

Baby roasted as
FF's house
torched in
Sylhet

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, *Sylhet*

A minor girl was burnt to death as miscreants set fire to the house of a freedom fighter at Koshorpur village in Sylhet Sadar upazila in the early hours of Monday. However, other inmates managed escape.

According to a delayed report, the house of Akbar Ali was set on fire at about 2 am by some miscreants when inmates were asleep while Akbar was in Sylhet city to join the Independence Day programme.

As the tin-shed house caught fire, the inmates came out in a hurry but Akbar's 5-year daughter Sohana was left behind.

Autopsy of the remains of Sohana's body was done at Sylhet MAG Osmani Medical College yesterday.

Police arrested three suspects. They are Babla, son of Mozammel; Sadique Ali, son of Arab Ali and Ilyas, son of late Wasik Ali-all hailing from the same village.

Police produced the accused before a court with a prayer for five days' remand.

Akbar Ali filed a case with Kotwali police station without naming any accused.

Police said the arson could be a sequel to land dispute.

2 BNP leaders
arrested

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Khagrachhari*

Joint force yesterday arrested two 2 BNP leaders from their business centers when they were mixing bleaching powder with turmeric at Khagrachhari Bazar yesterday.

The arrestees are Khagrachhari town BNP organising secretary Mohammad Badsha Mia and his son Abul Bashar, also party secretary of the ward.

Acting on a tiff, joint forces raided the business center of Badsha at about at 10 am and arrested the father and the son. They also recovered 85 sacks of turmeric missed with bleaching power, police said.

Bleaching power is very harmful for human body and it may cause fatal diseases like cancer, doctors said. The chemical is mixed to make turmeric brighter. A case was lodge against them, police said.

Sending rare Bengal
treasures to Paris
exhibition protested

Legal notice served on RU authorities

ANWAR ALI, *Rajshahi*

A decision of Rajshahi University (RU) to send 24 rare Bengal treasures from Barendra Research Museum (BRM) to Paris for a 'great global exposure' drew criticism from different quarters.

Advocate Ankur Sen served a legal notice on RU authorities yesterday demanding cancellation of the decision within seven days.

Sen pleaded that sending the rare treasures of BRM, one of the oldest research museums in the sub-continent, would hamper research work. It will be an irreparable loss to the nation's heritage if those are lost or not returned, it said.

A group of 326 RU teachers on Sunday submitted a memorandum to RU Vice-chancellor to press the same demand. The precious archeological assets might not be returned they apprehended in the memorandum. The BRM is run by Rajshahi University.

Signatories to the memorandum included senior professors like Muhammad Shafi, Shafikunnabi Samadl, Abdus Sobhan, Mizan Uddin, Dr AHM Zehadul Karim, Moloy Kumer Bhounik and Fakuzzaman.

The BRM Advisory Committee and the RU Syndicate in February decided to send 24 treasures to Paris following a government decision to help Bangladesh get a 'global exposure through an international display'.

RU VC Prof Altaf Hossain told newsmen earlier that France's famous Guimet Museum, dedicated to Asian arts, will sponsor a four-month exhibition styled 'Sonar Bangla', scheduled from October 24 this year to March 3 next year.

Some 120 objects selected from Bangladesh National Museum, Mahasthangarh, Paharpur and Mainamati Archeological Museums and BRM will be displayed at Guimet Museum, he said.

The BRM assets include two 5th century manuscripts and 22 sculptures dating back to 7th to 12th century. These include a unique



PHOTO: STAR
A 7th century sculpture at Barendra Research Museum, one of the 27 rare Bengal treasures, likely to be sent to Paris for exhibition.

gold coated bronze statue of Manjusri, said BRM officials.

The 'Astasahasrika Prajnaparamita' manuscript is a rare collection of texts of Mahayana doctrine in 32 chapters and 8000 lines. It has 49 polychrome miniatures representing 'gods' and 'goddesses' of ancient Vajra family.

