

## BIG HAUL IN NAGARBARI

## Syndicates adulterated fertilisers for long

Nine to be produced before court today

## A CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

Some powerful syndicates including importers under the protection of ruling party men were engaged in adulterating and repacking imported fertilisers for long at Nagarbari, the biggest fertiliser market in northern districts.

They also hoarded fertilisers to create artificial crisis.

These were revealed during a three-day drive by joint forces in which over 5.5 lakh bags of adulterated, date-expired and banned fertilisers were seized, sources said.

Eight cases have been filed against 36 people including 12 importers and 24 warehouse owners in connection with the recovery of the fertilisers.

The accused include Alamgir Hossain of Baghdad Traders, Anisur

Rahman of Joint Trading, Rabiu Islam of Rabiu Traders, Ainul Haque of Ainul Traders, Hafizur Rahman of Sheikh Traders, Rafiqul Islam of Aman Trading, Abdul Malik of Ashia Transport, Abdus Sattar and Fazlur Rahman of Mosharaf & Brothers, according to a press release issued by Rapid Action battalion (Rab).

Twelve people were arrested during the drive began on Wednesday and ended on Friday.

The seized goods include 1,8248 sacks of MOP, 82,306 sacks of DAP, 3,53,868 sacks of TSP, all adulterated fertilisers; and over 3,000 sacks of banned FMP fertiliser.

The seized fertilisers worth about Tk 37 crore were seized from 47 warehouses after searching 69 warehouses.

Magistrates Mazharul Islam and Akhter Mamun led the drive, Rab

sources said.

Officer-in-Charge of Bera police station Mohammad Moniruzzaman said yesterday that nine of the arrested will be produced before court today. They are Abdul Jabbar, Hafizur Rahman, Golam Mostafa, Union Parishad chairman Rafiqullah, Mohadev sarker, Mohammad Mamun, Rawshan Ali, Ranju and Abdul Malek. All of them are owners of warehouses.

He said hunt is on for arrest of rest of the accused.

Meanwhile, supply of fertiliser has been streamlined under supervision of the local administration and law enforcers and there is no crisis, official sources said.

Most of the fertilisers in northern districts are supplied through Nagarbari.

## A careless doctor is patient's peril

Housewife fights for life as gauze removed from belly in Satkhira

## OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

A housewife, operated upon yesterday for the second time for removal of gauze that remained in her belly during caesarian operation earlier, is fighting for life at Satkhira Sadar Hospital.

The condition of Manira Khatun, 20, is serious, said gynaec consultant Dr. Iqbal Hasan at the hospital. He said there has been infection after the first operation.

Marina is the wife of Jalal Uddin of Shimul Baria village in Debhata upazila.

Jalal Uddin said that he took his pregnant wife to Kaligonj Surgical Clinic at Kaligonj on January 22. Dr. Akshedur Rahman did caesarian operation there and a baby was born to her.

She was released from the

clinic on January 27. After a few days, she felt pain in her belly. She was admitted to Satkhira Sadar Hospital on January 31.

Failing to stop the pain by applying medicines, Dr Iqbal Hasan operated upon her and found a three-feet gauze in her belly. He removed it in a two-hour operation, he told this correspondent when contacted.

On contact, Dr. Akshedur Rahman said he did operation with utmost care. Post-operative things were done by assistants, he said.

"I am an MBBS doctor and I have basic degree on caesarian operation. So I did the operation. Like me, many other doctors are doing caesarian operation in the district", he said when asked why he did the operation though he was not a gynaec doctor.



PHOTO: STAR

A devastating fire at Square Consumer company at Shalgaria in Pabna town Friday night gutted valuable machinery, raw materials and goods.

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BLACK MONEY  
Khulna leaders on probe list

## STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Investigation against black money holders of Khulna division is going on and a drive to arrest them will be launched soon, said sources in Khulna Metropolitan Police (KMP).

The alleged black money holders include political leaders, businessmen, industrialists and former government officials.

Tax officials in Khulna said 159 affluent men in Khulna division in June last year whitened over Tk 66. 62 crore, earned through illegal means.

They include 61 in Khulna, 34 in Jessor and 13 in Kushtia. Most of them are political leaders and retired government officials, the source said.

A list of alleged black money holders was sent to heads of different law enforcing agencies after declaration of emergency. Their bank accounts will be checked, if necessary, the source said.

Meanwhile, intelligence agencies have started investigation into alleged corruption by some former lawmakers in Khulna.

Khulna city Mayor Shaikh Tayebur Rahman, former lawmaker M Nurul Islam, BNP leader and president of Khulna Chamber of Commerce and Industry Shaharuzzaman Martuza, former Jamaat-e-Islami lawmaker Mian Golam Parwar, former whip and Awami League leader M R Shuja and AL leader Ajmol Ahmed Tapan are on the list for investigation, the sources claimed.

## 'Raise subsidy in agri sector'

## OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

Speakers at a discussion meeting here yesterday urged the government to increase subsidy in agriculture sector to boost production.

Speaking on 'WTO and Bangladesh', they said the World Trade Organisation (WTO) is protecting interests of developed countries.

Developed countries give 25 to 40 per cent subsidy on agriculture. WTO does not oppose this but urge least developed countries like Bangladesh to withdraw subsidy on agriculture, they said.

In this way, WTO is contributing to widening the gap between the rich and the poor countries.

Least developed countries like Bangladesh should press for duty-free access of goods to developed countries.

The consultation was jointly organised by a local NGO with assistance from the European Union. It was held at Satkhira Officers Club.

They said, the rich countries have forced poor countries to abide by their policies in the name of globalisation. Developing countries should have one voice at the WTO, they said.

The prescriptions of the Millennium Goals (MDG) will fail to reduce poverty as it has no direction to enhance investment in poor countries.

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