

## Woman shot in city by extortionists

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A woman was shot by a gang of unidentified extortionists at Kafrul in the city yesterday.

The miscreants identifying themselves as men of one Shikder shot Rosy Islam of Uttar Ibrahimpur as her husband refused to pay them toll few days ago, relatives told the journalists at Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

Rosy was shot in her abdomen when she went to the ground floor of her residence to bring water at 2.30pm.

Neighbours rushed her to the hospital in critical condition.

Relatives said the criminals demanded Tk 2 lakh as toll from Rosy's husband Zahidul Islam, a grill businessman few days ago.



Jute and Textile Adviser Geeteara Safiya Choudhury speaks at a seminar on 'Diversification of jute and its prospect from the global perspective' at Southeast University in the city yesterday. On her left is Prof M Shamsher Ali.

## 'Develop rail communications for better economy'

Speakers at a discussion yesterday stressed the need for improving rail communications of the country as part of developing the state infrastructure for a better national economy, says a press release.

The discussion was organised by Save Environment Movement at its office in the city.

The speakers also said rail communications is in a dilemma for lack of foresightedness of the policymakers.

If the knowledge of the expert employees could be utilised, the sector would definitely be developed, they said adding that it is time to work on how it could be made an effective service sector by keeping it under state management.

A vested quarter had been trying to hinder the development of this sector by providing false and deceptive information although this sector has a long-lasting infrastructure and its maintaining cost is less in rail communications, they added.

Rail communications should be strengthened for the sake of the country, the speakers added.

They also suggested reduction of distances, setting off express trains, effective time management, more facilities while transporting

goods and demanded accountability of consultants and experts.

Abu Naser Khan, convenor of the Save Environment Movement, Ibnul Saeed Rana of Ushika, Maruf Rahman of Manusher Jonno Rasta, Mohammad Ali of Bangladesh Rail Sramik Union and Abul Kalam Azad of Bangladesh Trade Union Centre also spoke.

### 3 robbers held at Ashulia

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Members of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) arrested three robbers and recovered the booty worth Tk 3.78 lakh in a raid at Ashulia on Saturday.

The arrestees are Babul alias Shahabuddin, Shakawat Hossain, and Atahar Uddin, who are residents of different villages in Ashulia.

Rab-2 conducted the raid following an incident of robbery in a house at Arjotpara in Tejgaon on March 27.

The recovered looted materials include gold ornaments and foreign currencies in cash.

## Jute products regaining old pride

Jute and Textile Adviser Geeteara Safiya Choudhury yesterday said jute is regaining its old pride due to a rise in the trend of using jute and jute products in the international market, says a press release.

She was speaking at a seminar on 'Diversification of jute and its prospect from the global perspective' at Southeast University in the city.

Diversified use of jute has led to growing interest in jute and jute products, said the adviser, adding that it is environment friendly and biodegradable.

Educational institutions should take initiatives to create public awareness about diversified use of jute, she further added.

Rezaul Karim, chairman, Board of Governors of Southeast University and South Asia Foundation was present as special guest at the seminar chaired by Prof M Shamsher Ali, vice chancellor of Southeast University.

### Dialogue with journos tomorrow

Action on Disability and Development (ADD) will hold a dialogue with media personnel at National Press Club in the city tomorrow to discuss Bangladesh's signing of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, says a press release.

Eminent lawyers, academics and human rights activists will also participate at the discussion.

## 13 power subscribers sued

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A mobile court filed cases against 13 power subscribers for failing to pay the bills, and six of them were arrested in Pabna town yesterday, says a press release of Bangladesh Power Development Board.

The court also cut off electricity line of another 18 defaulters as part of a countrywide electricity line detachment drive against those who did not pay the power bill regularly.

The court conducted the drive at Dilalipur, Atua, Kacharipara, and Old Technical area of the district town.

## Two women killed in wall collapse

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two women were killed as a boundary wall of a pump house collapsed on pedestrians at Khilgaon in the city yesterday.

Shirin Akhter, 28, and Khushbu Akhter Khusi, 25, were killed when the boundary wall of the pump house near Khilgaon Muslim Primary School at Uttar Goran in Khilgaon collapsed on pedestrians

at 11:00am. Several others were also injured in the collapse.

Witnesses said sudden flow of water with strong current from a pipe of the under-construction pump house caused the collapse.

Shirin was returning home along with her daughter named Meherunesa, 5, from a kindergarten school in the area while Khusi was heading to market.