

## SNAPS

### Two killed in Gaibandha road accident

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gaibandha

Two persons were killed and 12 others injured in a road accident in the Rangpur-Bogra Highway at Sreepur in Palashbari upazila on Thursday afternoon, police said.

A Rangpur-bound loaded truck collided head-on with another Dhaka-bound truck coming from the opposite direction as the driver lost control over the steering wheel.

The dead victims are Shabbir Ahmed, 40, a truck driver and Abdul Khaleque, 40, a van-puller.

Twelve injured truck passengers were shifted to Palashbari Health Complex.

A case was filed with Palashbari police station.

### IU Law Deptt exam not held

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

The third-year honours final examination of the Islamic University (IU) Law Department was not held as per schedule on Thursday.

The examination was not held as the Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) locked the room of the Controller of Examinations because

two BNP activists did not get their admit cards for sitting in the examination, according to campus sources.

However, sources in the Controller of Examinations section clarified the position saying admit cards were not issued to the students for their failure to take part in the non-credit course examinations which is mandatory for sitting in the final examination as per law of the university.

When the controller section officials sought vice-chancellor's (VC) intervention, he stopped the examination.

### RU probe body to investigate May 15 incident

RU CORRESPONDENT

The Rajshahi University (RU) authorities have formed a five-member probe committee headed by Geography and Environment Department teacher Sayed Rafiqul Islam to investigate into the May 15 incident.

On the day, 50 demonstrators were injured by pro-government teachers, activists of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD), Islami Chhatra Shibir (ICS) and police when they were demonstrating against a controversial recruitment of 544 staff and demanding immediate resumption of classes and examinations in the university.

### No clue to Abdul Ahad murder in Sylhet

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

No clue to Abdul Ahad murder has been traced after four days of the gruesome murder.

Though four persons were arrested and taken on three days' remand, yet police could not trace any clue of Monday night's murder.

Owner of a huge landed property, Abdul Ahad, 55, was killed by unknown assailants on the aforesaid night and the body was recovered the next morning from a hillock type spot near to his house.

The victim went out of his house at about 10 pm on Monday. Since then he had been missing. One of his eyes was gouged out and an ear was severed by the killers. The body also bore marks of injuries on nose and throat.

### Body exhumed after 23 days

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Nilphamari

Body of a young man was exhumed after 23 days of its burial in Domar upazila.

Domar thana police on Wednesday exhumed the body of Rahidul Islam, 19, in presence of UNO Md Farooq Ahamed following a court order after his mother Rasheda Begum filed a murder case with police. The exhumed body was sent to Nilphamari Sadar Hospital morgue for autopsy.

The body was buried on April 26. Rahidul of Mela Panga village in Domar upazila died from injuries after he was beaten by one Abul Kalam. The body was buried hurriedly without autopsy.

His mother lodged a murder case after the burial, accusing Abul Kalam and his (Rahidul) stepmother Noor Jahan Begum.

## Teachers raise a glimmer of hope

A move for better education, moral teaching launched in Satkhira

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

This is the first such move in the small town, possibly in the country. Some teachers, joined by other professionals and civil society members, held a lengthy brainstorming session on how to improve the education system and produce good citizens.

They launched a movement styled Shikkha Bachao Andolon (movement to save education) at the five-hour session, addressed by educationists, officials, lawyers, journalists, NGO leaders and civil society members.

All were one in raising their voice for good education and moral teaching that will enlighten students and broaden their outlook to remove ills from the society.

In a rare soul-searching, they were also critical of the role of a

section of teachers who come to the profession with a "commercial attitude". Private coaching must be done away with, they said. But for that they should be paid adequately to lead a decent and honest life.

The aim of the Shikkha Bachao Andolon is to create awareness among all, teachers in particular, about the need for "good education and moral teaching" to students to help them become "good professionals and good citizens".

Headed by Prof Abdul Hamid, the Andolon comprise 17 members.

To start with, they will visit schools and colleges and have group discussions with teachers and authorities to create awareness.

The committee will sit soon to chalk out its future programme and prepare suggestions, also to be given to the government.

