



Former Chief Justice Mostafa Kamal hands over the Rotary SEED (Science, Education and Economic Development) Award to Dr Zobaida Hannan at a function in the city recently. The SEED Award, introduced by Rotary Club of Metropolitan Dhaka, carries a prize of Tk 150,000, a gold medal and a citation.

## Two brothers brutally beaten in cop custody

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Two brothers were severely beaten in the custody of police yesterday allegedly for obstructing the law enforcers in the course of their duty.

Azizur Rahman Sohel, 25, and his brother Motiur Rahman Jewel, 22, were admitted to Rajshahi Medical College and Hospital (RMCH) in critical conditions.

RMCH doctors said the brothers were brutally tortured before their admission to the hospital and Sohel is still in danger.

Sources said Boalia police allegedly kicked, punched and beat up the brothers with batons since they were taken to their custody at around

9:00pm on Wednesday.

The police also allegedly tortured them with electric shock at the station, the sources added.

The brothers were given first aid at the RMCH next morning and finally admitted to the hospital, which was cordoned off by police, at 12noon.

Their relatives told reporters at the RMCH that Boalia police demanded money from the brothers and otherwise threatened to arrest them in a case filed against them.

They scuffled with the law enforcers before they were taken to the police station, eyewitnesses said.

The brothers hit a sub-inspector and a constable and attempted to snatch their arms when police went to arrest them, said police.

Earlier on Wednesday, two admission seekers - Abdur Rashid and Rubel - from Chapainawabganj filed a case against them for demanding toll, police added.

## Teacher assaulted by Jamaat man

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

An adherent of Jamaat-e-Islami and his accomplices yesterday beat up a primary school headmaster, damaged the prime minister's portrait and set fire to documents in Puthia upazila.

Jamaat adherent Jalal and his men beat up Jalaluddin, headmaster of Palashi Primary School, for allocating space for a shop to a person against their will.

Accompanied by Kamal, Golam Mustafa, Sarwar, and Mehedi, Jalal also damaged two motorcycles at around 3:30pm, witnesses said.

The headmaster was admitted to Puthia Upazila Health Complex.

SHAMSUR RAHMAN MURDER

## Trial begins in speedy court Aug 14

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Khulna Speedy Trial Tribunal yesterday received the docket of Janakantha journalist Shamsur Rahman murder case and fixed August 14 for beginning the trial.

The tribunal has asked the complainant and five prosecution witnesses to turn up for deposition.

Earlier, the case was under trial in the court of The Additional District and Sessions Judge, Jessore.

Thirteen, out of 16 chargesheeted accused of the case, are on bail. Accused Pagla Selim is in Jessore Central Jail while Mushfequr Rahman Hirok is absconding.

The prime accused Asaduzzaman Litu of Khulna city was killed in an encounter with DB Police early this year.

Shamsur Rahman, Jessore Bureau Chief of Dainik Janakantha, was gunned down in his office on July 16 in 2000.

## SSKOP meet tomorrow

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Sangbadik-Sramik-Karmachary Oikya Parishad (SSKOP) will hold an extended meeting tomorrow at 11:00am at Jatiya Press Club in the capital, says an SSKOP press release yesterday.

The meeting was called ahead of the 24-hour countrywide strike in all newspapers and news agencies on August 1 demanding the formation of the sixth wage board.

The SSKOP is a forum of journalists, press employees and press workers.

Central leaders of three federations of journalists, including chiefs and deputy chiefs of all units of Dhaka Union of Journalists, presidents and general secretaries of all unions of Bangladesh Federal Union of Newspaper Press Workers, and presidents and general secretaries of all unions of employees' federation are requested to attend the meeting on time.

The SSKOP called the countrywide strike to press their seven-point demand that also includes full implementation of the fifth wage board.