

SNAPS AND SNIPPETS

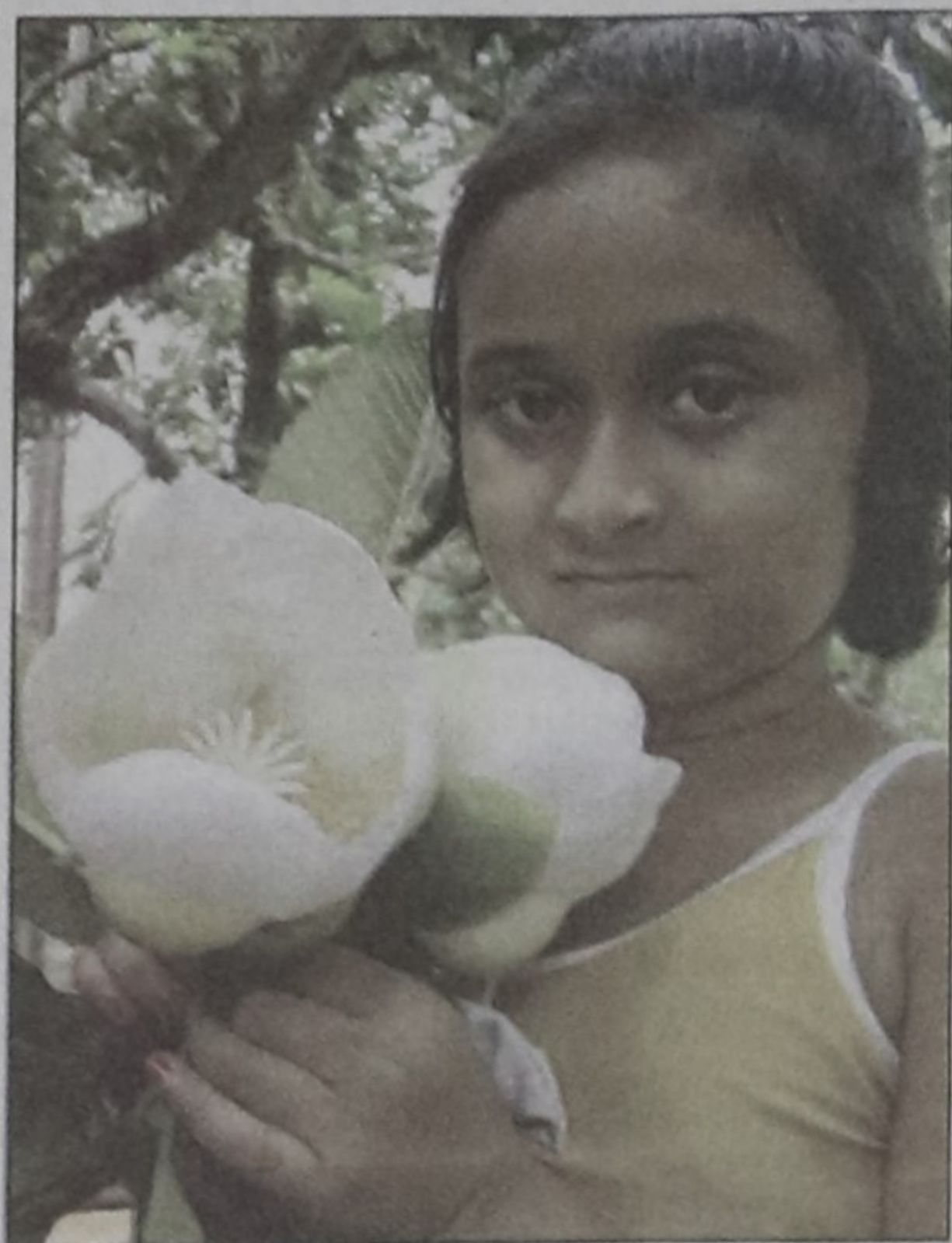


PHOTO: BANGLAR CHOKH

Chalta flower, an emblem of the rainy season, appears with added beauty as a smiling child holds it. The photo was taken from Jessore last week.

Janajuddha demands toll

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Janajuddha faction of outlawed Purbo Banglar Communist Party (PBCP) has demanded Tk 10 lakh as toll from President of Khulna district unit of Awami League Kamruzzaman Jamal. One person identifying himself over cell phone as an armed cadre of the outlawed party on Monday also threatened to kill him for non payment of the amount. Jamal filed a general diary the same day with Khulna Sadar police station seeking security of his life. Meanwhile, local leaders of all political parties expressed their grave concern at the return of extremists in and around Khulna City.

