

# TK 25 LAKH SEIZED SPURIOUS MUSTARD OIL Opposition MP trying to hush up racket

RAFIQUE SARKER, Rangpur

A local lawmaker belonging to an opposition party is trying to hush up the detection of spurious mustard oil worth about Tk 25 lakh in the town, police said yesterday.

Detective police led by DB sub-inspector Ashok Shringi on Friday night raided Nababganj bazaar and Haripotli in the town and detected the huge quantity of spurious mustard oil.

They arrested an employee - Nirmol Chandra - and seized a truckload of the oil. Police said that they seized 2000 containers labeled with attractive marking.

Police lodged a case with Kotwali thana against five persons including Bablu Bonik, one of the alleged producers of the spurious oil.

Police said they had been producing spurious mustard oil and baby food for long and marketing those in eight northern districts.

But the place where the spurious

food items were produced is yet to be located, DB Sub-inspector Ashok Shringi told this correspondent.

But he reconfirmed that Bablu Bonik is the main man behind racket.

They had been doing the illegal activity in connivance with a section of corrupt police officials, police sources said.

During investigation by this correspondent, a trader at Nababganj bazaar bazaar said that some dishonest businessmen there used to produce spurious mastered oil, substandard soybean and palm oil ahead of the holy month of Ramadan every year.

They were doing the same ahead of Ramadan this year also to earn more profit, he said. The Ramadan is only three weeks from now.

About six lakh 25 thousand students appeared at the HSC examinations under all the boards that ended on June 20.

## Barisal Board HSC results on Sept 27

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Results of HSC examinations held under Barisal Education Board will be published on September 27, its Chairman Anowar Ul Haque said on Monday.

It has been decided at a meeting in Dhaka that that HSC (Higher Secondary Certificate) results of all boards in the country will be published between September 26 and 30 subject to approval of the Prime Minister, he told this correspondent.

Barisal Board results were earlier scheduled to be published on September 20 but has been delayed due to the flood, he said.

Result of Alim, Kamil, Fazil, Business Administration and HSC Vocational will also be published at the same time, he said.

Starting as a hobby, Titu now earns a profit of about Tk three lakh a year and employs ten people.

Any body talking to his educated young man would become interested in tree plantation.

"Planting a sapling is better than opening an insurance or a bank account for the family because it needs no investment", he said while talking to this correspondent at his stall at the annual tree fair on the Town Hall premises on Sunday last.

He has a clear vision also. "Fruit output in our country can be multiplied within a few years opening up good export potential if commercial orchards are developed by replacing traditional fruit trees with high yielding ones", he said. "Government should come forward to patronise the sector with unlimited prospects".

The industries now in production include food processing units, chemical industries, floor mills, plastic factories, metal industries, cotton mills and silica factory.

Talking to this correspondent, Abdus Salam, 'head mechanic' at a plastic recycle factory said he is happy with the atmosphere in the estate.

At his factory, plastic goods are made from waste plastic materials. This factory draws others attention because adequate measures have been taken to protect the environment.

Most of the owners and workers were found environment conscious.

A good number of women were working at an aluminum factory producing household utensils.

# An educated youth with vision

Rafiqul Islam says commercial fruit cultivation has good prospects

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

Md Rafiqul Islam Titu did not hanker after job after having Masters degree in Management from Dhaka University in 1991. He now owns a big nursery with over 500 species of plants including some rare ones, which draw visitors of all classes and also dignitaries round the year.

Besides flower, orchid and ornamental plants, his collections include rare medicinal plants White Chandan, Rahu Chandan, Turi Chasdai, Naglingam and fruit plants like Thai Jamrul, Avocado (a foreign fruit) and Vim Bhutan.

Tree lovers from different areas of the district come to his nursery in the town also to collect saplings of high yielding and good varieties of mango and other seasonal Bangladeshi fruits.

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PHOTO: STAR

Rafiqul Islam Titu (extreme right) explaining to Mineral Resources Minister A K M Mosharraf Hossain the prospect of orchid export and commercial cultivation of high yielding fruits

Abdul Latif and other high officials to his stall. They were all praise for his efforts.

His hard labour and constructive ideas have also earned him fame and honour. He got the Best Nursery Award in the district last year.

Titu, a resident of Sankipara area of the district town, had

First started by collecting saplings from local nurseries and started those on the courtyard and on the roof of his house, said Titu.

When he found that there was a bright future of nursery business in local markets as well as in the country, he started his nursery programme on 10 decimal land at

his residence.

"After selling the first batch of plants, I did not get a handsome profit but it encouraged me", Titu said.

His Ever Green Nursery now covers about one acre of land.

Two years back, Titu leased a plot of land from the district council and opened a display centre on a land adjacent to the Town Hall premises.

