# Good work needs only will

### Students' initiative spreads education, promotes culture and moral values in Syedpur

A noble initiative by some college going friends three years back has brought about a tremendous success in spreading education, promoting culture and moral values and creating social awareness in the small

industrial town of Syedpur. The Swatirtha Sanskritik Sangathan set up by them is now well

Sarwar, Razzak and Kuddus-- all HSC students of Syedpur College-- were lazing on the railway ground on March

literacy in the town with a large population of labourers and workers who

They decided to set up a library so that poor students can get free text-

biggest railway workshop, employing a large number of workers who did not send their children to school. Their small initiative has changed the sce-

Initially, they formed a committee with Sarwar Rahman as convenor and Sanjay and Saju as joint convenors. They donated their old books and also collected some from others. The number stood at 300. The collection also included novels and books on

SNAPS

A CORRESPONDENT, Thakurgaon

three cows, six Goats and 10 bags of paddy

from a house. Charu Mohammad and his

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Sunit Mallick, 35, an armed cadre of outlawed New Biplobi Communist Party (NBCP) accused in four murders, was arrested Friday midnight by Terokheda thana police. Sunit Mallick is one of the

seven NBCP men who were allegedly

nvolved in the murder of four party men at

Bashuakhali Beal in Terokheda during a

gunfight on the night of July 7 this year,

Molecular Biology.

Scale of Pay:

Assistant Professor/Lecturer

Lecturer (in the leave vacancy)

Lecturer: 4300-185-5595-EB-195-7740/-

**BSF returns 2** 

Bangladeshis

**Outlaw held** 

kidnapped

science, fiction and history.

Abdur Razzak, a member of the committee, offered a room at his house at Shaheb Para Mahalla for use

level (HSC) at college, they named the library 'Swatirtha Grantho Kutir. (In Bangla Satirtha means students of the same teacher.)

and colleges in the town and told poor, students about their small library. At this, many made fun and

that their task was not easy. They thought the library would not attract readers unless they get entertain-ment. So they added music, drama,

Sanskritik Sangathan" but the motto remained how to spread education. This time it drewmany readers.

books from different areas in the town. They sang songs and went door to door with rickshaw vans and urged people to donate books. This worked

Within a month the number of books rose to 1000 and 100 students of different schools and colleges became its 'registered' readers, who studied at

the town's elite. Syedpur Press Club Secretary MR Alam Jhantoo donated

In January 2002, the then UNO of Syedpur Selina Shahadat visited the library and donated 40 books and Tk 10,000 to buy more for SSC, HSC and

Local ruling party MP Amzad Hossen allocated rice worth Tk 11,000 to buy books, chairs, tables, shelves, almirahs, register books and other

Within two years, the number of books reached 3000 and the 'registered' student readers to 500. Besides, several hundred unregistered readers started going to the library regularly. As the number of books and read-

ers grew, the accommodation problem became acute. So, they shifted the Swatirtha Sanskritik Sangathan to the house of Dr Ataur Rahman at Zikrul Haq road

and then to the house of Awami League leader Zobaidul Haq Sarkar. They then leased an abandoned railway quarter at Shaheb Para, where the library is situated now.

Now it has a collection of about 5000 books, 70 per cent of which are textbooks, Sarwar Rahman told this

The library remains open from 4 pm to 7 pm, attracting a large number

In over three years, the library benefited many students who passed SSC (Secondary School Certificate) and HSC (Higher Secondary

them are now admitted to different educational institutions in the coun-

NATIONAL

try for higher education. Musa Ahmed, now a Degree student at Syedpur College, is among the

"My father died and my mother is a master roll employee of Syedpur Municipality I passed HSC with books from the library", he told this corre-

"I still borrow books (from the Swatirtha)" said Shelly, daughter of a day labourer and now a Degree student. "I could not have passed SSC and HSC if I did not get books from the library", she said.

Now its has 80 permanent mem-bers. They include representatives from its founders' families.

A new committee has been formed with Nargis Banu, a popular teacher of Syedpur College, as its president and Honours student Abdul Malek as secretary.

It has also an advisory committee which includes Press Club President Aminul Islam, physicians Nazrul Islam and Shamim Ahmed, railway workers' leader Anwar Hossain and lawyer Mahboob-e-Rasul.