Principal jailed for cheating

A CORRESPONDENT, Jessore

Principal and vice president of the governing body of a college were sentenced on Tuesday to three years imprisonment for cheating. Convicts Motiur Rahman, principal and Amzad Hossain Mollah, vice president of Chitra Model College of Bagherpara in Jessore were also fined 1000 taka each, in default, to suffer one year more in jail. One Akter Hossain, filed a case with Jessore chief judicial magistrate's court on December 19, 2007, alleging that the convicts took 50 thousand taka from him in the name of development fund and assured him of giving a job of lecturer in the college. But they neither gave him the job nor returned the money.

Tiger kills one in Satkhira

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

A tiger killed a woodcutter in Naikati area of the Sundarbans yesterday. Police said victim Abu Moral, 50, son of Shukchand Moral of village Dalnekhali, went to the Sundarbans in the early morning to collect fuel wood. All of a sudden a tiger swooped on him and dragged him into the deep forest. Local people recovered the body in the afternoon.

Shanties gutted in Ctg

CU CORRESPONDENT

A devastating fire gutted around 70 shanties of a slum at Kalshi Digir Par in Halishahar area in the port city in the early hours yesterday. Two fire fighting units from Agrabad Fire Station rushed to the spot to bring the blaze under control. The fire originated from gas burner, said the sources in fire service. Dwellers of the gutted houses were mostly garments workers.



PHOTO: BANGLAR CHOKH

Cultural activists, political leaders, professionals and civil society members join a human chain organised by Rajshahi Union of Journalists at Shaheb Bazar Zero Point in Rajshahi city yesterday demanding arrest and punishment of the culprits who attacked The Daily Star correspondent Anwar Ali Himu on Monday night.

22 CANALS IN KHULNA CITY, SUBURBS

Drive resumes today to drive out encroachers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Khulna City Corporation (KCC) resumes its drive to free 22 canals from the grip of encroachers today.

The drive remained suspended since last Sunday following murder of ward councillor Shahid Iqbal Bithar who was the convener of the 19-member committee formed by the mayor to conduct eviction drive against 22 canal encroachers.

The decision to resume the drive was taken at a meeting held in the KCC conference room on Tuesday with Mayor Talukder Abdul Khaleque in the chair.

Panel mayor Ajmal Ahmed Tapan has been made new convener of the 19-member committee. He is also the president of Awami League Sadar upazila unit.

It was resolved in the meeting that cases would be filed against the encroachers for erecting illegal structures on the canals.

The unauthorised structures erected on the canals in the city and its suburbs include residential houses, shops, roads, a

mosque and a madrasa, schools, a bus ticket counter, one city councillor's office, one urban primary healthcare centre, government nurses quarters, rickshaw garages and enclosures for fish cultivation.

When contacted, new convener of the committee Ajmal Ahmed Tapan said he will carry out the eviction drive with the same courage and spirit as his predecessor Shahid Iqbal Bithar did.

Not a single illegal structure erected on the canals will be spared from being demolished to solve the menacing water logging problem in the city, he said.

Tuesday's meeting was attended by ward councillors, high officials of civil and police administration, leaders of different professional bodies and officers-in-charge of Khulna Sadar Police Station and Dumuria Police Station.

Meanwhile, police have so far made no headway in the investigation into the murder of Shahid Iqbal Bithar.

Seven out of 11 criminals picked up as suspects denied their involvement in the murder during interrogation at the KMP

headquarters on Tuesday night.

The criminals picked up so far in connection with the murder of Bithar are Sachchu Bepari, Hafizur Rahman Bachchu, Zakir Sheikh, Murad Munshi, Anwar, Gaus, Alamgir, Monir, Mohammad, Riaz Hossain Shentu and Asad Sheikh.

Ten of them have been shown arrested under Section 54 of BPC while the lone suspect shown arrested in the murder case is Monirul Islam Monir, a tailor by profession.

Monir was taken on remand for five days from Tuesday while six others for three days for interrogation in connection with Bithar murder, said Sub-Inspector Shajahan Siraj who is the investigation officer (IO) of the case.

Four others picked up as suspects are yet to be shown arrested and interrogated in connection with the case.

Police are looking for local Jubo League leader Mezbaul Hasan Buruj suspecting his involvement in masterminding the murder of Shahid Iqbal Bithar.

Engr made OSD for 'neglect'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sirajganj

Sirajganj Water Development Board (WDB) Executive Engineer Aminul Islam was made OSD yesterday for negligence of duty to protect Sirajganj Town Protection Embankment, WDB sources said.

