

## SNAPS

## Housewife commits 'suicide'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira A newly married housewife allegedly committed suicide by taking poison at Bagati village under Kaligonj upazila recently, police said.

Rozina Khatun, 18, daughter of Amanat Gazi was married to Musa Gazi of Khanjan village under the same upazila two weeks back.

She came to her father's house on June 14 and took poison two days later. The cause of the incident could not be known immediately. A case was lodged with Kaligonj police station.

## Inter-district robbers held

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira Police arrested two alleged ringleaders of a gang of inter-district dacoits from Baliahdanga village in the Sadar upazila Monday night.

They are Abdul Kader and Abdul Gaffar of Baliahdanga village in the same upazila, police said.

Acting on a tip-off, SI Fashir Rahman raided a house at about midnight and caught the two while the gang was preparing to commit dacoity in a nearby village. Others fled away.

The arrested persons have long been wanted in several criminal cases, police said.

## Boy killed in road mishap

UNB, Comilla A minor boy was killed in a road accident at Mukimpur in Brahmanbaria upazila on Comilla-Brahmanbaria road on Monday.

Police said Shafullah, 7, son of Abu Musa of Mongouch village was crushed under the wheels of a pickup van. Local people caught the driver of the van, Abu Hossain Swapani and handed him over to police. A case was filed.

## 30 injured as villagers clash

A CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

A clash between two groups of villagers left at least 30 people injured at Foyzulahpur village in Minpur upazila on Monday.

The clash occurred over holding of a fair in the village.

Sources said, some local leaders of the ruling party organised a month-long fair Junniadeh Bazar without approval of the local administration. The fair started on June 10.

They alleged that various anti-social activities were going on at the fair. This angered local people.

As some people of the area asked the organisers to stop the fair, some local youths attacked them, resulting in the clash.

They said police were informed of the clash but they did not go there.

## Two spars in Jamuna dam washed away in Sirajganj

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sirajganj

embankment from erosion to save lands and human habitations.

The original budget was Tk 9 crore. But as the under-construction spar was damaged last year, additional Tk 2 crore 12 lakh was sanctioned and the project was somehow completed.

Local people alleged that the spar was damaged as the construction was done during monsoon. This year also, WDB floated tender for its reconstruction when the dry season was over.

They further alleged that the authorities have started dumping

concrete blocks and sand bags to save the spar, but it is an eye wash.

The spar at Meghrai was constructed in 2001 at the cost of Tk 15 crore.

If the river water increases, reconstruction of the spurs will be hampered.

When contacted, WDB Executive Engineer Mojibor Rahman said the Jamuna embankment in entire Kazipur area is under threat now.

## Teenager's suicide after gangrape evoke protests but police unmoved

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Magura

Tuesday. Halima's uncle Farook Molla filed a case with Mohammadpur police station.

Her tragic end has drawn many local political leaders, police officials, NGOs and the local people but the culprits are allegedly still at large.

Magura Police Superintendent Biswas Afzal Hossain, upazila Nirbahi office (UNO) Hazera Khatun and other officials visited Halima's family on Tuesday and talked to the victim's parents and neighbours. The SP promised that the culprits would be arrested and punished.

During the officials' visit, the

villagers brought out a procession demanding immediate arrest and punishment of the culprits.

Talking to journalists, some of the villagers complained of inaction by local police in arresting the culprits.

"The culprits should be punished so that no girl faces the fate as of my daughter", Halima's mother Khadija Begum said.

However the officer-in-charge (OC) of Mohammadpur Thana, Nazrul Islam, said a police team comprising one sub-inspector, one assistant sub-inspector and seven constables has been formed to nab the culprits.

## Five held while fleeing leaving body of woman

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

Five persons including a woman were caught by people while they were fleeing after leaving the body of a young woman at an abandoned brick field in Akua Daskhin Para area in town on Tuesday.

They were handed over to Kotwali police.

The five had brought the body in a microbus. The five are Rashida, 25; Sumon, 28; microbus driver Billal; its helper Eron and Rusel, 25.

They were handed over to Kotwali police, who also seized the microbus.

Talking to newsmen at the police station, they said Jasna was taken to a clinic in Dhaka for abortion. As her condition deteriorated due to complications during abortion, she was shifted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) where she died.

Police were interrogating the arrested persons till filing of the report on Wednesday.

The local people are now happy.

## Tiger kills two in the Sundarbans

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

Two persons were killed by tigers in Kaikhali village in the Sundarbans on June 16 in two incidents, local people said.

Tigers swooped on Khoka, 22, and Ajuddin, 45, of the same village when they were fishing in Bakchara canal. They were killed on the spot.

In another incident in the same village, some BNP activists allegedly led by Monju and Mafizul Islam of Patkelghata village beat some fishermen and snatched shrimp fries from them when they were taking those to Dumuria for sale.

