

Woman killed, girl raped in Kushtia

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Kushtia*

A housewife was killed and a minor girl raped in separate incidents at Daulatpur upazila in the district on Thursday night.

Police said some neighbours led by one Aktarul chopped Shahida Khatun indiscriminately at one stage of altercation over previous matters at about 8.30pm.

Shahida, mother of a child, died on the spot.

Her husband Bablu of Darerpara village, is an expatriate in Turkey.

Police sent the body to Kushtia General Hospital for autopsy. A case was filed, but police did not arrest anyone in this connection. The other incident took place when an 8-year-old girl went out of her home alone to collect mango during a storm at about 7.30pm.

One Sumon, 22, son of Aftab Uddin of village Chamnai, followed

the girl and raped her when she entered into a mango garden. The family members of the girl found her in the garden in an unconscious state.

She was rushed to Daulatpur upazila health complex and later shifted to Kushtia General Hospital. Her medical test was carried out yesterday.

Insan Ali, father of the victim, filed a case with Daulatpur Police Station.

When contacted, duty officer of Daulatpur police said they were trying to arrest the rapist who has gone into hiding.

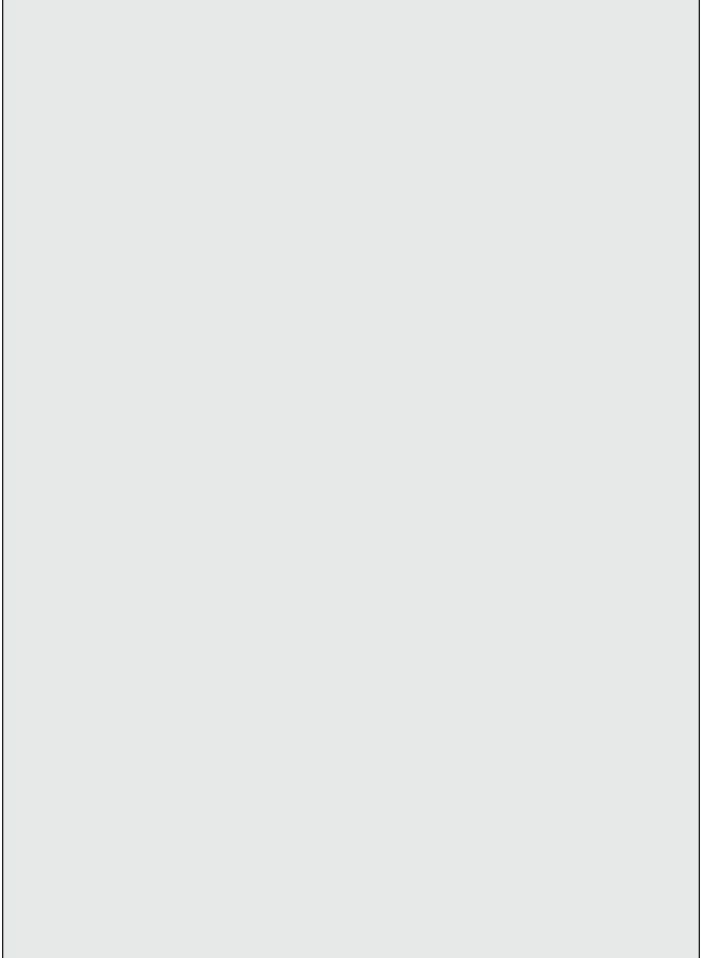
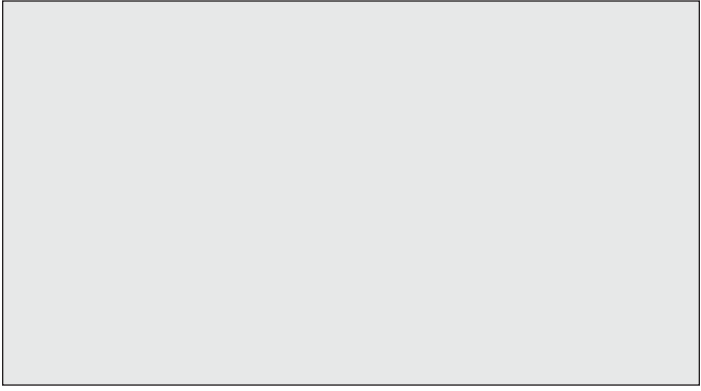
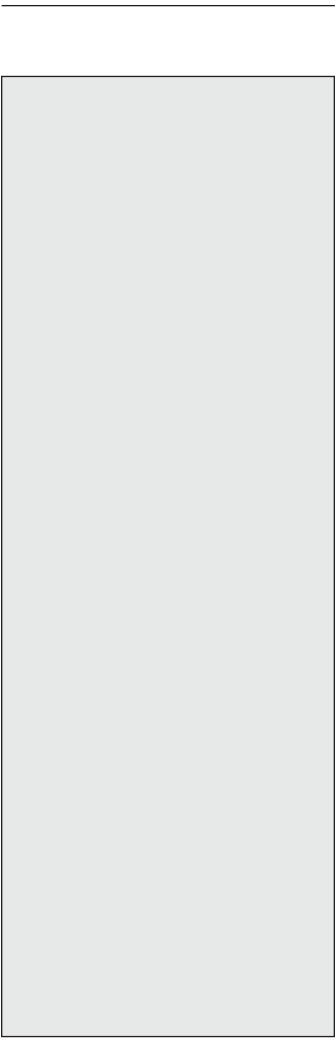
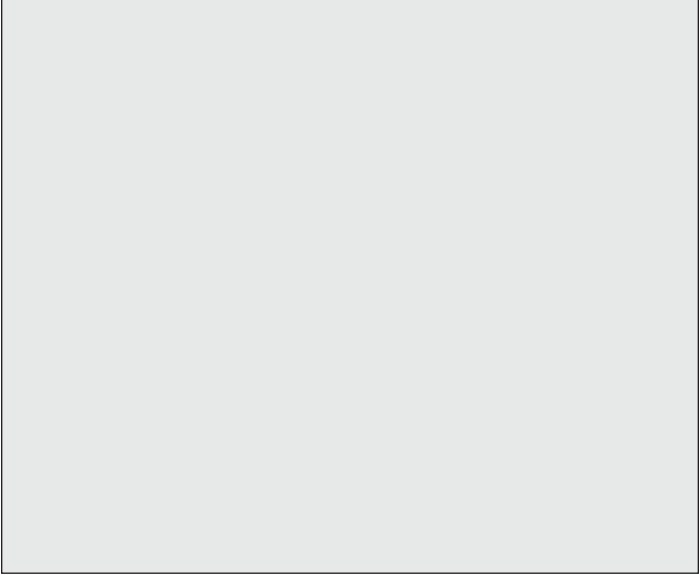
Construction worker dies in wall collapse

