

# BSF kills two Bangladeshis

## Returns bodies after flag meetings

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Thakurgaon*

Indian Border Security Force (BSF) killed two Bangladeshis along Panchagarh border yesterday and the day before.

An elderly man was beaten to death at Amarkhana point early yesterday while a farmer was shot dead in Madhupara area of the border on Wednesday.

BSF however returned the bodies yesterday afternoon after company commander-level meetings with Bangladesh Rifles (BDR).

After a meeting held on zero line on Madhupara border under Sadar upazila, the body of Islam Miah, 38, son of late Afiz Uddin alias Sarbatu of Madhupara village was handed over to BDR.

Islam was shot dead by BSF members of Shingimari camp on Madhupara border Wednesday afternoon at about 3:00pm while he was cutting grass for his cattle.

The BDR members of Vitorgarh camp later handed over the body to Panchagarh police who later sent it to the victim's family members.

Meanwhile, the body of a mentally impaired elderly man was returned by BSF yesterday afternoon after a company commander-level flag meeting between the border guards at Omorkhana point under Sadar upazila.

Victim Anwar Hossain, 60, was son of late Haji Abul Kashem of Nordepara village under Sadar upazila of the district.

Anwar was allegedly beaten to death by the BSF men of Khalpara camp early yesterday as he entered Indian territory by mistake.

After receiving the body, BDR gave it to police who later handed it over to the victim's family members.



Local businessmen bring out a procession in Bogra town yesterday protesting Jubo League and Chhatra League men's alleged attempt to illegally occupy government land at Rafique Khan Market in the town.

PHOTO: STAR

# 9 children enslaved by dry fish trader rescued

A CORRESPONDENT, *Bagerhat*

Coastguards rescued nine children aged between 11 and 15 from a remote fishermen's village at Dubla under Sharankhola range of the Sundarbans early yesterday.

The children were forcibly employed in fish drying work at Meher Ali's Char at Dubla fishermen's village.

The rescued children are Md Ibrahim, 15, son of Nurul Islam, Md Nur Nabi, 15, son of Monir Ahmed, Md Alauddin, 11, son of Md Mostafa of Hatia in Noakhali district; Md Ibrahim, 14, son of Kala Miah of Sitakunda, Md Sohel, 14, son of Md Selim of Rangunia in Chittagong district; Mostafa Sheikh, 12, son of Ali Ahmed of Burichong in Comilla district; Md Ripon, 13, son of Abul Hossain of Gazipur; Md Faruque alias Babul, 12, son of Abdul Kader

of Feni district; and Md Jewel, 13, son of Shamsul Haque of Gouripur in Mymensingh district.

Receiving a complaint from Abdur Rab of Sonagazi in Feni district, coastguards led by Operations Officer Lt Lokman Hakim raided the fishermen's village at Dubla at around 3:00am and rescued the children.

Coastguard sources said dry fish trader Gafur Bahaddar brought the children to Dubla five months ago and engaged them in fish drying process at Meher Ali's Char.

The rescued children were sent to their respective homes, the sources said.

Sundarbans East Zone Forest Officer Mihir Kumar said the forest department has imposed a ban on employing children in drying fish. As per rules, the trade licence of Gafur Bahaddar will be cancelled, he added.

# 10 sued on charge of killing 5 FFs during '71 war

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Satkhira*

Ten alleged collaborators of Pakistani occupation forces were sued yesterday on charge of killing five freedom fighters in Kalaroa in 1971.

The accused are Maulana Omar Ali of Uttar Raita village, Abu Mujahid of Damodarkati village, Md Rajaullah, Mohor Ali and Zamir Ali of Brajabaksa village, Yakub Ali of Jalalabad village, Maulana Shamsuzzaman Hamidi of Hamidur village, Abdur Rahim of Khalshi village, Nur Islam of Panch Dhan Ghora village and Abu Bakar of Darbasha village in Kalaroa upazila.

Md Fayekuzzaman, son of Munshi Rohan Uddin of Fukra village under Kashiani upazila of Gopalganj district, filed the case with Judicial Magistrate's Court,

Satkhira.

The martyred freedom fighters are Saheb Ali, Munshi Mohammad Mahsin, Subhas Chandra, Shishir Chandra and Monoranjan Kumar of Fukra village under Kashiani upazila of Gopalganj district.

