

## SNAPS AND SNIPPETS



PHOTO: STAR

Schoolchildren join a human chain organised by Shishu-Kishore Mela in front of Rangpur Press Club yesterday demanding punishment to the rapists of a class eight student.

## Punishment to rapists demanded

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur

Shishu Kishore Mela of Rangpur Press Club yesterday formed a human chain in front of Rangpur Press Club demanding exemplary punishment to the culprits who gang-raped a student of class eight of Aziznagar High School. The girl was gang-raped by five youths of Alamnagar on the night of June 5. Police arrested Raja, one of the accused in the case. The rest are still at large.

## BSF kills one in Lalmonirhat

A CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

Indian Border Security Force (BSF) shot dead a Bangladeshi on Burimari border under Patgram upazila on Thursday night. The victim was identified as Saju Islam, 25, son of Sirajul Islam of Sreerampur village in the upazila. BDR sources said the Indian border guards opened fire on Saju while he was trying to cross the border at around 11:45pm through Sreerampur point. Locals rescued Saju with bullet injuries to his head and took him to Patgram Upazila Health Complex. Later, he succumbed to his injuries on way to Rangpur Medical College Hospital.

## RU student commits suicide

RU CORRESPONDENT

A female student of Rajshahi University (RU) allegedly committed suicide by taking poison at her father-in-law's house at village Jagirpara in Puthia upazila early yesterday. The deceased was identified as Nasima Akter Lima, a 1st year student of Management Department and wife of Sumon, a BDR *jawan*, now posted at Teknaf, sources said. Lima's in-laws used to torture her frequently for dowry, her family members said. She was killed in a pre-planned manner for dowry, they said adding, they found several injury marks on her body. Police recovered the body and sent it to Rajshahi Medical College Hospital for autopsy. An unnatural death (UD) case was filed with Rajpara police who said they apprehended that Lima might have been killed after torture for dowry. Departmental teachers and students expressed their deep shock at the death of Lima and demanded punishment to the culprits. They announced a programme of human chain and mourning procession on the campus on Saturday.

## Missing housewife found dead

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jhenidah

Police yesterday recovered the body of a housewife who went missing on Monday from village Shekra in Shaikupa upazila. Mazeda Begum, 50, wife of Mokbul Hossain, went out of her house to visit her relatives in Jhenidah town. Since then she had been missing. Police recovered her decomposed body from a mango orchard belonging to one Abdus Salam at the same village in the early hours of Thursday. Police and family members said she might have been murdered. But the motive behind the killing is yet to be known. Victim's daughter filed a case with Shaikupa police station in this regard.

## Nor'wester lashes Netrakona

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Netrakona

Nor'wester lashed nine villages in two unions of Netrakona district on Wednesday night, injuring at least 50 people and damaging over 200 houses. The worst affected villages are Sukhari, Kolsree, Hatia, Tarachapur, Bousha, Devodar and Kolapara under Sukhari Union and Carigatia and Chorpora under Duaz Union. Over 20 business establishments at Sukhari Bazar were also damaged by the storm that lasted for half an hour from 11:30pm.

## 2 RU BCL men stabbed

RU CORRESPONDENT

Unidentified youths stabbed two activists of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) Rajshahi University unit on the campus on Wednesday night. The seriously injured BCL activists--Mizanur Rahman Swapon and Ismail Hossain--are undergoing treatment at Rajshahi Medical College Hospital (RMCH). Swapon and Ismail came under attack while they were returning to the campus from Talamari area at around 10:00pm. Ismail alleged that Shibir cadres made the attack as he had earlier filed a general diary (GD) with Mother Police Station against Suhrawardy Hall Shibir President Tafsir Ahmed and Secretary Razzak after they gave him a death threat.

## One arrested with gun

OUR CORRESPONDENT, C'nawabganj

Members of the Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) arrested one person with a pistol at Dadonchawk village under Shibganj upazila of Chapainawabganj district on Wednesday night. Acting on a tip-off, a team of the elite force reached the village at around 8:00pm and arrested Abdul Latif, 35. The law enforcers later recovered two magazines and six bullets from his possession and handed him over to Shibganj Police Station. A case was filed against Latif with the police station concerned under Arms Act.

