

SNAPS AND SNIPPETS



PHOTO: STAR

Fine arts students of Rajshahi University engaged in an artwork yesterday as they prepare for Mongol Shovajatra a few days ahead of Pchela Boishakh, the first day of Bangla New Year.

Patients protest stale food supply

UNB, Thakurgaon

At least 100 patients of Thakurgaon Sadar Hospital abstained from taking food on Friday protesting the supply of stale and stinking food by the hospital authorities. The patients complained that every day they are given substandard diet which is not worthy of eating. They alleged that they could not even take the breakfast as the bread smelt bad. Nazrul Islam, a patient, said despite repeated complaints the authorities did not take any measure to ensure supply of standard diet. Acting Civil Surgeon Abu Md Khairul Kabir said the contractor concerned will be showcaused and the contract will be cancelled, if necessary, to improve the situation.

Two Shibir men held

A CORRESPONDENT, Chandpur

Police arrested two Shibir activists from Truck Road area in Chandpur town yesterday. The arrestees were identified as Moaddek Al Hakim, 30, son of Maulana Shamsuddin of Raipur upazila of Laxmipur and Zakir Hossain, 32, son of Hafez Md Bashir Ullah of Chandpur Sadar upazila. Sub-inspector of Chandpur Sadar Model Police Station Abdur Rab said a group of Jamaat-Shibir activists brought out a rally in the town in the morning demanding release of their fellows arrested from different parts of the country. Police arrested the two fearing deterioration of law and order situation in the district, he said. The arrestees were sent to jail.

Housewife murdered

UNB, Comilla

A woman was slaughtered allegedly by her husband at Beoline village in Barura upazila on Friday night. Housewife Manju Begum, 22, was wife of Shamsuddin of the village. Police quoting locals said, Shamsuddin who used to live in his in-law's house killed Manju on Friday night. As the couple did not come out of their room in the morning, family members broke open the door and found Manju's slaughtered body lying on the floor while Shamsuddin hurriedly fled the scene. On information, police recovered the body and sent it to Sadar hospital morgue for autopsy.

Houses, shops gutted

UNB, Natore

At least nine houses and four shops were gutted in separate fire incidents in the district yesterday. Fire brigade sources said a fire that originated from the kitchen of Ambia Begum at Dhalat village in Sadar upazila burnt down three adjacent houses at noon. In Lalpur upazila, five houses were damaged in a fire at Walia East Shahapara village. Locals said the fire originated from the kitchen of Shaker Ali of the village at about 12:30pm and soon engulfed four other adjoining houses. Besides, four shops were gutted as a fire broke out at Walia Bazar in Lalpur upazila early yesterday.



PHOTO: COURTESY

Md Mozaharul Haque Proadhan, lawmaker from Panchagarh-1 constituency, addresses a get together and fair organised by Islami Bank Bangladesh Limited at Shaheed Muktijoddha Chattar in Panchagarh town on April 2.

Extortionists beat up trader

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Narayanganj

Extortionists beat up a goldsmith in the Kalibazar area of the city on Friday night. Protesting the incident, the goldsmiths yesterday kept their shutters down for an hour and brought out procession demanding arrest and punishment to the criminals. Sources said, the gang was threatening Biplob, one of the owners of Baishakhi Jewellers, demanding illegal toll the last couple of days. On Friday night, about 10-12 criminals led by Indra Ghosh beat up Biplob for refusing to pay the money. Topon Chandra Das, elder brother of Biplob filed a case against Indra Ghosh. He said the criminals led by Indra beat up Biplob for illegal toll.

Victim of land dispute

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

A man was chopped to death at Rasiqpur village in Mujibnagar upazila in Meherpur on Thursday over a piece of disputed land. Victim Karibul Islam, 30, was son of Khoka Seikh of the village. According to police, Karibul's relative Surus of the same village had conflict over a piece of land with one Abdul Kuddus who occupied the land for long. Karibul with some of his followers went to retake the land at about 12:00pm. Sensing the matter, Kuddus with his men rushed to the spot and chased Karibul. Karibul took shelter at his house but men belonging to Kuddus dragged Karibul out his house and chopped him on the spot. Severely injured Karibul was taken to Meherpur General Hospital where he succumbed at about 3:30am.

