

Khagrachhari
AL leader
arrested

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Khagrachhari

Matiranga police arrested a union Awami Leauge president yesterday from Belchhari under Matiranga upazila in the hill district khagrachhari as a part of their anti crime drives.

He was identified as Belchhari Union Awami Leauge President Mohammad Nurul Islam alias Nuru.

Police sources said, he was arrested from his houses as he is the listed criminal of Matiranga upazila.

There are many cases against him, police said. After appearing court he was sent to khagrachhari jail.

SAJID'S DEATH IN CUSTODY

Charge sheet soon as CID completes probe

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Gaibandha

The Criminal Investigation Department (CID) from Dhaka yesterday concluded interrogation of four policemen, complainant and witnesses in connection with the alleged custodial death of Sajedur Rahman Sajid.

The CID team quizzed Officer-in-Charge of Gaibandha police station Noor Alam, SI Masud Rana and constables Farhad Hossain and Fahima Haider at the

Circuit House for two days.

Charge sheet of the case will be submitted soon, sources in the team said.

They also interrogated Aminul Islam Golap, convener of Gaibandha Citizens Ccommittee, Farhad Abdullah Harun Bablu, Mihir Ghosh, Ahsanul Habib Sayeed, victim's father Abdur Rouf and some others and visited the Thana hazat where the incident allegedly took place.

Gaibandha police arrested medical representative Sajedur

Rahman Sajid of Munshipara area in the town on May 18 last year and filed a case under the Arms Act. Police took him on seven days' remand for interrogation. SI Yousuf Ali was the investigation officer of the case.

Sajid died on the third day of police remand at thana hazat on May 22. Police first recorded a suicide case.

Father of victim later filed a murder case against SI Yousuf Ali under Section 302 of BPC alleging that his son was tortured to death in custody.

Higher police authorities had suspended IO SI Yousuf Ali, duty officer at the thana Fahima Haider and constables Dulal Chandra and Mizanur Rahman after the death.

The death triggered protests by people who brought out processions, held rallies and formed human chains in the town demanding trial of the killers. The protests were organized under the banner of Gaibandha Citizens Committee.

Later, Citizens Committee convener Aminul Islam Golap and the victim's elder brother Abdul Majed filed two cases alleging that Sajid was tortured to death and demanding probe by CID.

The court, after hearing, ordered transfer of the case to CID.

A service to farmers recognised

STAR NATIONAL DESK

Agriculture scientist Dr. Shahabuddin Ahmed runs across the length and breadth of the country, introducing to farmers some new value-added crops he evolved.

His tireless efforts have borne fruits. The most outstanding of his research innovations-- summer tomato--brought hefty gains for farmers, who earned up to Tk 1.5 lakh from one bigha of land in a season.

The Daily Star earlier published reports on cultivation of summer tomato at farmers' level.

There are other new varieties of cash crops like cauliflower, cabbage and brinjal on the list innovations by Shahabuddin, Principal Scientific Officer of Bangladesh Agriculture Research Institute (BARI) in Joydebpur.

In recognition to his innovations and efforts, the Academy yesterday awarded him the Dr. Kazi Badruddoza Gold Medal-2006 at a simple function held at Bangladesh Agriculture Research Council in the city.

The award was handed over by Dr Kazi Badruddoza, founder of BARI.

Shahabuddin's summer tomato was released in 2004, with only two farmers growing it on demonstration plots in Dadpara village in Bagmara upazila in Jessore district under his supervision.

It's high profit caught farmers' attention. With seeds distributed by BARI, its cultivation spread to 38 districts last year, covering a total of over 40 hectares in 70 spots.

"In coming summer, its cultivation will exceed 100 hectares in 50 districts", he told The Daily Star.



PHOTO: STAR

Dr. Shahabuddin Ahmed, left, receiving the Gold Medal from Dr. Kazi Badruddoza at a function at BARC in the city yesterday.

Two arrested for bank forgery

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur

A man and a women were arrested on Sunday night on charge of swindling Rangpur branch of Islami Bank of Tk 3,41,000.

They are Akter Jahan Sima of Adarshapara and Mahbub Morshed of Dhap in Rangpur.

Police said, the arrestees were members of an organised gang who drew money from several banks through forged demand drafts (DD) sent from abroad.

Sources at Islami Bank said Akter Jahan Sima drew Tk 2,55,000 from the bank through three forged DDs issued from a bank in Saudi Arabia last year.

The bank could not identify the forged DDs until Bangladesh Bank informed it lately.

On Sunday, Mahbub Morshed deposited a DD for Tk 86,000 to the bank in favacour of Sima.

On suspicion, bank officials caught Mahbub and called Sima over cell phone. When she came to the bank, the bank caught her. The two were later handed over to police.

3.5x3

4x3

8x3

Clash over control of newly emerged shoals in Rajshahi: 50 hurt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT,
Rajshahi

At least 50 people were injured in clashes between land grabbers' musclemen and landless people and aborigines over occupation of newly emerged lands in Beel Kumari at Dhantoir village in Tanore upazila in the district yesterday.

Ten of injured, most of them landless and aborigines, were admitted to Rajshahi Medical College Hospital (RMCH) while others were treated at the upazila health complex.

The hours-long clash erupted at about 9:30am as armed musclemen of land grabbers allegedly belonging to BNP tried to forcibly evict the landless and aborigines from the land. Police rushed to the spot and brought the situation under control.

The injured landless people alleged that some local BNP activ-

ists including led the attackers equipped with sharp weapons including billhooks, spears, rods and knives.

They said they transplanted IRRI-Boro paddy on the 445-bigha newly emerged landmass a month ago.

Senior police officials visited the spot. None was arrested. A case has been filed, police said.

According to sources, landless and aborigines occupied some 3000 acres of lands in shoals of Padma in last 35 years.

But in last several years, some local influential people started capturing the lands from landless and aborigines in Gortapara, Haldarpara, Kubipara Gokul and Tarandor areas.

Two persons were killed and several hundred injured in last two years in clashes over lands in the areas.

15x3

8X2