Police said they arrested Mofizul Islam after filing of a case with Tala Thana.

## Cop caught from gamblers den still on duty

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur

Local people led by some youths caught the police constable along with a gambler, made them sit and stand consecutively by holding ears and chased them to the nearby river.

They jumped into the river, swam ashore and disappeared in the darkness.

The incident took place at a gamblers' den Kala Shadar bazaar in Pirganj on June 11.

But to the surprise of all, constable Dulal Mia is still on duty despite complaints against him, local people said.

The people swooped on the den at night, removed it and caught the constable along with the gamblers' leader Gafoor. Others escaped.

The local people are now happy.

## Three killed in road mishap in Kushtia

A CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

fish-laden truck with 15 people on it skidded off the road and fell into a roadside ditch.

On information, police rushed to the spot, recovered the bodies and sent them to Kushtia Sadar Hospital for autopsy.

Four of the injured -- Ajimuddin, 40; Amin, 40; Nasiruddin 24 and Babu 30 -- were admitted to the local health complex.

Police seized the truck but the driver and the helper escaped.

## BCL protests Polash murder

A RU CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

The Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) brought out a procession on the Rajshahi University (RU) campus protesting the killing of BCL leader Saiful Rasul Palash in Dhaka.

The BCL also held a brief protest rally, addressed by RU BCL unit convener Kamruzzaman Chancal and joint convener Jakariya Khan James.

The BCL Institute of Technology also held a meeting protesting the killing.

## Wrist of Jubo League man cut off in clash with BNP

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jhenidah

A wrist of a Jubo League activist was cut off, and another party activist stabbed in a clash between Awami League and BNP men at Parmathurapur village in Horinakundu upazila on Tuesday, according to police.

The clash was a sequel to a previous enmity. During the clash, some BNP activists cut off the right hand wrist of Juba League activist Mintu and stabbed Nasir at about 9 am. Later, AL activists stabbed BNP activist Ramjan Ali.

The injured Jubo League activists were sent to Khulna Medical College Hospital. Ramjan was taken to Jhenidah Sadar Hospital.

## 'Outlaw' shot dead

UNB, Jhenidah

An 'outlaw' was shot dead at rail stationpara in Kotchandpur upazila on Sunday.

Police said Siddique alias Farook, an activist of Pubra Banglar Communist Party, was gunned down when he was entering his house at night.



A perennial problem .... Be it wet or dry season, most of the drains in Sylhet city remain filled with filth and mire and sources of mosquito and stench. Photo shows some of the drains at Tantipara, Naiorpara and Dhopadighipara. Will the city fathers wake up!

## 23 educational institutions 'blacklisted'

UNB, Narsingdi

Twenty-three educational institutions in five upazilas of the district have been 'blacklisted' for debacle in last SSC examinations'.

The education board also issued show cause notice to these institutions and warned to withdraw MPOS if the results in next examination are

not satisfactory.

District Secondary Education Office sources said of the blacklisted schools, 14 are in Monohordi upazila.

It also said over 1,000 students of these schools and madrassahs failed to come out successful in the last SSC and Dhakhil examinations.

## One held in Jubo League leader murder case

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chaudanga

Police arrested a suspect in the murder of Jubo League leader and former Union Parishad (UP) chairman Ali Hossain.

Nozul was arrested from Daulatdial by Chaudanga Sadar police on Sunday.

Ali Hossain, former chairman of Jurampur UP under Damrurhuda upazila, was shot and hacked to death on the premises of Chaudanga Sadar Hospital on the night of June 8.

## Pineapples in plenty but growers fear price slump

No preservation facility, marketing network poor

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

There has been a bumper production of pineapple in the district this year due to favourable weather conditions.

But farmers and traders apprehend substantial quantities will perish due to lack of preservation and marketing facilities.

There is no cold storage for preservation of pineapple and transportation facilities are too

inadequate and costly.

Wholesale markets in

Moulvibazar and Sylhet, the main pineapple producing areas, have been flooded with pineapple, which has drawn a large number of traders from across the country.

Growers said the prices and demand are reasonable. Depending on quality, the fruit is being sold at between Tk 500 and 1,125 per 100 at wholesale markets in Sreemongal and Kamalganj upazilas. Another three crore have been produced on 2,000 acres of land under Sadar, Rajnagar Kulaura and Beralekha upazilas.

'Bilati' or 'honey-queen' pineapples are popular for their taste. Kalenya pineapples are of big, weighing 3 to 4 kg each.

At least 40,000 people are involved in pineapple cultivation and trade, the sources said.

Growers cultivate the fruit without any help from government and non-governmental organisations (NGOs).



A pineapples wholesale market in Moulvibazar.