Due to onrush of water from upstream and heavy rain, erosion took serious turn at many points on the western bank of Jamuna River and about 200 metres of Sirajganj Town Protection Embankment near Goyla Swashanghat collapsed on last Friday, putting the town at risk.

The higher authorities blamed WDB officials' failure in maintenance and monitoring as one of the causes of the damage to the embankment.

The ongoing work to repair the damaged portion of the embankment is yet to complete, although Water Resource Minister Ramesh Chandra Sen on Saturday said the work would complete by 48 hours.

Several locals alleged a few pro-Awami League contractors with the connivance of some WDB officials are engaged in misappropriating money in the name of emergency work at the damaged portion of the embankment.

8 missing in trawler capsized

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

Eight fishermen went missing in the Bay near Kuakata sea beach as fishing trawler FB Mayer Ashirbad capsized Tuesday evening.

The missing fishermen are Montu Das, 30, Krishna Das, 22, Ram, 40, Amal Das, 30, all of Dumki upazila, Shudhanshu, 25, Fani Das, 2, Bhogobati, 35 of Baufal upazila in Patuakhali district and Makhon, 50 of Bakherganj upazila under Barisal district.

Trawler owner Abinash said the trawler capsized due to rough sea when the fishermen were returning to Mohipu Ghat.



PHOTO: STAR

Cross sections of people join a human chain at Kachari Bazar in Rangpur yesterday protesting 'false' medical report on a gang-raped schoolgirl and demanding punishment of the perpetrators.

RAPE OF SCHOOLGIRL IN RANGPUR

Protesters reject 'false' medical report, demand fresh check up

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur

Cross sections of people, including students from different schools, formed a human chain at Court Square in Rangpur town yesterday morning in protest against 'false' medical report on a schoolgirl who was gang-raped on June 5.

Later, they gave a memorandum to the deputy commissioner and the superintendent of police demanding fresh medical check up on the rape victim for a fair report.

Nine human rights and social organisations also staged a demonstration at the same venue in the afternoon protesting the 'false' medical report released by the medical officer of the forensic department of Rangpur Medical College on July 12.

The organisations include Women and Children Repression Resistance

Committee, Rangpur Bar Council, Jatiya Mohila Ainjibi Samity, Jatiya Mohila Parishad, Begum Rokeya Forum of Rangpur and Dinajpur Rural Service.

Addressing a press conference in Rangpur Ainjibi Samity conference room, the leaders of the organisations rejected the medical report, terming it false. They said there were a number of circumstantial and physical evidence that showed that the girl was gang-raped, but the medical officer in his report said that no sign of rape was found in her body.

A gang of criminals picked up Merry Sumaiya Khandaker Toma, a student of class IX of Aziznagar Girls' High School, from a road adjacent to their residence at Robertsonganj in the town on June 5. They took her to a place near Alamnagar food depot and raped her. They gang left the scene, leaving Toma unconscious.

Locals took Toma to Rangpur Medical College Hospital where a medical test was done on her. Her mother lodged a rape case against local criminals-- Raja, Apel and Rasa--with kotwali Police Station on June 6.

Police arrested Raja, one of the three accused, the same day while the rest are still at large.

Later on June 30, the teachers submitted the bills to the Sonali Bank branch concerned with sign of the district primary education officer (DPEO).

But the district account officer (DAO) returned the bills as they were not placed by June 22.

Asked about the matter, DAO Waheduzzaman said, "The bills were to be submitted by June 22. But they were placed on June 30 night and so, the money against them could not be paid."

DPEO M Khalilur Rahman said, "I signed the bills on June 30 noon when I was informed that they had not been signed by the UPEO concerned. Now I have asked the authorities concerned for an allotment again for arrears payment of the 39 teachers."

Fake beneficiary draws dead man's elderly allowance

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Nilphamari

A fake beneficiary has drawn allowance for the elderly people against a dead man for a few months allegedly in connivance with a few staff of a bank branch at Domar.

Adhar Mamud, an elderly man of ward No 8 of Sonarai union of Domar upazila, enjoyed allowance for the elderly people for a couple of years with card No 2608, sources said.

After his natural death on September 9 in 2008, union parishad Chairman concerned Mostafizar Rahman issued his death certificate.

He also provided written information to the authorities of the bank branch and department concerned of the government in this regard. In Domar upazila allowance for the elderly people is disbursed from Domar branch of that particular bank.

Evidence has been found that somebody had drawn his allowance in the months of April, May and June of the current year while officials concerned suppressed records of drawing the allowance against the dead man in other months after his death, sources said.

Before disbursing the allowance, the bank official concerned must check the beneficiary's photograph kept in the register to see that the person who has come to draw the money is genuine.