Swatirtha also organises cultural programmes and is involved in social development activities. In June this year, it launched a campaign against vulgar films. It also publishes a monthly magazine styled 'Tirth'.

Its members also participate in tree plantation in the town and villages around.

We respect all political opinions but are not involved with any one though we receive assistance from all," said its organising secretary Abdur Razzak

BBC of London telecast a documentary on 'Swatirtha' and lauded its achievements, its secretary Abdul

Talking to this correspondent, local ruling Party lawmaker Amjad Hossen said Swatirtha helps to build a society with moral values. The Syedpur Municipal Chairman and Awami League leader Aktar Hossen Badal said Swatirtha had proved that money is not a factor when there is sincerity and dedication.

Its finance secretary Sonjoy Saha said they did not seek any help from the government or any NGO.

On August 14 this year, Swatirtha launched a Bangla language programme for Urdu speaking chil-dren. About half of Syedpur town's population is Urdu-speaking.

The programme has been launched to help Urdu-speaking children learn Bangla so that they can attend Bangla medium schools. Around 100 such children learn Bangla at the library. Swatirtha members teach them.

Its general secretary Abdul Malek said they will expand the library facility to some rural areas in the

### Newsmen on the run

Faces extortion case for publishing news

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

The Editor, the Executive Editor and a correspondent of a local daily are on the run to avoid arrest after filing of an extortion case by the authorities of an unregistered clinic in the

The daily--Andoloner Bazar-- on December 10 had published a news item on alleged corruption and cheating with patients at Shamsuzzaman Memorial Hospital, an unregistered clinic in the town.

After publication of the news, Abul Basar, manager of the clinic, filed case against the daily's Editor and Publisher Manjur Ehasan Choudhury, Executive Editor Halimuzzaman and reporter Arpan Mahmud on the same day with a magistrate court.

In the case, the manager alleged that before publication of the news, the journalists had demanded Tk 20,000 from him.

Journalist in the town have protested filing of the case.

#### 13 hurt as cocktail explodes at drama in Gaibandha

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gaibandha

At least 13 persons were injured, two of them seriously, in a cocktail explosion at the venue of a drama festival at Mohimaganj in Gobindaganj upazila on Friday.

Seriously injured persons were removed to Bogra Mohammed Ali Hospital in a critical condition.

According to police, a drama was being held on the premises of Mohimaganj Sugar Mills by Agomoni Dramatic Club that night. All on a sudden, two powerful cocktails fell on the audience.

Awestruck people began to run helter-skelterforsafety.

The injured persons are Kartik Das, 15, Sohel Rana, 18, Ziaur Rahman Jwel, 25, Ful Mia, 22, Jaharul Islam, 21, and Titu Mia, 20. Police visited the spot but could

notidentifythe culprits.
A case was filed with Gobindagnaj Police Station.

#### UP member arrested by Rab

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

A Union Parishad (UP) member was arrested and two rounds of cartridges were recovered from him by Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) on Friday night

Arrested Manowar Hussein, 35, is a UP member of Chandramohan in Sadar upazila and BNP president of Ward No 8 of the union.

He was arrested from Barisal launch ghat area. He was sentenced to suffer rigorous imprisonment (RI) for 108 years under Public Safety Act during Awami League regime. He was granted bail by the High Court

after filing appeal. He was handed over to police and sent to jail on Saturday afternoon. According to police, there are allegations of extortion and illegal toll

### Child burnt alive

**OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal** 

lumaun Kabir of Ichhakati area in

According to hospital and family sources, Tuhin me the tragic end of his life when he came in touch with fire of a kerosene lamp. At that time

ing him inside the room. He was taken to Barisal Sher-e-Bangla Medical Collge Hospital in a critical condition where he died.

An unnatural death (UD) case was lodged with police.

