

PDB official arrested while taking bribe in Satkhira

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira
An official of local Power Development Board (PDB) office was caught red-handed by the joint forces at his office yesterday while taking bribe from a consumer.
The arrestee is Mamunur Rashid Mamun, junior accounts officer of local PDB office.
Police said Mamun demanded Tk 5000 from one Ayub Ali of Palashpole in the town to shrink his electricity bill to Tk 7000 from due Tk 18000.
The joint forces arrested him yesterday while he was receiving the bribe.

Exhibition of Bangladeshi artworks in Brussels Apr 3-12

UNB, Dhaka
An exhibition of contemporary Bangladeshi artworks will be held in Brussels on April 3-12.
Foreign Adviser Iftekhar Ahmed Chowdhury said, "These paintings represent the vibrancy of our artistic heritage. Exhibitions like this will help project a very positive image of our culture in Europe, a part of the world with which we share so many common values."
A total of 60 paintings of 30 renowned artists are expected to be displayed at the exhibition, which will be held in the European Union headquarters, said a press release yesterday.
"This is very much in line with our cultural diplomacy," Iftekhar said.

BJFCI Ctg chapter formed

BSS, Ctg
A 14-member convening committee of Bangladesh Journalists' Forum for Consumers and Investors (BJFCI), Chittagong chapter was formed on Saturday.

Sarwar Uddin Ahmed of the daily People's View has been made convenor, and Ali Haider, of the daily Suprabhat Bangladesh has been made member secretary, a BJFCI press release said.
The committee was formed at a meeting of journalists working with local and national dailies, news agencies and electronic media at a city hotel.
Other members of the committee are Syed Abdul Wajed (Independent), Saleh Noman (Rtv), Saiful Alam (Purbakone), Waliur Rahman (Azadi), Yakub Ali Moni (Karnaphuli), Golam Mowla Murad (Jajaidin), Shimul Nazrul (Amar Desh), M Shamsul Islam (Naya Diganta), Masud Milad (Prothom Alo), Mahmud Moni (Azadi) and Hajeeratul Shiuli (Radio Today).

TV news presentation course ends

The certificate awarding ceremony of a month-long training course on 'TV News Presentation' organised by Bangladesh Institute of Journalism and Electronic Media (BIJEM), was held at the conference room of the institute on Saturday, says a press release.
Akrumul Qader, former ambassador, was present as chief guest and distributed certificates among the participants.
He said nowadays news presentation is a subject of art and creativity. Through planned training, continuous practice and correct pronunciation one can become an expert news presenter.
AYM Golam Kibria, joint secretary of housing & public works ministry, and Md Mahfuzur Rahman, an eminent businessman, were present as special guests.
Mirza Tarequl Qader, executive director of BIJEM, presided over the function.
The course was conducted by renowned TV news presenters, journalists and phoneticians.
A total of 40 participants including 35 female students of different universities took part in the course.

Road crashes kill 4

STAR REPORT
At least four people were killed and two others injured in separate road accidents in Gazipur, Kishoreganj and Chandpur yesterday.
UNB from Gazipur adds: Two people were killed and two others injured in a tragic road accident on Dhaka-Mymensingh highway in the Maleker Bari area of Sadar upazila yesterday morning.
Witnesses said a Dhaka-bound passenger bus from Kallakoir ran over four pedestrians when they were crossing the road at about 10:30am, killing one of them on the spot and injuring others critically.
One of the injured aged about 28 died on the way to Sadar Hospital while two others were rushed to the same hospital in critical condition.
The identities of the deceased could not be known immediately. The driver managed to escape along with the bus.
Our Correspondent from Kishoreganj adds: A minor boy was killed in a road accident on Kishoreganj-Nilgonj road in the Khiroda Bazar area of Kishoreganj Sadar upazila yesterday.
The dead was identified as

Eco park inaugurated in Sirajganj

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sirajganj
An eco park was inaugurated near the Jamuna Multipurpose Bridge in Sirajganj yesterday.
Executive Director of Jamuna Multipurpose Bridge Khan M Ibrahim Hossain inaugurated the park as the chief guest releasing at least seven deer.
The inaugural session was chaired by Zahir Hossain Khandaker, forest keeper of Samajik Bananchal in Bogra.
Speakers at the inaugural ceremony said due to the inauguration of the eco park, preservation of many wild animals will be possible here.
The park is not only a place for visitors but also an asset. So, proper maintenance of the park is a must, they added.
Ajit Kumar Rudra, divisional forest officer of Samajik Bananchal in Pabna, Ashraf Ali, deputy commissioner of Sirajganj and Alamgir Rahman, Superintendent of Police (SP) in Sirajganj also spoke on the occasion as special guests.
The eco park was established jointly by Forest Department and Bangladesh Bridge Authorities on 124 acres of land.