The sculptures include 7th, 9th and 11th century Suriya, 10th century Bara Havtara and 12th century black-stone statues of Ganga, Ardha Nariswar (half female and half male god), Shiva, Shiva Ardhanari Nritta Ganapati and Karttiketa.

FF journos
honoured

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Satkhira*

Satkhira Press Club yesterday accorded a reception to five freedom fighter journalists, one of them posthumously, marking the Independence Day.

Those accorded the reception are Shaheed SMAla Uddin, former editor of daily Patradut (posthumously), Prof. Abu Ahmed of The Daily Star, Sheikh Abdul Wazed Kachi of Inqilab and Kali Das Roy of Janata.

The function was chaired by press club executive committee member Sheikh Masud Hossain.

Speakers at the function called upon professionals to strive to establish the spirit of the Liberation War.

The caretaker government should take initiatives to reveal the actual history of the country's liberation war so that the future generation is not misled. They also pledged to work for the well being of the country, upholding the spirit of the Liberation War.

9 sent to jail
in Satkhira
murder case

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Satkhira*

Nine accused including a Union Parishad (UP) chairman and central Juba Dal leader in the Azibar Rahman murder case were sent to jail as their bail petitions were rejected when they surrendered before a court yesterday.

Satkhira District and Sessions Judge Ashish Ranjan Das passed the order.

The accused are Dhulihar UP chairman and Jubo Dal central education secretary Modasserul Haque Huda, UP member Amin uddin, Biswa Nath Dhali, Bikram Gain, Indrajit Gain, Nikhil Gain, Raghu Nath Gain, Prabir Gain and Dipak Kumar of Khariadanga village in the Sadar upazila.

Court sources said, they were accused for abducting Azibar Rahman, Kashem, Khokon and Hasan from their houses at Matiadanga village in the same upazila and torturing them at a shrimp enclosure at Khariadanga on the night of January 5. Azibar Rahman died allegedly due to torture and three others were injured.

Victim Azibar'a wife Mariam Begum filed a case with Sadar police station on January 6.



PHOTO: STAR
The victory memorial built at Satkhira collectorate compound awaiting inauguration for about two years.

Victory memorial not
inaugurated in 2 years

No decision yet as Satkhira freedom fighters
protest names of fake FFs, Rajaker on plaque

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Satkhira*

People including freedom fighters could not pay homage to the martyrs of Liberation War at the newly built victory memorial at Satkhira collectorate compound in the town on the Independence Day as it is yet to be inaugurated, about two years after construction.

The memorial built by the district administration was completed in 2005.

Its inauguration is being delayed as freedom fighters and other pro-liberation forces protested distortion of history of the Liberation War by putting names of some fake freedom fighter and a Rajakar on its plaque.

Earlier, Satkhira district unit of Bangladesh Muktiyoddha Sangsad submitted a memorandum to the Deputy Commissioner on January 27 to erase names of fake freedom fighters and the Rajaker and to put names of genuine freedom fighters yet to find place on the plaque.

They requested the DC to correct the names before March 25 but no action was taken.

Local leaders of the Muktiyoddha Sangsad told this correspondent that the memorial plaque contains names of 31 freedom fighters.

Names of many more martyred freedom fighters are left out, said Hasanuzzaman secretary of Satkhira unit of the Sangsad.

He said the plaque contains at least names of five fake freedom fighters and a Rajaker. These are of Kazi Moshrrur Ahmed, Rafiqul Islam, Mozammel Haque and Syed Abul Hossain Didar Bakht and Rajakar Golam Rahman.

"We urged the district administration to correct the names but our request went unheeded", said Enamul Haque district 'commander' of Bangladesh Muktiyoddha Sangsad.

This is a conspiracy to distort the history of Liberation War, he said.

When asked, Deputy Commissioner Kefayetullah told this correspondent that the administration only engraved names given by

the government. "We just followed the government list".

He however said he sent Muktiyoddha Sangsad memorandum to the ministry of liberation war affairs to take a decision.

3.5X2



The Daily Star Nilphamari Correspondent EAM Asaduzzaman (with flowers in hand) with colleagues after obtaining bail yesterday in a false case.

10X3

10X2

7X3