# fighters

**OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar** 

A Shaheed Minar, memorial built in memory of 25 martyred freedom fighters, was formally opened here by Moulvibazar Pourasava chairman Fayzul Karim Mayun on

Moulvibazar municipality con-structed the Shahid Minar at Moulvibazar Government Boys' High School play ground. On this day (December 20) in

1971, the golden sons of the soil

## Tk 85 cr projects to save crops in haors

Work begins in 2 weeks to be completed ahead of flood, Minster Hafizuddin says in Sunamganj

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Projects involving Tk 85 crore have been taken up for development of

haor areas in the country. Of the amount, Tk 6 crore has been sanctioned for Suamgnaj and the work will begin in two weeks, Water Resources Minister Hafij Uddin Ahmed said at a public meeting at the Old Bus Stand in the Sunamganj town recently. It was organised by local BNP.

The projects will be implemented in low-lying areas to protect crops from flood, he said.

Ruling party Whip in the Jatiya Sangsad Fazlul Haque Aspia and Kolim Uddin Ahmed Milon MP also addressed the meeting, chaired by

"I witnessed the devastation by repeated floods in this part of the country this year. Paddy crops of Water Development Board projects.
This year, work of the projects will start in December and be completed ahead of floods, he said.

The projects in Sunamganj will save crops on about one lakh acres of land in the haor areas, he said. The minister said, some long

term projects would be started in the region later, for which survey is going on.
He also advised the farmers to

change the cropping pattern gradually to avoid floods.

Before the meeting, the minister attended a workshop on 'strategy for protection from flood damage in haor region' as chief guest. It was held at the Sunamganj Circuit House, it was otganised jointly by the Centre for Natural Resource Studies (CNRS) and Action Aid,

Crops worth about Tk 450 crore tarmers in the region need protec-tion, which can not be ensured by Sunamganj this year.

## 5 of a family electrocuted by PBS wire in Kushtia

Angry people demonstrate

**OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia** 

A big procession was brought out on Saturday by the people of Jugia in Sadar upazila demanding immediate punishment to Kushtia Palli Biduyt Samity (PBS) officials.

Five members of a family including four women were electrocuted when they came in touch with snappedlive wire of PBS. The victims are Selim Uddin, 9,

son of Delwar, Asura Khatun, 40, wife of Sultan Uddin, Maleka Khatun, 40, wife of Alauddin, Rebeka, 35, wife of Jalal Uddin and Saheda Khatun, 42.

Angry people also confined a lineman of PBS named Mosarraf Hossain and gave him a good beating when he was going to the office in the morning, according to police. Later, he was rescued by police. Police force was deployed at the PBS office when people staged a six-

PBS office when people staged a str-in demonstration on the PBS office According to police, Selim and

Asura went to remove a snapped wire of PBS from a pond. When they came in contact with

snapped wire, they were electrocuted. Hearing cry for help, four female members of their family, Maleka, Rebeka, Saheda and Rozina rushed there. They were also electrocuted when they tried to rescue them. Of them, Selim and Asura, Maleka, Rebeka and Saheda died on the way to Kushtia General Hospital while Rozina remained unconscious in

The cable fell down due to fault in

Local people told newsmen just after the incident, they complained to the Zonal Palli Biduyt office, situated only half a kilometer off the spot, but the Palli Biduyt staff

gnored their complaint. When contacted, the Palli Biduyt authorities told this correspondent they already formed a committee to

### Meeting decides to list drug peddlers

OUR CORRESPONDENT, B'baria,

An anti-drug meeting organised by Brahmanbaria Dhumpan O Madk Sarkerpara in the town on Saturday.

Favez Ahmed, journalist Reaz Uddin Jami, Md Pinto Sarker, Md Ziaul Karim, Md Muzammel Haque Sarker, Md Tajul Islam, organizing Mojibur Rahman, Rejaul Islam, Sirajul Haque and Md Anisur Rahman. It decided to prepare a list of drug peddlers and hand it over to

# Republic of Bangladesh

Memo No: LGED/EE/Rai/T-6(Part-7)/1550 Dated: 15/07/1411 BS

### Tender Notice No-05/2004-2005

from up-to-date renewed contractors/contractors' firms enlisted with LGED as per class capability for execution of 25 (twenty-five) schemes under the "Rural Road and Culvert Repair Scheme"/2004-2005 under the Local Government Engineering Directorate, Rajbari in Rajbari district. Attested copies of enlistment licence of contractors/contractors' firms must be submitted with the tender. Place of selling :

and submitting tender schedule

Date of receiving

Superintending Engineer (Maintenance), LGED, LGED Bhaban, Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207.

