

## Mugger Fakira also has some matters of principle!

HASIBUR RAHMAN BILO, Bogra

"No sir, the number is not so high. It will be between 600 and 700," a nonchalant Jahangir Alam Fakira told journalists when asked how many muggings his group committed in last six months.

Bogra Circle ASP Arifur Rahman Mondal arrested Fakira at Kadamtoli in Gabtoli upazila Saturday on charges of stabbing district Puja Uddipan Committee President Amrit Lal and snatching cash and cell phone from him at Baro Gola in Bogra town on July 17 night.

Fakira's father Jobber Sarker, a resident of Hindukandi village in Sariakandi upazila, earlier robbed people on the Jamuna River. Now he works as an accomplice of his mugger son in Bogra town.

Fakira formed a group of muggers comprising several criminals from Hilli and port in Dinajpur and Mohasthangarh in Bogra.

"Only once our group snatched a mobile phone from a woman. Then we pledged not to snatch anything from any woman in future. We respect women," he said.

Father of a son, he now resides at Baruj Adarshapara in Gabtoli.

As most of the journalists in Bogra town are known by their faces, Fakira and his accomplices do not attack them as such incident would



lead to pressure from police, he said.

After spending two years behind bars in a theft case, he got released from Bogra jail one and a half years ago, he said, adding that he remained 'idle' for one year and then started mugging again six months ago.

"As preparation for mugging, I call members of my group over cell phone and ask them to come to the town in rickshaw vans. We select Bogra Rail Station or any lonely area for committing the crime," he said.

"I committed highest five muggings in one night and fled safely. I do not stab anybody but two group members Chora Bablu and Sumon do it," Fakira said.

He, however, could not say how many people were stabbed by his mugging group or how many of the stab victims died.

Fakira said he and his father Jobber get Tk 300 to Tk 400 each as their 'share' after every act of mugging.

A CORRESPONDENT, Madaripur

Catching of fishes including egg carrying ones and fry has continued unabated in different rivers, beels and other water bodies in the district, as callous fishermen are turning deaf ears to the prime minister's warning against harming fish resources even during the Fisheries Week.

Different kinds of enclosures would be seen in dozens of water bodies in Shibchar, Kalkini, Rajoir and Sadar upazilas of Madaripur district in the current rainy season.

As canals, beels and haors get filled with water from the Padma, Arial Kha and Kumar rivers during mid-June to August, the carrying fish come to these water bodies to lay eggs.

A section of unscrupulous fishermen are catching egg carrying fish, jatka and fry indiscriminately for last one and a half months.

Effective measures to protect fish

resources and its planned cultivation could earn huge foreign exchange in addition to meeting protein requirement of our vast population.

But mindless act by a section of people is taking a heavy toll on fishes, making the traditional favourite food dearer day by day.

During this correspondent's recent visit to different areas, locals said fishes of different species are being caught indiscriminately in char areas of different unions around the River Padma, Moynakata Khal in Shibchar municipal area, Arial Kha River in Kalkini upazila, Beel Padma between Madaripur and Shibchar upazilas and Kumar River in Rajoir upazila.

Besides, more than 1000 submerged enclosures have been set in the water bodies to catch fish.

Although the fish 'plunderers' themselves catch fish without any restraint, they bar people living near the rivers from catching fish for their family con-

sumption, locals said.

Lessee of Beel Padma flowing through Madaripur and Shibchar upazilas, Joyon Sipahi admitted indiscriminate catching of fishes.

He, however, accused the journalists of turning blind eyes to the fishermen who set hundreds of enclosures to catch fish in other water bodies including Padma and Arial Kha rivers.

Admitting setting of enclosures or fish traps by dishonest fishermen in different rivers, Shibchar upazila Fisheries Officer Monirul Mamun said they are taking steps to remove those. The action is getting delayed as there is no budget for the purpose.

"The fisheries department can only conduct awareness campaign. As the fisheries officers do not have any magistracy power, they cannot prevent illegal erection of enclosures in the rivers," Madaripur district Fisheries Officer Dr AKM Aminul said.

## SNAPS AND SNIPPETS



PHOTO: STAR

Students of Barisal BM College in joyful mood as they observe World Friendship Day on the campus yesterday.

## School student murdered

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Manikganj

Body of a school student was recovered from a jute field at village Kapsail under Daulatpur Police Station in Manikganj yesterday. Jannat Hossain, a student of class eight and son of Lal Mia of the Kapsail village went missing two days ago. Officer in-charge (OC) of Daulatpur police station said Jannat's father and elder brother live in Saudi Arabia. Jannat went to Glabazar to recharge his mobile phone on Friday and did not return home. The body bore a mark on the neck as Jannat was suffocated to death, the OC added. Mother of Jannat filed a murder case with the police station.

## Robbers held, arms recovered

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

Police arrested five robbers and recovered arms and sharp weapons from them early yesterday. Arrestees Hamsel, Shamsul, Alam, Musa and Sahid hail from different villages in Khosha upazila in Kushtia and Pangsha upazila in Rajbari. According to police, they raided a house of Satpakhia village in Kumarhali upazila in Kushtia at about 2:30 am and arrested the five with a country made pistol, a sword and three knives.

## SUST student found dead

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

A female student of Shahjalal University of Science and Technology (SUST) allegedly committed suicide. Sylhet Kotwali Police yesterday found the body hanging from a ceiling fan in her room at Mazumderpara of Tilagarh area. They sent the body to Sylhet Osmani Medical College and Hospital morgue for post mortem. Sources said, Fatema Tanjin Jharna, 23, was a student of first semester of the final year BBA. The girl had an affair with a student of MBA in SUST. As the boy married another girl on Thursday last, she was too shocked and committed suicide. Sylhet Kotwali Police filed a UD case in this connection.