The session, held at the Satkhira Sadar Upazila auditorium on Thursday, was inaugurated by UNO (Upazila Nirbahi Officer) AKM Ali Azam with Principal Asit Kumar Majumdar in the chair.

Sheikh Amanullah, chairman of Bangladesh Sikkhak Samity Federation, was the chief guest. Prof Abdul Hamid presented the keynote paper.

In his paper, Prof Abdul Hamid said the present education system produces job-seekers, not job-creators. On the other hand, students with brilliant academic results later turn corrupt in professional life.

This is because they do not get any moral teaching, he said. They are not taught that they have to do something good for the society and the country, he said. "Our education system is responsible for these", he said.

Echoing his sentiment, Sheikh Amannullah said a social movement has to be launched alongside change in education system. The civil society should come forward with a comprehensive plan in this regard, he said.

Former director of Atomic Energy Commission Dr Motiar Rahman, Prof Kazi Wali Ullah, Principal Sheikh Abdul Wadood and Principal Abdul Latif also spoke. The 17-member committee includes Prof. Krishnapada Sarker and Prof Abu Ahmed of City College, Principal Yunus Ali of Pallimongol School and College, Prof. Babitra Mohan Das, Ashraf Ali Siddique, headmaster of Dhulihar High School, retired principals Ashit Kumar Rajmunder and Sheikh Abdul Wadud and Saider Rahman, president of Swadesh, a local NGO.



The leopard shot dead by police

PHOTO: STAR

## 2 more Indian leopards in Dimla?

Dead one handed over to forest officials after autopsy

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Nilphamari

The intruder Indian leopard shot dead by police in Dimla was handed over to forest officials on Wednesday.

It was shot dead after it injured five people at East Chatnai village.

Dimla Forest Bit Officer Nishikanta Malakar received the dead leopard after autopsy at Dimla, done by Upazila Live stock Officer Dr Amal Kumar, forest officials there said yesterday.

The dead leopard will be handed over to the Ministry of Forest and Environment, they said.

Meanwhile the five persons seriously injured by the leopard are being treated at Rangpur Medical College Hospital.

Condition of one of them -- Tota Mia--is critical as the leopard took away flesh from different parts of his body with its sharp teeth, sources said.

Straying into Bangladesh on Tuesday, it ran about four kilometres inside and took shelter in a bamboo

cluster at East Chatnai. It was seen when a villager went to the bush to cut a bamboo. It jumped on the villager, who raised a hue and cry.

Others came in with sticks and sharp weapons but could not kill it. Five persons were injured in the fighting. Finally, the villagers called Dimla police, who shot it dead.

A panicky situation is prevailing in Dimla upazila as there is a rumour that two more leopards crossed the Teesta river and entered Bangladesh.

## KATKA TRAGEDY

### KU students warn VC not to protect 'irresponsible' teacher

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Khulna University (KU) students have warned the vice chancellor (VC) to refrain from protecting Prof Ali Naki, Head of the Architecture discipline from punishment.

The warning came after a five-member investigation committee headed by Prof Dr Golam Martuza submitted its report to the VC on Sunday night.

The report blamed Prof Naki for negligence of duty by not accompanying 98 students in an excursion in the Sundarbans in March this year.

The probe body also blamed him for not requesting the Sundarbans Forest Department authorities to give all necessary logistic supports to the students.

Nine students of final year class in Architecture discipline of Khulna University and two students of fourth year class of BUET Mechanical Department swept away in the Bay at Katka during the excursion on March 13. The dead also included a girl student.

Meanwhile, Prof Naki has gone on one year leave. In his place Assistant Professor Gouri Shankar Roy took over the charge, according to an official order by KUVV Professor Dr AKadir Bhuiyan.

Angry students asked the VC to cancel Dr Naki's leave until a decision is taken in a Syndicate meeting.

The VC is yet to fix a date for holding the Syndicate meeting for discussion on the 28-page report of the committee formed to probe 'The Katka Tragedy.'