## Tk 2 cr illegal drugs destroyed

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

Narcotics Control Department here destroyed illegal drugs including heroin and foreign made wine worth about Tk 2 crore on its office premises yesterday. The drugs were recovered following drives conducted at different places of the district, official sources said. Those were preserved at the departmental store as evidence of 464 cases settled under Drug Control Act since 1994 to 2008, they said.

## Unidentified body recovered

A CORRESPONDENT, Benapole

Police recovered an unidentified body, aged about 30, from Goga Khar field in Benapole yesterday. Local people found the body in the morning and informed the police. Police went to the spot, rescued the body and sent it to the hospital for autopsy.

## 20 hurt as Pabna BNP men clash over new convening committee

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

At least 20 BNP activists were injured as two factions of the party engaged in a clash in front of Pabna district unit BNP office yesterday noon.

Major (ret'd) KS Mahmud, former president of Pabna district unit BNP and joint convenor of the newly declared convening committee, and Kamrul Hassan Mintu, incumbent chairman of Pabna municipality and organising secretary of the previous district BNP committee, are among the injured.

Internal feud of district BNP surfaced anew after the party central committee declared a convening committee of Pabna district unit BNP on Tuesday night.

A large faction of BNP activists observed demonstration programmes in the town on Wednesday demanding cancellation of the new committee.

On the other hand, supporters of the new convening committee organised a welcome rally yesterday and several hundred BNP leaders and workers assembled at Pabna district unit BNP office on the occasion.

The rival faction led by Kamrul Hassan Mintu also brought out a procession in the town.

As the procession came to the district BNP office, leaders and activists of the two groups got excited and engaged in clashes

with sticks and brickbats.

At least 20 BNP activists of both the factions were injured during the clashes.

Seriously injured Major (ret'd) KS Mahmud, Kamrul Hassan Mintu, Anisur Rahman Tilon, Shahidur Rahman, Azad and Pradip were admitted to Pabna General Hospital.

KS Mahmud was shifted to Dhaka CMH as his condition turned critical.

At a press conference on the premises of district BNP office in the afternoon, supporters of new committee demanded punishment of the attackers.

"Unruly people led by Pabna municipality Chairman Kamrul Hassan Mintu attacked the party office in a pre-planned way and injured several persons including senior BNP leader KS Mahmud," Habibur Rahan Tota, convenor of the new convening committee of district BNP, said at the press conference.

On the other hand, Pabna municipality Chairman Kamrul Hassan Mintu said, "We faced the attack when we brought out a protest procession."

Following yesterday's clash in Pabna town, the BNP central committee expelled Kamrul Hassan Mintu from the party, sources said.

Additional police have been deployed in front of the party office as a tense situation is prevailing in Pabna town.



PHOTO: STAR

BNP activists chase their party rivals during yesterday's factional clash in Pabna town.

## Road blockade in Feni demanding release of Jubo League leader

A CORRESPONDENT, Feni

Jubo League leaders and activists of Sonagazi upazila unit yesterday blocked Sonagazi-Feni road and damaged some vehicles demanding release of local Jubo League leader Jamaluddin Prokash.

Police arrested Prokash at around 10:00am in front of Sonagazi upazila compound for his alleged involvement in a murder case. He was later produced in the Judicial Magistrate's Court that sent him to jail.

Receiving the news, Sonagazi Jubo League men went on the rampage, put up a barricade on Feni-Sonagazi road and damaged some vehicles. Local Awami League leaders later pacified the angry Jubo League men and removed barricade from the road.

When contacted, officer-in-charge (OC) of Sonagazi Police Station said they arrested Prokash in connection with a murder case filed by Delowara Begum, wife of slain Shahabuddin of Nadana village under Bagdana Union of Feni.

In the case statement, the complainant said that a gang of youths stormed into their house on the night of April 18 this year and started looting valuables. When her husband Shahabuddin tried to resist the youths, they shot him dead.

Delowara further alleged that she and her school going daughter saw Prokash firing at Shahabuddin.

Meanwhile, Feni district law and order committee at its meeting yesterday expressed satisfaction at the arrest of the accused in Shahabuddin murder case.

## C'nawabganj BNP leader resigns

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chapainawabganj

Former lawmaker Harunur Rashid resigned from the post of joint convenor of the newly formed BNP convening committee of Chapainawabganj district unit on Wednesday night.

He sent his resignation letter to party Chairperson Khaleda Zia and Secretary General Khondokar Delwar Hossain, party sources said.