"Now I earn about Tk three lakh a year after meeting all expenses including a staff salary of over Tk 15,000 a month", he said.

Father of a girl child, Titu said his wife Syeda Salma Akhter, also a

Graduate is also playing an unimportant role in her business. She also looks after the nursery.

He hopes to earn the award this year also. The tree fair opened on September 18 and it will close tomorrow.

Titu, along with other nursery owners in the town has formed an association, which assists tree planters.

Titu is also a member of Bangladesh Plant Nurseries Society (BPNS), a central body of the nurseries.

He also rents flower tubs for different occasions at the rate of Tk 10 for pertub per day.

# 2-minute foray

20 children hurt in Bauphal tornado

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

At least 20 children were killed and 15 injured, four of them critically, when a Paturia-bound pick-up van (Jessore-Da-11-0266) from Dhaka hit a roadside tree at Jagir in Manikganj Sadar upazila yesterday.

Eleven of the children were admitted to Bauphal Health Complex and Patuakhali General Hospital.

The two-minute foray by nature



PHOTO: STAR

# A different BSCIC estate

55 industrial units in operation in B'baria

SK MD SHAHIDUL ISLAM, B'baria

The Nandanpur BSCIC Industrial Estate in Brahmanbaria is different from others in the country. While most others are virtually grazing lands, it is humming with activity, employing over 2000 people.

Floods kept most of the units closed for 18 days. After recession of water, most of them have resumed operation with renewed vigor.

The local BSCIC authorities said,

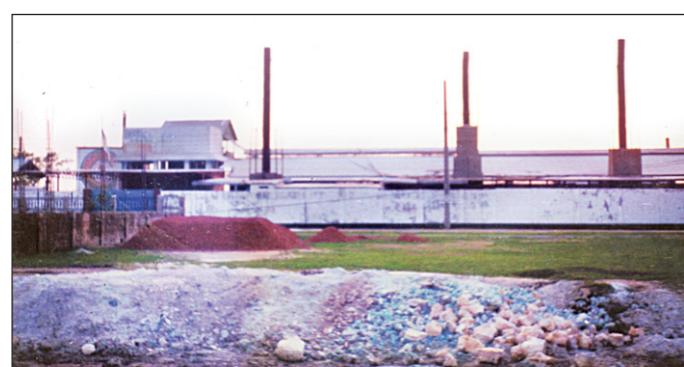


PHOTO: STAR

A chemical industry at the BSCIC estate producing raw materials for soap.

## AK-22 RECOVERY

### Five remanded

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bandarban

Five persons, arrested with sophisticated arms by Rab from Bandarban and Satkania in Chittagong on September 18, were placed on five days' remand on Monday.

Court sources said the First Class Magistrate however ordered police not to torture them during interrogation in remand.

The arrested persons had prayed for bail but the court rejected their prayer.

The Rab team had first arrested Abdul Gafur from Bazalia area in Satkania and recovered a sophisti-

## Prisoner dies at Comilla hospital

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Comilla

A prisoner of Comilla central Jail died at Comilla Medical College Hospital yesterday. Hanife, 30, serving a jail term for dacoity, was sent to the hospital on September 7 for treatment of kidney. He died at about 2 pm, jail authorities said.

When contacted hospital sources said he was taken there when his condition turned critical.

The jail authorities said the prisoner was transferred to Comilla jail from Brahmanbari jail.

## Woman commissioner threatened to withdraw case

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

Alleged criminals are threatening a newly elected women commissioner of Satkhira pourasava to withdraw an extortion case filed with Satkhira thana against them.

Marzina Khatun, commissioner elected from reserved seat No 3 in the town, filed a General Diary on Monday seeking security of her life, police said.

They said a gang allegedly led by Mohammad Ali, president of Satkhira district Krishak Dal, peasant front of the ruling BNP, entered her house at Palasapole in the town on the night of September 10 and demanded toll.

Refused, they snatched her gold chain at gunpoint.

She then filed a case with Satkhira thana accusing Mohammad Ali and 14 others under sections 143/147/385/323/427/379/506(2) of BPC.

Since then the miscreants are threatening her to withdraw the case or to face 'dire consequences.'

A gang held by Kala Jahangir threatened her on Monday morning also to withdraw the case, police said.

## 2 killed in Manikganj road mishap

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Manikganj

Two people were killed and 15 injured, four of them critically, when a Paturia-bound pick-up van (Jessore-Da-11-0266) from Dhaka hit a roadside tree at Jagir in Manikganj Sadar upazila yesterday.

Eleven of the children were admitted to Bauphal Health Complex and Patuakhali General Hospital.

The two-minute foray by nature

7x3

7x2

7x3