## 13 Indians among 17 nabbed by BDR

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Netrakona

Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) on Thursday night arrested 17 persons including 13 Indian citizens from Bijoypur, Sadhupara and Charuapara of Dhubaura upazila in Mymensingh district.

BDR also recovered a revolver, 14 rounds of bullets, two magazines, wine, hemp and other documents from the Indian citizens, according to Dhubaura police.

The arrested Indian citizens are Montis, 22, N Karan, 24, Ta-ung, 25, Jackson, 29, Rakond, 30, Emdaku, 24, Rajendra Pal, 38, Promeshong, Suhong, 23, Davisong, 22, Roxin, 22, Sarang, 20, Jirafot, 20, Shamladinos, 18, while the arrested Bangladeshi citizens are Shankor Kumar Dey, 49, Dhijan Rama, 69, Kolinur, 19, and Numberson, 20.

BDR handed over the arrested to Dhubaura police on the night.

## Rivals' clash leaves 50 hurt in Kushtia

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

At least 50 persons were injured in a clash between two rival groups at Chaitan village in Mirpur upazila on Thursday.

The two groups, one led by Jalal member and the other led by Khaibar member were engaged in a rivalry for long which includes establishment of supremacy in the area.

The clash began when Khaibar's men beat up and injured Jalal's man Delwar, 40, while he was on way to his field, according to police.

Khaibar's men also beat up five supporters of Jalal when they went to rescue Delwar.

When the news spread, Jalal's men rushed there and locked in a clash with Khaibar's men for four hours.

Both the groups used lethal weapons during the clash.

Mirpur police rushed there and brought the situation under control.

Seriously injured Abdul Gafur, 38, Johurul Islam, 30, Abu Zafar, 28, Abul Kalam Azad, 27, Farid, 22, Hasibul, 22, Paran, 38, Musolli, 36, Ranga, 45, Bahadur, Palsh, Kalam and Masud were admitted to Kushtia General Hospital.

A tense situation prevailed in the area, local people said.

No case was filed.

## 'Prop up people's voluntary effort'

Govt help sought to complete dam to protect Fulchari from Jamuna erosion

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gaibandha

Nilkuthi cross dam, being built by local people voluntarily to save Fulchari upazila headquarter from Jamuna erosion, is threatened due to sudden swelling of the river.

About 70 per cent of the dam has been completed. Out of planned 1700 feet, they have completed 1400 feet of the dam since the work began on February 13. But all their efforts will go in vain if the dam is washed away or damaged now.

"We need immediate government help to complete the work" said Sahhidul Islam, coordinator of the programme while talking to this correspondent on Thursday.

"As people have exhausted their

limited resources the government should come forward to prop up their efforts and enthusiasm and complete the work to save the upazila headquarter", he said.

"Otherwise, their hard labour will go in vain". All classes of people in the area joined the work by either volunteering their labour or contributing in cash or kind as per their ability, he said.

The local people had appealed to the government several times and also staged demonstrations to protect the upazila headquarter from erosion, but to no effect. The Water Development Board had prepared a Tk 23 crore project to control erosion along the western bank of the Jamuna in Fulchari, which was

approved in the ECNCE. But WDB could not start the work as funds were not allocated.

Failing to get any government response, the local people decided to construct the dam themselves.

The dam will connect the western bank of the river with a newly formed shoal on the river and thus save the upazila headquarter from further erosion.

Local people irrespective of political leaders and activists, students, professionals and officials joined the work.

"We have done a work which would have cost the government at least Tk 10 lakh. Now the government should assist us to complete it", Islam said.



Nilkuthi cross dam being build by local people is threatened by Jamuna water.

PHOTO: STAR

## Barisal PDB hard on small consumers, soft on bigger ones

Snaps 45 residential lines in a week, does not touch big consumers: Tk 25 cr untrealised

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

The Power Development Board here has realised Tk 8.2 lakh arrears electricity bills and disconnected 45 residential lines in a week under a special drive.

PDB sources said they have fixed a target to realise Tk two crore out of Tk 25 crore arrears in the district before the end of the current financial year.