Dedicated party workers are displeased with the recently formed nine-member district convening committee as it also includes persons who were not member of any union or ward committee of BNP, he said in the resignation letter.

Contacted, Harunur Rashid told this correspondent that he decided to resign from the new convening committee as it was not formed with right persons.



PHOTO: STAR

A building, being constructed on the grabbed land just beside the launch terminal on the Khakhdhan River, bears testimony to widespread encroachment on the important waterway adjoining Barguna town.

## Barguna river dying as grabbing, pollution go on

RAFIQUL ISLAM, Barisal

The Khakhdhan River flowing by the side of Barguna town has turned into a narrow stream containing polluted water, thanks to mindless encroachment and dumping of offactory and human wastes.

The situation causes manifold problems concerning navigability, irrigation, ecology and environment.

"During my childhood, Khakhdhan River was about 1 to 1.25 kilometre wide," Gour Chandra Basu, 85, an inhabitant of Barguna village, said.

Elderly people of the area said several canals once connecting the river with Charcanali, Bhothmara, Shonakhali areas are now extinct.

During this correspondent's recent visit to the banks of Khakhdhan, several farmers, mostly marginal and landless ones, said the river contains very little water in the dry

season and they face problems in cultivating crops.

They have urged re-excavation of the riverbed and construction of sluice gates to facilitate irrigation.

"Due to irrigation problem, farmers in the nearby villages have abandoned Boro farming and switched to vegetable cultivation but it is also hampered in the dry session due to lack of water," said Md Shamsuddin Sheikh, deputy director of Barguna Agricultural Extension Department.

With less availability of fish in the river, many fishermen, boatmen and other people, who were once dependent on the river, have changed profession.

Pollution in the narrowed down stream has taken a serious turn as chemical wastes from small industries, on or near the banks of Khakhdhan River, are left to the river.

Human wastes from some 750 open toilets on the riverbanks and hundreds of others across the town also find their ways into the river through drains and canals.

Environment Directorate, Barisal office sources said lack of garbage management system in Barguna town is the major cause of pollution in Khakhdhan River.

Some influential people grabbed nearly one thousand acres of land on the riverbanks during the past few years, sources said.

Sujoy Chakma, executive engineer of Water Development Board, said encroachment of the banks of Khakhdhan River has led to alarming decline in its navigability and it hampers smooth movement of vessels to and from other districts.

Around 5,000 engine boats ply the river daily while 20 to 30 oil tankers run through it every month.

## AUG 17 SERIAL BLASTS

## Three JMB men jailed in Ctg

CU CORRESPONDENT

A Chittagong court yesterday awarded jail sentence to three outlawed JMB (Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh) men in a case filed in connection with bomb blasts at Bakolia on August 17, 2005.

The convicts are Javed Iqbal alias Mohammad, JMB Chittagong divisional commander, Jahid alias Delwar and Arshadul Alam. Javed and Jahid were awarded 10 years imprisonment each while Arshadul was jailed for five years.

Judge Shafiqul Karim of Chittagong Divisional Speedy Trial Tribunal pronounced

the verdict, acquitting an accused named Shafiqul Islam alias Russel as charges brought against him could not be proved.

The court also exempted three other JMB leaders Sheikh Abdur Rahman, Siddiqur Rahman alias Bangla Bhai and Ataur Rahman Sunny from the case since they were executed earlier.

Charge sheet of the case was submitted on January 12, 2007 against the seven persons and charge was framed on November 13 last year.

Eight cases were filed in connection with serial bomb blasts at 16 points in the port city on the day.

Biomedical Research Centre  
University of Dhaka

## Scholarships for M. Phil &amp; Ph D Programs

Applications are invited from prospective candidates for M.Phil scholarship at the Biomedical Research Centre of Dhaka University.

## For M.Phil Program: Academic Qualification and Experience

Candidates must have 3 year (Hons.) degree in Pharmacy/Biochemistry & Molecular Biology/ Microbiology/ Chemistry/ Applied Chemistry & Chemical Technology/ Fisheries Science/ Food & Nutrition Science/ Botany/ Zoology/ Genetic Engineering & Biotechnology with 1 year M.Pharm/M.Sc. degree in the relevant field; or 4 year (Hons.) degree in any one of the aforementioned disciplines; or MBBS degree from any recognized University. Candidates must have first division at both S.S.C and H.S.C and at least one first class at the M.Pharm/M.Sc./B.Pharm/ B.Sc. (Hons.) examinations with not less than 50% marks in any examination of academic career. Candidates with research experience in the relevant research area will be given preference. Candidates when appointed would be expected to pursue research for M.Phil degree at the University of Dhaka.