But the rule was ignored intentionally to give the allowance to a fake beneficiary, sources alleged.

The Sonarai UP chairman has made a written complaint to the government department concerned and the bank authorities regarding this irregularity.

Asked about the matter, officials of the bank branch declined to make any comment.

39 pry teachers not getting salary for 3 months

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kurigram

Thirty-nine primary school teachers under the development project have not got their salary of last three months allegedly due to official snags.

The bills of April, May and June for 39 assistant teachers of 22 government primary schools in the upazila under Primary Education Development Programme-2 were duly prepared and it was to be submitted before June 22, office sources said.

But Upazila Primary Education Officer (UPEO) Arif Ahmed did not sign the bills within the time as he had gone outside the upazila on leave for several days.

Later on June 30, the teachers

Training on pesticide use

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Bogra

USAID and Bogra-based NGO Gram Unnayan Karma (GUK) have jointly initiated a training programme to give farmers knowledge about reducing pesticide use in fields and growing quality vegetables.

For this purpose, a three-day training programme started at GUK auditorium on Tuesday.

About 30 vegetable growers

from Shahnagar village of Shahjahanpur upazila of the district participated in the three-day training programme on reducing the use of pesticides in the fields of vegetables, especially brinjal and coriander, and producing quality vegetables, organisers said.

USAID has a plan to train up 1500 farmers in several upazilas including Bogra Sadar in cooperation with GUK and Agricultural Extension Department (AED) Bogra by this year.



ESSENTIAL DRUGS COMPANY LIMITED

395-397, Tejgaon Industrial Area
Dhaka-1208

LOCAL TENDER NOTICE

Tender ref. : EDCL/PUR/LOCAL/TENDER/2009/1128

Dated 14/07/2009

Sealed tenders are hereby invited from the reputed Contractors having experience for successful completion of construction works in any single work worth of Govt. / Semi Govt. / Autonomous bodies during the last 5 (five) years.

Name of work	Earnest Money	Cost of Tender Schedule	Time for completion
Construction of i) Security Guard House ii) External Drain for Khulna Essential Latex Prokolpo as per BOQ & Design Drawing.	Tk. 2.5% of quoted amount	Tk. 1250.00/set (Non refundable)	03 (Three) months

Tender schedule will be sold from the Accounts Department of Essential Drugs Company Limited, Dhaka and Essential Latex Prokolpo (KELP), Gilatola, P.O. Jahanabad Cantonment, Khulna on payment as stated above during office hours on all working days (except Friday, Saturday and Govt. Holidays). No tender schedule will be sold on the dropping date of the tender.

The tender will be accompanied by an amount of Earnest Money as mentioned above in the form of Bank Draft / Pay Order from any Schedule Bank of Bangladesh in favour of "Essential Drugs Co. Ltd." without which the tender will be considered as non responsive.

The tenderers may drop their offer alongwith relevant papers to the tender Box kept at the Purchase Deptt. of both the offices of EDCL, Dhaka & KELP, Khulna till 12.00 a.m on 03.08.2009 which will be opened on 05.08.2009 at Dhaka office (after receiving the bids from KELP, Khulna) at 11-45 PM in presence of the tenderers / their representatives (if any).

EDCL authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

(Md. Feroze-ul-Alam)
Director Operation & Incharge
Planning & Procurement Deptt.
For : Managing Director.

Housewife gang-raped, five youth arrested

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Nilphamari

Criminals gang-raped a housewife in Saidpur municipality area on Tuesday night.

Army member Kamal (not his real name), who married five months ago, recently came to his in-laws' house in Chir Bandar upazila where his wife was staying. On Tuesday, he took her to a dentist at Saidpur town for treatment of teeth.

On the way of returning by a rickshaw, they reached Kundal in Saidpur municipality at about 10:30pm when the woman fell ill.

A few youths, who approached pretending help to reach them to hospital, hit Kamal hard with a lethal weapon near Kharkharia River, and left him tied on the ground at some distance from

the main road.

Taking his wife to a jute field, eight youths raped her.

Sensing the matter, a few locals informed police who rescued the woman and her husband and admitted them to a local hospital. Later the two were shifted to Combined Military Hospital at Saidpur.

On Tuesday night, police arrested five youths named Milon, Akku, Shahjahan, Dildar and Selim from Kundal area as suspected criminals.

Kamal filed a case with Saidpur Police Station yesterday.

The victim identified the arrestees as culprits, said Sub Inspector Monir Hossain, investigation officer of the case.

Saidpur Judicial Magistrate's Court granted seven days' remand for them, said officer-in-charge of Saidpur Police Station.