In the case statement, the complainant said the collaborators caught the five freedom fighters at Kalaroa while they were going to India for higher training on May 17, 1971.

He further stated that the accused beat up the freedom fighters severely, took them to Kalaroa football ground and killed them the same day.

Judge Md Masuduzzaman accepted the case and asked the officer-in-Charge (OC) of Kalaroa Police Station to take legal action against the accused.

# A different day on no man's land on Sunday

UNB, *Benapole*

People of Bangladesh and West Bengal will jointly celebrate the International Mother Language Day on Sunday on Bangladesh-India no man's land at Benapole check-post.

A temporary shaheed minar will be constructed at no man's land to pay homage to the language martyrs.

Lawmaker from Jessore-1 constituency Sheikh Afil Uddin will attend as chief guest while Land Minister of West Bengal A Razzak Molla and Self-reliant and Planning Minister Rekha Goswami and ex-lawmaker Amitabh Nandi will attend as special guests on the occasion.

Three artistes each from the two countries will perform songs during the celebration.

A meeting held here with Sheikh Afil Uddin in the chair on Monday night formed a 43-member committee for making the programme a success.

# Goodbye, dear princess

## Thousands bid farewell to Maha Chakri Sirindhorn in Gaibandha

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Gaibandha*

Gaibandha people accorded farewell to Thai Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn at Balashi Ghat as she along with her entourage left for Dhaka, ending her two-day visit to rural areas on Jamuna basin in Gaibandha yesterday.

As the team left the specially built 'mini model village' at Beler char and crossed the river by a country boat, thousands of people stood on the bank and waived to the honourable guest.

Princess Maha visited the area as a member of the research team of Bloomberg School of Public Health of Johns Hopkins University, USA to see the maternal and child health project implemented by Jivita Bangladesh in Gaibandha.

The 34-member team included five members of Thai Royal families and dean of Johns Hopkins University Dr Michael Klag and other members of health advisory board.

Clad in simple dress, and holding three cameras, she mixed with ease and spoke cordially to the common people, especially women.

A very popular personality in Thailand for her social service and concern for the welfare of common people, princess Maha won the heart of common people during her two-day visit to Gaibandha.

Lawmaker Mahabub Ara Begum Gini of Gaibandha-2, lawmaker Col (rtd) Dr Abdul Kader Khan of Gaibandha-1 and Gaibandha Deputy Commissioner Md Shahidul Islam were present at the bank of Jamuna River to see off the princess and her entourage who left for Dhaka by a motorcade.

Earlier on Wednesday night, local artistes rendered songs and dances in honour of the princess and rural women presented her *naxi*



kantha (embroidered cloth).

The princess was entertained with local delicacies including pithas (home-made cakes) and a variety of dishes.

"People of the area accorded me an unforgettable hospitality," said the princess.

A very popular personality in Thailand for her social service and concern for the welfare of common people, she was made special envoy of UNESCO.

Princess Maha, 58, is the second daughter of Thai King Bhumibol and Queen Sirikit Sirindhorn. She desires to spend her life for the welfare of Thai people.

# SNAPS AND SNIPPETS



PHOTO: STAR

Students of Eco Pathshala dance at Thakurgaon District Shilpakala Academy auditorium marking the concluding ceremony of Eco Pathshala Week on Tuesday.

# Fugitive JMB man held

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Dinajpur*

A fugitive militant of outlawed Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) was held in Birampur upazila on Wednesday evening. The arrestee was identified as Md Dabirul Islam 28, son of Moin Uddin Moyeen under Ayra village under the upazila. Sources said, a Rab team from Joypurhat raided Ayra village at 6:30pm and arrested Dabirul who allegedly came to meet the members of JMB there. Dabirul was chargesheeted in a case in Jaldhaka upazila of Nilphamari district in 2008.

# One to die for killing wife

UNB, *Sylhet*

A court here on Wednesday awarded capital punishment to a man for killing his wife in 2004. The condemned was identified as M Nizamuddin, 50, son of late Haji Kutub Ali of Ajor village in Jakiganj upazila. According to the prosecution, Nizam picked up a quarrel with his wife Kulsoma Begum on January 21, 2004 night over a trifling matter and at one stage stabbed her to death. Later, hearing the hue and cry, neighbours rushed in and caught the killer red-handed and handed him over to police.