PHOTO: STAR

Porters of Haji Sharifullah Bazar in Faridpur town began an indefinite strike yesterday protesting extortion by local goons.

## Arms recovered, youth held

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Magura

Police yesterday arrested a young man along with two shooter guns near the town's bus stand. Arrestee Mukul Mia, 26, hails from Baliadanga village in Kaliganj upazila of Jhenidah district. Sources said police official Sarwar Hossain on suspicion searched the body of Mukul at around 4:45 pm when he was standing in front of a hotel near the bus stand and found the two firearms tied with his thighs.

## Touchstone statue recovered

RU CORRESPONDENT

Rapid Action Battalion of Rajshahi yesterday recovered a touchstone statue from Gobinda Nagar village under Thakurgaon district. A Rangpur Rab team raided one Biren's house and found the black statue under a mango tree. The height of the statue is 11 inches and it weighs around 11 kilogram. None was arrested in this connection, Rab sources said.

## Youth killed in Kushtia

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

A young man was bludgeoned to death on Saturday night inside Fatin Ice Factory at Rupsha Strand Road in the city. Victim Nur Islam, 26, was son of Alkaj Sheikh of Rayerkati village under Pirojpur Sadar upazila. Police said the murder was committed by other employees of the ice factory following quarrel over theft of an energy bulb. Police picked up six employees of the factory suspecting their involvement in the killing.

## Muggers kill young man

A CORRESPONDENT, Jessore

Muggers stabbed to death a young man. Victim Yunus Ali, 30, is son of Noor Mohammed of village Vekutia under Sadar upazila and also a driver of Nitol-Tata group. Police said, a group of muggers snatched mobile and others valuables from Yunus and stabbed him several times on Airport Road when he was returning home from his workplace on Saturday night. The next morning locals found him lying on the road. They sent him to Jessore General Hospital where he succumbed to his injuries. A case was filed in this connection.

## Mindless fishing goes on as campaign falls on deaf ears

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PHOTO: STAR

Fish traps made of bamboo fences is a common scene in water bodies of Madaripur district as a section of people continue indiscriminate fishing. The photo was taken from Arial Kha River in Shibchar upazila.

## WAR CRIMES IN 1971

## 7 sued, prayer for remand of 6 others in Satkhira

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

Seven alleged collaborator of Pakistani occupation forces have been sued for killing a freedom fighter in Assasuni upazila in 1971.

The accused are Golam Mostafa of Sreekalash village, Nasiruddin of Toardanga village, Shahajuddin of Kapsanda village, Abdul Hakim Dhal of Noapara village, Abdus Samad of Hajipur village, Arshad Ali Sana of Assasuni village and Elahi Baksa of Kakbasha village under the upazila.

Abdur Rashid, son of martyred freedom fighter Abdul Hakim of village Sreekalash, filed a petition case with the Judicial Magistrate's Court yesterday against the accused for killing his father at Assasuni rajakar camp on September 14, 1971.

In the case statement, the complainant said the accused picked up his father from their house when he came to meet his family members. They took my father to the rajakar camp and shot him dead, he added.

Meanwhile, Six alleged rajakars, arrested on

August 1 in connection with a case filed with Debnath Police Station on Friday, were produced before the court yesterday seeking a ten-day remand.

After hearing, the court fixed August 4 for hearing on the remand petition and sent the accused to jail.

The arrested rajakars are Akkaj Ali, son of Barish Ali, Abdul Aziz Chowkidar, son of Kader Baksa Sardar of Balitha village, Surat Ali, son of Putu Gazi of Shimulbaria village, Nazrul Islam, son of Entaj Moral, Gaus Sardar, son of Forkan Ali Sardar, and Abdul Hakim, son of Amir Ali of Gobrakhal village in Debnath upazila.

The complainant, Abdul Mannan, son of slain Babar Ali of village Gobrakhal in Debnath upazila, filed a petition case with the Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate's Court against the accused for killing his father on May 10, 1971.

The complainant alleged that the accused raided their house at Gobrakhal village and picked up his father. He further said they took his father to rajakar camp at Ellarchar in Sadar upazila and killed him.

Meanwhile, a young indigenous girl when she was alone there on Friday afternoon. Then he assaulted and raped the girl and fled the scene.

A case was filed against the alleged attacker, Mohammad Nazrul Islam, 25, with the Dighinala Police Station.

Assistant Superintendent of Police Mohammad Maksudur Rahman said a team had been engaged to arrest the accused who went into hiding after the incident.

Hill Women's Federation Khagrachhari district unit President Rina Dewan and other leaders yesterday went to Khagrachhari Adhunik Sadar Hospital to see the girl who is undergoing treatment for serious injuries inflicted by the culprit.

Medical report by a three-member doctors' board formed by the government yesterday said the physically and mentally challenged indigenous girl, assaulted at her Boradom village house under Dighinala upazila in Khagrachhari on Friday afternoon, had been raped.

"We have prepared the report today and handed it over to the concerned officials including the police, as the matter is a police case now," Dr Bishwajit Tripura, Resident Medical Officer of Khagrachhari Adhunik Sadar Hospital told reporters yesterday.

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PHOTO: STAR

Docs confirm Khagrachhari rape case

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Khagrachhari

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