Application on plain paper along with CV must reach the Director, Biomedical Research Centre on or before 29/06/2009. Selected candidates will receive a Scholarship of 8,000.00 (eight thousand) taka per month for a period of two years.

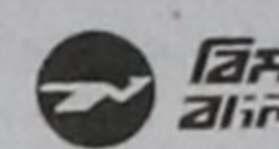
Applications are invited from prospective candidates for PhD scholarship at the Biomedical Research Centre of Dhaka University.

## For PhD Program: Academic Qualification and Experience

Candidates must have (i) 4 year (Hons.) degree in Pharmacy/ Biochemistry & Molecular Biology/ Microbiology/ Chemistry/ Applied Chemistry & Chemical Technology/ Fisheries Science/ Food & Nutrition Science/ Botany/ Zoology/ Genetic Engineering & Biotechnology with 1 year M.Pharm/M.Sc. degree in the relevant field; or (ii) 3 year (Hons.) degree in any one of the aforementioned disciplines with 1 year M.Pharm/M.Sc. degree in the relevant field with 2 years teaching experience at undergraduate level or 2 years research experience in a recognized research organization or 2 years service experience in Govt./ Private/ Autonomous/ Semiautonomous organization. Candidates must have first division at both S.S.C and H.S.C and at least one first class at the M.Pharm/M.Sc./B.Pharm/ B.Sc. (Hons.) examinations with not less than 50% marks in any examination of academic career.

Application on plain paper along with CV must reach the Director, Biomedical Research Centre on or before 29/06/2009. Selected candidates will receive a Scholarship of 12,000.00 (twelve thousand) taka per month for a period of maximum four years.

Director  
Biomedical Research Centre  
University of Dhaka



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## Invitation of Request for Proposal

Biman Bangladesh Airlines Ltd invites Request for Proposal (RFP) for taking lease of 03 (three) 777-200ER/777-200 aircraft powered by any engines from Airlines, Operators, Owners of Aircraft and/or Lasing Companies. Basic requirements are mentioned below:

Type and number of aircraft	03 (three) 777-200ER or 03 (three) 777-200
Nature of lease	ACMI (Aircraft, Crew Maintenance and Insurance) lease for twelve months with or without option for conversion to AMI (Aircraft, Maintenance and Insurance) after six months and then to Dry Lease after twelve months.
Period of lease	First twelve months ACMI (AMI after six months is optional). Last thirty-six months Dry Lease. Total 48 (forty-eight) months.
Mandatory requirements	Aircraft and Operator from FAA IASA program CAT-1 State without any restriction for operation to/from USA. Aircraft and Operator having ETOPS Certification. Air Operators Certificate for ACMI operations. Aircraft from a single source.
Preference	Sister ships having two class and similar seat configuration. 777-200ER
Commencement of lease	As soon as possible (preferably before October 2009).

2. Detailed information is given in the RFP Schedule. RFP Notice and Schedule may be viewed at Biman's website: [www.biman-airlines.com](http://www.biman-airlines.com). For further information or query, the General Manager (Corporate Planning) may be contacted at Telephone: +880-2-8917391, Fax: +880-2-8917475, E-mail: [gmp@biman.com](mailto:gmp@biman.com) during the office hours.

3. Proposals/Offer are to be submitted to General Manager (Corporate Planning), Biman Bangladesh Airlines Ltd, Head Office, Balaka, Kurmitola, Dhaka-1229, Bangladesh latest by 1500 hours BST (0800 hours UTC) on 05 July 2009 through Courier Service or E-mail to [RFP777@biman.com](mailto:RFP777@biman.com). The Proposal(s)/Offer(s) will be opened on the same day immediately after the closing time. No Proposal/Offer will be accepted after the scheduled time and date.

4. Biman Bangladesh Airlines Ltd reserves the right to accept or reject any proposal/offer without assigning any reason.

Capt. M Shah Alam  
General Manager (Corporate Planning)

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C.D. 29/08