2) Office of the Deputy Commissioner, 3) Office of the Executive Engineer,

LGED, Faridpur and office of the undersigned. 4) Office of the Upazila Engineer

5) Tender received by post at the

office of the undersigned within the specified time will be regarded as dropped tender (Registered with AD). 29/12/2004 up to 1.00 PM at the

29/12/2004 at 3.00 PM at the offices Up to 27/12/2004 (during office Last date of

hours). Specified amount of security money in

Executive Engineer, LGED. Itemwise rate (in figures and words) should be quoted in the designated space in the tender schedule and Form No. 2911. Detailed information including tender notice can be obtained

and viewed at the office of the undersigned and the offices concerned during office hours. The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any tender.

DFP-27159-9/11 **Executive Engineer** LGED, Rajbari.

# 12 killed in Jhenidah crossfire' in 43 days

Indian Border Security Force (BSF) returned to Bangladeshis eight hours after they were kidnapped from Itoldoba village in Balladangi upazila in Bangladesh territory on Thursday. The BSF men had also looted **OUR CORRESPONDENT, Magura** 

Twelve alleged criminals were killed in Jhenidah in 'crossfire' with in Rapid Action Battalion (RAB) and police in 43 days from November 1 to December 13 this year.

Swatirtha members moving door to door and collecting books (left) and a view of the library set up by them in Syedpur town.

son Chan Mia were returned at a flag meeting held near Giragaon border pilar no Though law enforcers claimed that the deaths were in crossfire 409 in Aloary upazila. But the looted goods were not returned. during recovery of arms following their arrest, other sources differ. These were deaths in custody, they

> The latest victim is an alleged cadre of Janojuddha fraction of outlawed Purba Banglar Communist Party (PBCP), Abu Bakar of Alokdia village in Jhenidah Sadar upazila. He was killed in 'crossfire between police and his accomplices at Talshar

area in Koatchandpur upazila on the

night of December 13 when police

went there to seize unauthorised

4 (four) Permanent

2 (two) Permanent

2 (two) Temporary

firearms, police said.

Rajshahi University

Applications are invited from Bangladeshi nationals for filling

up the following posts in the Department of Biochemistry and

Assistant Professor: Tk 7200-260-10840/- plus usual allowances

Forms and particulars regarding qualification requirements

may be obtained from the office of the Registrar by sending a self-

9 (nine) copies of the application form duly filled in along with

attested copies of all academic certificates with each application

and application fee of Tk 160/- (one hundred sixty) in Bank

Draft/Pay-Order (non-refundable), Agrani Bank, Rajshahi

University Branch in favour of the Registrar, Rajshahi University

Candidates already in service must apply through proper

channel. Incomplete applications will be rejected without

addressed envelope with postage stamp worth Tk. 4/- only.

must reach the undersigned on or before 09.01.2005.

Alleged criminal Robiul was killed in a crossfire at Hazidanga village in the same upazila on the night of December 12 when his accomplices allegedly opened fire on police,

> Asadur Rahman Asad, a leader of outlawed of BCP in the southwestern region was killed in a 'crossfire' at Ghorashal in the Sadar upazila on November 25 when DB (Detective Branch) police went to recover arms following his confes-

sion after his arrest. Mosharraf Hossain alias Mosha, a regional leader PBCP (Janajuddho), was killed in a 'crossfire' with police at Kalpart village in the Sadar upazila

on November 24. Outlawed BCP leader Shahjahan alias Shahaj was killed in a shootout between RAB and armed BCP men at Arutia village in Moheshpur upazila

At least 10 persons were injured in a

clash between the two rival groups of

workers of state-owned Sundarbans

processions inside the mill com-

pound. Both the groups armed with

BCP activists Ehsanul Bari alias Baban and Turki were killed in 'crossfire' with police at Kacherkhol village in Sailakupa upazila on November 15, while Jafirul Islam, another cadre of the same outlawed prompting a gunfight, police said. party, was killed in another shootout with RAB at Joradaha-Bherikhali village in Harinakundu upazila on November 16.