# Touchstone statue recovered

UNB, *Naogaon*

A touchstone made statue of Lord Krishna worth Tk 3 crore was recovered at Nischintapur village in Sapahar upazila early Wednesday. Acting on secret information, BDR jawans recovered the statue from a pond of the village at about 3:00am. The border guards suspected that the statue weighing 300kg was kept in the pond for smuggling out to India later at a convenient time.

# Body found

UNB, *Barisal*

Body of an unidentified middle-aged man was recovered from a ditch adjacent to intern doctors' hostel on Barisal Sher-e-Bangla Medical College and Hospital campus on Wednesday morning. Police said, the body bore injury marks. It was sent to SBMCH morgue for autopsy. With this, five bodies, including of two women, were recovered from Barisal city, Muladi and Wazirpur upazilas in three days since Monday.



PHOTO: STAR

A microbus of the motorcade carrying Thai Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn and her entourage lie turtled at Mirzapur in Tangail after an accident that killed Pannee Lickanajule, deputy chief of Thai Embassy in Dhaka (inset). The team was returning to the capital after two days' visit to Gaibandha.

# Two to die, 3 get life for abducting schoolboy

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Magura*

Two people were sentenced to death and three others to life term rigorous imprisonment (RI) here yesterday for abducting a schoolboy in the town.

Additional District and Sessions Judge Mohammad Nazir Ahmed also fined each lifer Tk 50,000, in default, to suffer one year more RI.

Those sentenced to death are Sijanur Rahman Sohag, 20, and Majnu Sheikh, 25, and the lifers Alek Rahman, 52, Atiar Rahman, 40, and

Insar Ali Sabuj, 30.

Sohag hailed from Bilnathur village in Sreepur upazila of Magura district while the rest four convicts from Abaipur village in Shailakupa upazila under Jhenidah district.

According to prosecution, in brief, the five kidnapped Badhon, 14, son of Ehtesamul Haque of Kamarkhali village in Madhukhali upazila of Faridpur district from Keshob square in Magura town on April 12, 2004 and demanded Tk 20 lakh ransom from the family of the victim.

Police, however, was able to rescue Badhon after about two months of his abduction from Charpara village in Sreepur upazila. Badhon later made a statement before the then Additional District Magistrate Basudev Ganguly under Section 164 of CrPc describing the story of his abduction.

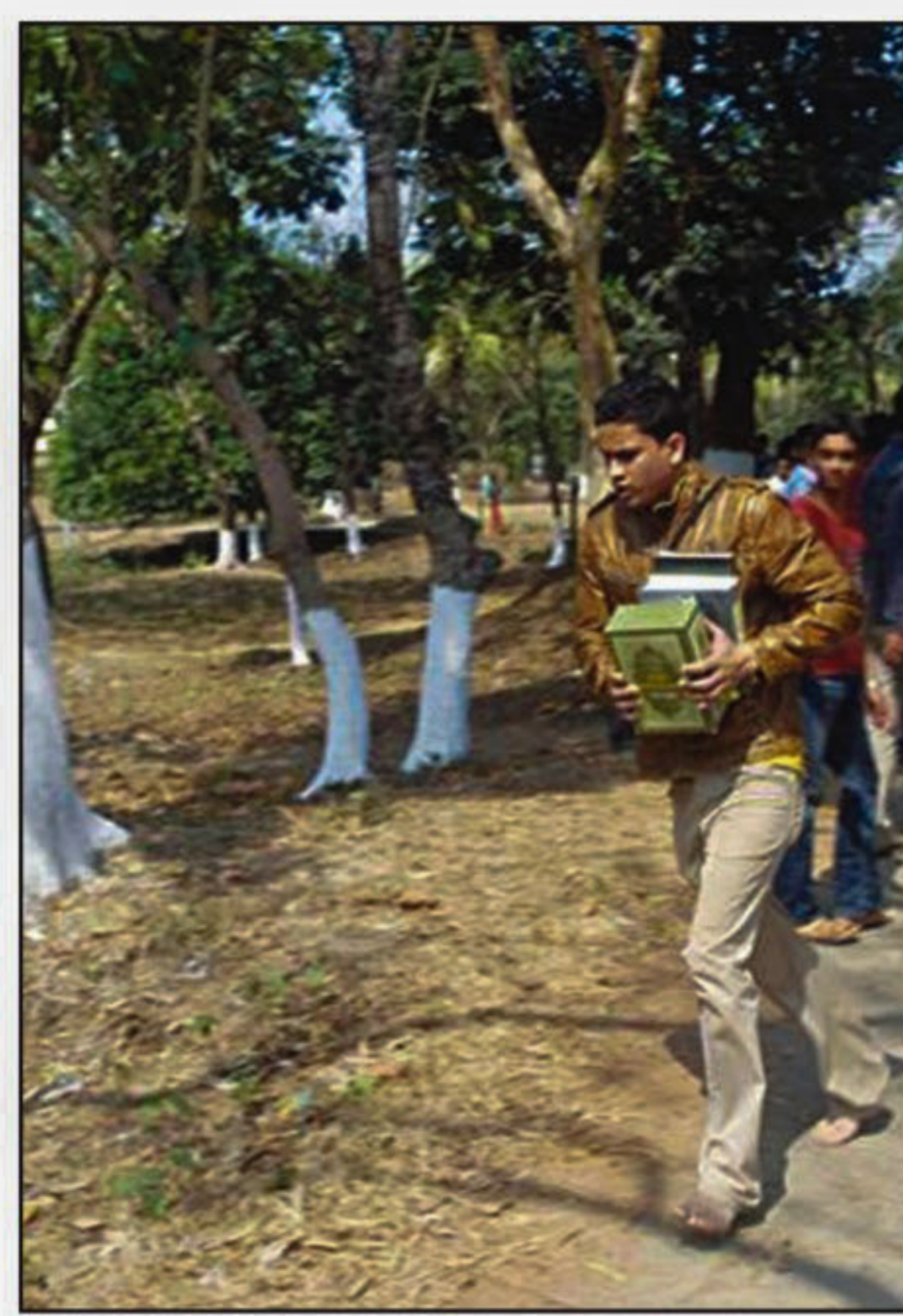
The following day, Mohammad Mafizul Haque, maternal uncle of Badhon filed a case in this regard with Sreepur police station under Women and Children Repression Prevention Act.