But many residential consumers talking to this correspondent alleged that their power lines were snapped without prior notice for small amounts while government and autonomous institutions with big outstanding bills are untouched. Even lines were snapped for non-payment of bills for

two months, they alleged. PDB sources said they will soon start disconnecting lines of defaulting religious institutions.

Of the Tk 25 crore, Tk 13 crore is unrealised in Barisal city covered by Barisal PDB Division-1 and Tk 12 crore in upazilas covered by Barisal PDB Division-2, the sources said.

In the city, Tk five cores is unrealised from residential consumers and the rest from other customers.

Among the non-residential customers, Barisal City Corporation owes Tk 2.76 core, Sadar Hospital Tk 27 lakhs, Barisal Government B M College Tk 25 lakhs, Barisal Jail Tk 10 lakhs, CID of police Tk 6 lakh. An amount of Tk 47.62 lakh is due from mosques temples and churches.

Five PDB mobile teams are now

in operation in the city. When contacted, Executive Engineer Emdadul Huq however denied the allegation that lines are being snapped without prior notice. "Notice is written at the bottom of the bill given every month", he said.

Other sources said realisations of arrears electric bills from government institutions and other big consumers is difficult and time-consuming. So they have targeted the residential consumers to fulfill the target.

Power supply in Barisal and Khulna was privatised in 2002 and handed over to West Zone Power Distribution Company.

## 4 shot by outlaws in Barisal

OUR CORRESPONDENT Barisal

Four people were injured in shots fired allegedly by outlaws at Chhai Mile (six miles) near the city Thursday night.

Local people chased the criminals and caught the driver and seized the autotempo in which they came. But the outlaws escaped, locals and police said.

Protesting alleged police failure, the local people also blocked the Barisal-Dhaka highway there for an hour.

An armed gang allegedly belonging to the Sarbahara came in an autotempo and knocked on the door of the house of one Md Motaleb, whose son works abroad.

They introduced themselves as Sarbaharas and asked the inmates to open the door.

As the gang tried to break the door, the inmates cried out for help. Neighbours came and chased the Sarbaharas, who ran away firing shots and leaving their tempo and the driver.

The people caught the driver, Yar

Hossain, 30, son of Arab Ali of Salia Bakpur area in Banaripara upazila in Barisal district and handed him over to police along with the tempo.

The four injured are Jalil, 15, Shahadat Hossain Liton, 25, Mizanur Rahman, 26 and Mizan Khan, 24.

They are being treated at Barisal Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital.

Yar Hossain later told police that the Sarbaharas hired his tempo. A case has been filed.

## Success in saving a rare medicinal tree

A CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur

Prof Mostafizur Rahman, a teacher of Crops Botany Department of Mymensingh Agriculture University, has made success towards producing saplings of a rare medicinal tree.

There are three Kigelia trees in

South Asia, two of them on Rangpur Carmichael College campus. The two trees are 88 year-old. Fluid of its bark is useful in treatment of skin cancer.

All earlier efforts at Carmichael College botany laboratory for germination of its seeds failed, Associate Professor Hafiz Mollah

told this correspondent.

Prof Mostafizur Rahman came to Rangpur and took some seeds from the plant to BAU. After several experiments, his efforts for germination of the seeds became successful at BAU laboratory, Prof Molla said.

Prof Molla, a student of Prof Mostafizur Rahman, said he could not become successful in germination of the seeds at the college laboratory due to lack of adequate equipment and facilities.

Prof Mustafizur Rahman will plant the saplings on Carmichael College compound soon, he said.

Kigelia bears clourful flowers and fruits weighing about two kilograms each.

Lord Baron Tomas Carmichael planted several saplings of the trees on the roadside at the entrance of the college when he had laid foundation of Carmichael College in 1916.

Prof Kalim Uddin Mondol, a former teacher of Carmichael College and a renowned homeopathic

Doctor in the district said experiment done in London by pharmacist Peter Hoten proved that the fluid

from the bark and roots of Kigelia can cure skin cancer called Malignant Melanoma in human body.



One of the two Kigelia trees on Carmichael College campus, Rangpur.

PHOTO: STAR

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