A ring leader of inter-district dacoits, Mantu, was killed in a 'crossfire' with police at Parla village in Koatchandpur upazila on Alleged outlaw Showkat Hossain

alias Jakir was killed in a shootout between police and his cadres at on November 5.

Sreepur village in the Sadar upazila BCP cadres Rajkumar and Majid were killed in 'crossfire' with police at Paharkata village in the Sadar

upazila on November 1.

lasted for about half an hour. According to eye-witnesses and workers, there had been a conflict between the two groups of workers

The victims are Abdul Hakim, Sarat Ali, Abdul Gafoor, Liakat Ali, Mozammel Hossain, Mohammad Ali, Abu Bakkar and others. They were taking treatment at Satkhira hospital.



#### Workers clash at Satkhira Textile Mills: 10 hurt lethal weapons locked in a clash that OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

Textile Mills Ltd on Saturday. over issuing no confidence against The clash occurred over estab-CBA leaders allegedly for misuse of lishment of supremacy in the mills. power, defalcation, working against Mill Rakkha Committee (save the mill workers. mill committee formed against Collective Bargaining Agent (CBA) and CBA brought out two separate



SM Kim, Managing Director of Target Corporation & AMC handing over 10,250 US Dollars to Mark Munshi, Executive Director of Christian Service Society for an orphanage at Gazipur recently.

### Security alert at Benapole check post

SAARC SUMMIT

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Benapole checkpost has been brought under extra security alert ahead of the Dhaka SAARC summit to ensue security. BDR forces have been put on high

alert and directed to intensify patrol duty along the border so that any criminal or saboteur can not enter the country. Intelligence agencies have been deployed at vulnerable points of the

border and adjoining areas. Men and women crossing the border are being checked by metal

Luggage of passengers travelling by bus, private cars and other trans-ports are also being checked in the same manner, top official of Jessore police said when contacted over

at different points on the Jessore-Benapole highway to check bus passengers, particularly those who travel to India or come to

Extra checkposts have been set up

### Strict checking is also going on at Benaole immigration office, he said. Security beefed up at Mongla

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

A 12-member security committee has been formed to check rampant theft of fuel, scraps and valuable materials made of iron from Mongla port. This is in line with enforcement of the International Ship and Port Security (ISPS) code at the port that took effect at the port this month.

been prohibited from entering the port jetty without security pass and identity card. Export-import activities are being done in tight security since enforcement of ISPS code, the sources in the Mongla Port

Under the new security arrange-

ment, members of the public have

Authority (MPA). The source said gangs of criminals were involved in the thefts in connivance with a section of port security guards. But neither departmental nor legal action has been taken against any of the guards.

# collection against him.

A two-year-old child burnt alive on Friday night The victim is Tuhin, son of

his mother went out of house leav-

## Memorial built for 25 freedom

embraced martyrdom when a mine fell down the floor of the school from of a freedom fighter's hand. It exploded with a big bang, damaged the school building and killed them on the spot. People buried them with due honour at the school

Birudi Sangathan (a body against smoking and drug use) was held at

Advocate Md Tanvir Ahmed, president of the body, was the chief guest at the meeting chaired by journalist Md Sadequr Rahman.

The meeting wad addressed by, among other, Md Rafiqul Islam Sarker, Abdur Rahman Sarker, Md

# Government of the People's

Office of the Executive Engineer Local Governmenti Engineering Directorate

Tenders through Bangladesh Form No-2911 in sealed cover are hereby invited as per The Public Procurement Regulation/2003

offices concerned. tender in the tender box Date of opening tender

selling tender Earnest money the form of BD/Pay-Order from any scheduled bank in favour of the

G-1275

Md Abdus Salam

known in the town. Mubin, Malek, Sanjay, Muid, Rajib,

6afternoonin 2001.

books and reduce the financial bur-

They talked about the low rate of can not afford education for their

Syedpur houses the country's

EAM ASADUZZAMAN, Nilphamari As all the friends were of the same

They then went to different schools

thoughtitwas their whim. They did not lose heart. They knew

recitation and literary competitions.

They renamed it "Swatirtha

Its members then began collecting

the library or borrowed textbooks. Enthused, the members contacted