# BCL, SHIBIR LOCK IN CLASH IN SYLHET



PHOTO: STAR

Students run for safety, right, articles set ablaze during clash between Chhatra League and Islami Chhatra Shibir at Sylhet Government College yesterday.



# BDR MUTINY AT MARISHYA

## Depositions end, next hearing on May 3

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Rangamati*

The BDR special court-4 yesterday fixed May 3 for the next hearing in the case for mutiny by 9 Rifles Battalion at Marishya in Baghaichhari upazila after completion of deposition from 11 witnesses out of 25 of 9 Rifles Battalion completed.

Six witnesses yesterday gave deposition in the court. Earlier one witness gave statement on Tuesday and four on Wednesday against the 75 accused jawans.

All of the 75 accused jawans from Rangamati jail were produced before the court yesterday and they were sent back to the same jail after adjournment of the proceedings.

The three-member special court sat at 8:30am yesterday at Mechanical Transport Shed at Rangamati sector headquarters and continued till 12:00pm.

The 11 witnesses who gave statements are naik subedar Rezaur Rahman, who is also a plaintiff of the case, former battalion commander of Marishya of 9 Rifle Battalion Lt Col Hafizur Rahman, Maj Kabir Ahmed, Maj Iqbal

Usuf, Lt Mahmud Kamal, naik subedar Md Abu Zafar, Mostafa Rahman, naik Md Shafiqur Rahman, lance naik Md Mahubur Rahman, signal man Imam Hossain and Harun-ur-Rashid.

All the 75 jawans claimed in the court that they are not guilty.

The three-member court is headed by BDR DG Maj Gen Md Moinul Islam. Two other members are Lt Col Md Abdur Rouf and Major Golam Mostafa Al-Mamun.

Deputy attorney general Md Sohrwardy, on behalf of the attorney general aided the court.

Mossarfar Hossain Kazal and Md Mohiuddin Dewan were present as senior public prosecutors on behalf of the state. Advocate SM Abdur Rouf, Kazi Bshir Ahmed and Major Enamul Karim provided legal assistance to the mutineers in the court. The mutiny in Rangamati took place at three of the sector's five battalions. The three battalions are 12 Rifles Battalion at Rajanagar in Longdur, 9 Rifles Battalion at Marishya in Baghaichhari and 18 Rifles Battalion at Chhotothorina in Barka upazila.