what they called a false confessional statement recorded by police from one of the arrested persons to implicate an AL leader and industrialist Anisur Rahman in the murder.

Natore AL at a press conference on the same day claimed that CID police arrested one Babu, son of Ismail Hossain of Krishnarampur

village and extracted from him a false statement implicating AL leader and industrialist Anisur Rahman in the murder.

They claimed that police did not arrest the killer whose name is also Babu, son of Abdul Khaleq of Bahadurpur village.

Police are following "ruling party prescription" and "producing fabricated statements" to prove that the murder was the outcome of feud in AL, they said at the press conference held at Natore Bar Bhaban.

The AL leaders rejected the confessional statement of Babu (son of Ismail Hossain).

CID Police recorded the statement of Babu (son of Ismail Hossain) within 24 hours of his arrest, but they are yet to record any statement of Arif who was arrested on June 7, a day after the killing. Is it not a drama?" Natore AL General Secretary Hanif Ali Sheikh said replying to a question.

Arif read out a written statement at the press conference. Natore AL President Advocate Tahman in the murder.

Babu also told the court that the

killers were hired with Tk two lakh

and the money was handed over to

the leader of the killing squad-

Alam on June 4.

Sajedur Rahman Khan, Organising Secretary and slain Mamta Uddin's brother Advocate Abdul Kalam Azad were present, among others.

They also named six witnesses to the murder. They are Alam, son of Ahsan Ali of Saipara; Moti, son of Badol; Babu, son of Abdul Khaleq; Shamim and Sujon, sons of Shahidul of Bahadurpur; and Aslam, son of Ayub Ali of Madhubari villages in Lalpur, the AL leaders said.

They also claimed that some important telephone numbers were erased from the mobile phone recovered from Arif with a motive to save the killer.

Ismail Hossain's son Babu, arrested on June 12, in his confessional statement before First Class Magistrate Dhirenandhan Sarkar on June 13 said AL leader Anisur Rahman was involved in the murder of Momtaj Uddin.

Babu also told the court that the killers were hired with Tk two lakh and the money was handed over to the leader of the killing squad-

Alam on June 4.



PHOTO: STAR  
Child artistes showing their work on conclusion of a competition in Gaibandha, Sondon Shilpi Goshthi, a cultural group, organised the meet recently in the district town.

## Ex-UP chairman shot

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A former Union Parishad (UP) chairman was shot and injured by terrorists in a dispute over sand quarry on Sunday.

The bullet-hit former chairman of Gohira UP, Sirajul Haq Chowdhury, also a local Awami League leader, was admitted into Chittagong Medical College Hospital in critical condition.

Witnesses said, Sirajul Haq was sitting inside a pharmacy in Sarterghat brick-field area when a group of terrorists came in a microbus and fired several shots at him at around 11.30 am.

The victim alleged that Harun Chairman, Liton and Salim identi-

fied him to the terrorists while Jane Alam and Azizul Haq shot at him. Azizul Haq is the principal accused in the sensational Raozan Buddhist monk murder case. He is reportedly the mastermind in the monk murder.

Sirajul Haq said that the incident could be sequel to a dispute over the sand quarry that he leased from the Roads and Highways Department. Some local terrorists kept it under their control, he said.

He said two weeks back he got a court injunction on control of the sand quarry by the terrorists. He also wanted to file a general diary in this connection but the local thana refused to register it, he alleged.

## Wild elephants kill one, injure 10 in Rangamati

RANGAMATI, June 16

On May 28, a woman identified as Sajeda Begum was killed by wild elephants at Pathorbonpara village. Ten people were also injured in the attack.

Fearing further attack, about 2000 people of nearby Islampur, Pathorbonpara, Baharmurapara and Shafipur villages left homes and took shelter in schools and madrassahs.

Rajostholi Upazila Nirbahee Officer (UNO) Juhurul Haque, police officials and upazila BNP president Md. Selim visited the spot.

Wild elephants are attacking villages due to massive deforestation and fresh human settlements, which destroying wildlife sanctuaries, said a forest official.

## Two killed in Sirajganj road mishaps

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sirajganj

Two persons were killed in two road accidents at Kazipur and Shahjadpur Saturday night.

Rafiqul Islam, 40, died on the spot at Kazipur crossing when a bus hit the rickshaw he was travelling. He was the son of Golam Hossain of Alampur village under Kazipur upazila, police said.

Doctors declared him dead when he was rushed to Sirajganj Sadar Hospital. Swapan was a resident of Bhagdah in the town.

Police said he was killed due to previous enmity. A case was filed with the Sadar police but noon was arrested so far.

## Businessman shot dead at Narsingdi

BSS, Narsingdi

Armed terrorists shot dead a young businessman at Surovi Super Market in the town on Sunday.

Four terrorists shot Swapan Bhuiyan, 30, point blank when he along with his friend Nuzrul was taking food in front of a shop, police said.

Doctors declared him dead when he was rushed to Narsingdi Sadar Hospital. Swapan was a resident of Bhagdah in the town.

Police said he was killed due to previous enmity. A case was filed with the Sadar police but noon was arrested so far.

## 4 snatchers held with 2 pistols

RU CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Police arrested four alleged hijackers with two foreign pistols and four bullets in Rajshahi Friday evening.

Iftekhar Hossain Jony, 25, was arrested with a pistol while he was trying to snatch money from one Kamruzzaman of Gomostapur at Kazihata. Later, on Jony's confession, police arrested Moshiur Rahman, 32, and Wahedul Islam, 30. The three were members of a gang, police said.

In another incident, police arrested Ariful Islam Tiger with a German-made revolver from behind the TB Hospital when he was trying to snatch money from pedestrians.

Two cases have been filed with Rajpara thana under Rajshahi Metropolitan Police (RMP).

On the same day, Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) personnel recovered one revolver and two bullets from one Abdur Rajjak after searching the Mishuk in which he was traveling at the BDR office gate. A case has been filed with Shah Makhdum thana under RMP.



PHOTO: AKM MOHSIN

They are not viewing any game or anything interesting. Relatives of incoming passengers are waiting for hours on a hillock near the Osmani International Airport, Sylhet. Visitors are neither allowed inside the boundary nor the authorities have made any arrangement for their protection from rain or sun.