Executive Director of Jamuna Multipurpose Bridge Khan M Ibrahim Hossain releases deer in an eco park after inaugurating it in Sirajganj yesterday.

Body of missing youth recovered in Karnaphuli

CU CORRESPONDENT
The body of a youth who went missing on Friday in the river Karnaphuli was recovered yesterday morning.
The victim was identified as Utpal Kanungo, 30, son of Omrito Lal Kanungo of city's Patharghata area.
The body was recovered when it appeared at the Karnaphuli Bridge area, police said.
Utpal went missing at around 4:00pm on Friday when he jumped into the river from the bridge to save his wife Kochi Kanungo.
The couple went to the bridge to have a fresh breath. They were chatting sitting on the railing of the bridge. At one stage Kochi fell off the bridge due to a heavy jerk by a goods laden truck.
A running trawler rescued Kochi alive but Utpal was washed away and remained missing since then.



Apollo Hospitals Dhaka recently organised a healthcare awareness programme on Gynecology issues for adolescents at Central Women's College in the city. Dr Maya Mukhopadhyay, a consultant of the Gynecology department of the hospital, conducted the programme organised to raise awareness about adolescent healthcare issues to ensure proper upbringing of the adolescents in the society.

One arrested for taking bribe

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna
Joint forces arrested a section officer of Koira Upazial Office of Water Development Board while he was taking bribe from one Fazlu Sarder yesterday.
Police said Section Officer Shashanka Kirtonia demanded Tk 10,000 as bribe for allotting a canal under FCDI project of Water Development Board.
The accused section officer was handed over to police yesterday evening after interrogation at the Koira joint forces camp.
A case was filed against him in this connection.

Pak cops teargas sacked judge's supporters

AFP, Islamabad
Pakistani police fired teargas at supporters of the country's sacked chief justice protesting outside his official residence in the capital Islamabad on Sunday, witnesses said.
The protestors, including lawyers, political party workers and civil society activists, were stopped by riot police at the barbed barricade erected outside the residence of deposed supreme court chief justice Iftikhar Muhammad Chaudhry.
Police fired teargas at the protestors to disperse them and both sides threw stones at each other, an AFP photographer said.
The protestors wanted to march towards Chaudhry's residence and present him with flowers, but police stopped them, he said.
Lawyers across Pakistan observed "black flag week" to press for Chaudhry's reinstatement.
President Pervez Musharraf sacked Chaudhry on March 9 last year on misconduct charges but the Supreme Court reinstated him in July.
In November Musharraf again sacked Chaudhry and other judges under emergency rule, fearing they might disqualify him for contesting presidential election while being army chief and president at same time.
Chaudhry and his family have been living under house arrest at the official residence of the Supreme Court chief justice in a heavily-guarded government residential area of Islamabad since November.
Pakistan's incoming government coalition partners Sunday said that the new parliament would reinstate the sacked judges.

US for participatory election

FROM PAGE 16
She also said the US is closely monitoring the trials of corruption suspects including the trials of two former prime ministers, and noted that the US embassy had requested permission to send observers to the trials of Sheikh Hasina.
Geeta Pasi said she will continue her talks with the other faction of BNP as well as with other political parties.
During the meeting between the US chargé d'affaires and pro-Saifur faction of BNP leaders of the latter demanded holding of the stalled ninth parliamentary election by September while strongly opposing the military backed caretaker government's plan to hold local government elections before the national poll.
The AL leaders however said they do not have any problem with the roadmap, but they also want the parliamentary election to be held before local government polls.
Geeta Pasi met the AL leaders in their Acting President Zillur Rahman's Gulshan residence in the morning, and in the afternoon she met Saifur-led leaders of BNP in Saifur's residence also in Gulshan.
Both meetings discussed the overall political situation in the country, the status of electoral

roadmap's implementation, and the proposed dialogues between the government and political parties among other issues.
During both meetings the US chargé d'affaires reiterated her government's desire to see political parties playing important roles in the electoral process.
"The US hopes that the next election will be held no later than December 2008 and that the incumbent caretaker government will do everything required for holding the election on time," she told journalists after the meetings.
She also noted the importance of dialogues between the government and political parties in order to create an environment conducive to holding elections.
Geeta Pasi said she believes political parties in the country are preparing for the parliamentary election.
Briefing journalists after AL's meeting with Pasi, Acting AL General Secretary Syed Ashraf Islam said like the US they also want the national election to be held according to the EC's roadmap, and demand lifting of the ongoing state of emergency ahead of the poll.
"At the meeting we told her that we don't have any problem with the roadmap. But we want



Akrumul Qader, former ambassador, distributes certificates among the participants of a course on 'TV News Presentation' in the city on Saturday.

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