BDNEWS, *Manikganj*



A construction worker was killed and another person injured when a wall of an under-construction building collapsed on them at Naogaon bazar in Dhamrai yesterday.

Tajul, 45, died on the spot as the wall collapsed on him when he was working at the construction site. Police recovered the body and sent it to morgue.



Half of cancer deaths preventable: Report

REUTERS, *Washington*

More than 60 percent of all cancer deaths could be prevented if Americans stopped smoking, exercised more, ate healthier food and underwent recommended cancer screenings, the American Cancer Society reported on Thursday.

Americans could realistically cut the death rate in half, the report says.

This year 1.368 million Americans will learn they have cancer and 563,700 will die of it.

"The American Cancer Society estimates that in 2005, more than 168,140 cancer deaths will be caused by tobacco use alone," the organization said in a statement.

"In addition, scientists estimate that approximately one third (190,090) of the 570,280 cancer

deaths expected to occur in 2005 will be related to poor nutrition, physical inactivity, overweight, obesity and other lifestyle factors."

That totals 358,230, or 62 percent, of all cancer deaths.

"The issue is how many could you actually pull off in reality and half doesn't seem like a big stretch," Dr. Michael Thun, head of epidemiology for the non-profit group, said in an interview.

"If one could eliminate tobacco use, you would eliminate about half of cancer deaths. If you could help people maintain a healthy body weight and get more physical activity, that would be another 10 percent," he added.

"Increasing colorectal screening and high quality mammography and Pap (tests for cervical cancer) would contribute another fraction. It is very plausible that one could get a 50-percent reduction."

For instance, breast cancer, which kills 40,000 women and men in the United States every year, can usually be easily treated if caught before it spreads. In February a team at Harvard Medical School calculated that if every woman aged between 50 and 79 got a mammogram every year, it would reduce deaths from breast cancer by 37 percent.

Colon cancer and prostate cancer, two other top cancer killers, are also easily detected early with proper screening.

Foil evil designs against Islam: Nizami

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Mymensingh*

Amir of Jamaat-e-Islami and Industries Minister Motiur Rahman Nizami has urged Islamic forces to work unitedly to foil all evil designs against Islam and independence of the country.

He made the call while addressing a grassroots-level conference of Jamaat Mymensingh region as chief guest at the local stadium yesterday.

Presided over by Md Kamruzzaman, senior assistant secretary general of the party, the meeting was also addressed by Jamaat leadres Abdul Kader Mollah, ATM Azharul Islam, and Prof Jasim Uddin, Education Minister Dr M Osman Farruk, BNP leaders Shah Nurul Kabir Shaheen MP, Delwar Hossain Khan Dulu MP and State Minister for Energy and Mineral Resources AKM Mosharraf Hossain, Jahangir Ahmed of Bangladesh Jatiya Party (BJP) and Prof Wasek Billah of Islami Oikya Jote.

Nizami said the media is playing a negative role against Islam by terming the Islamic forces as fundamentalists, terrorists, and zealots. This is "information terrorism," he added.

Dr Farruk said all nationalist and Islamic forces should make concerted efforts for rapid development of the country.



National University Vice-Chancellor Prof Aftab Ahmed gives away a certificate to a participant of the College Teachers' Training Course at its concluding ceremony on the university campus in Gazipur on Thursday. The university organised the course.