Two arms peddlers jailed

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chapainawabganj

A Chapainawabganj court sentenced two persons to 10 years rigorous imprisonment (RI) under Arms Act on Thursday. The convicts are Enamul Haque, 36, son of Abul Kalam of Chouhodditola Moholla and Rabiul Islam, 22, son of Mohammad Alaiddin of Mohadanga-Pulpura in the town. Additional District and Sessions Judge of Chapainawabganj Arup Kumar Goswami pronounced the verdict. According to the prosecution, a team of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab-5) raided Enamul's house at Chouhodditola on July 22 in 2006 and recovered one rifle and one shutter gun. Rab arrested Enamul and Rabiul. Rab handed over them to Sadar police station and filed a case against them under Arms Act.

TRADER MURDER IN RANGPUR Wife killed Belal, cut body into pieces, say police

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur

Sufia Begum confessed to killing her husband Ahsanul Huq Belal, a trader of Mahiganj area of Rangpur town, by giving him poisonous fruit juice on Sunday night. She said she cut the body into pieces, kept them in a sack and carried the mutilated body to Porshuram on Monday night by an auto-rickshaw for burial.

Police said Sufia disclosed details of the murder during her three-day remand that expired yesterday. She was yesterday produced in the Judicial Magistrate's Court where she gave her confessional statement.

Investigation officer of the case said Sufia's son Shishir denied his involvement in the killing.

ment in the killing.

Sufia was placed on a three-day remand while her son Shishir on one day in connection with the murder.

Locals of Mahiganj area said they will besiege the offices of the deputy commissioner and police superintendent today demanding proper investigation into the murder case.

Police on Monday night recovered mutilated body of the trader from Moyenakutti of Tapadhan union under Sadar upazila.

Police arrested victim's wife Sufia Begum and son Shishir in connection with the murder.

Locals of Moyenakutti caught Sufia at about 11:00 pm while she was going with the mutilated body in a sack by an auto-rickshaw.

3 housewives killed in Nabinagar of B'baria

OUR CORRESPONDENT, B'baria

Three housewives were killed in three separate incidents at Zafarpur, Kazalia and Nasirabad villages of Nabinagar upazila of the district on Friday night.

The dead were identified as Helena Begum, 26, of Zafarpur village, Sufia Begum, 45, of Kazalia village and Ashubala, 65, of Nasirabad village of Nabinagar.

According to locals and police sources, Helena Begum, wife of expatriate Mita Chowdhury working in Saudi Arabia was allegedly suffocated to death by her in-laws following a family feud at Zafarpur village under Ibraimpur union on Friday night.

Later on, they hanged the body to hide the fact. On information, police rushed to the spot and arrested Helena's mother-in-law Jahanara

Begum, 45.

The autopsy of the body was done at Brahmanbaria Sadar Hospital. A case was filed with Nabinagar police station.

In another incident, Sufia Begum, 45, wife of Bazlur Rahman of Kazolia village of Shipur union of the upazila succumbed to her injuries on Friday night.

Earlier, she was mercilessly beaten up allegedly by her neighbour Jamila Begum.

On information, police rushed to the spot and recovered the body. The autopsy of the body was done at Brahmanbaria Sadar Hospital. A case was filed with Nabinagar police.

In the third incident, one Ashubala Das, 65, wife of Durga Charan Das of Nasirabad village of Samogram union of the upazila was beaten to death allegedly by her rivals on Friday night. A case was filed with Nabinagar police.

Students tell the tale of 'tuition-hungry' teachers

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur

Another student of Rangpur Collectorate School and College could not appear in the ongoing HSC examinations as college authorities did not give him admit card before the examinations.

Students of the institution yesterday formed a human chain in front of Rangpur Press Club demanding action against the principal and four other teachers for causing loss of valuable academic year to Salman Khan, also a first division league cricketer under Rupali Bank Ltd team, Dhaka.

Later at a press conference at Rangpur Press Club, Salman and his classmates said Ishak Ali, principal, Ali-ul Karim, lecturer of accounting, Mofakkarul Islam, lecturer of Bangla, Hamima Parveen, lecturer of economics, and Rashedul Hoque

Milon, lecturer of English of Rangpur Collectorate School and College, are responsible for the incident.

The four lecturers influenced Principal Ishak Ali not to issue admit card to Salman as he did not agree to give them Tk 15,000 as 'compensation' for not receiving private tuition, they said.

"The four teachers have made it unofficially mandatory for students to receive private tuition from them. If any student fails to comply with it, he/she has to pay Tk 15,000 to 20,000 to them," Salman said at the press conference.

"I was busy with cricket league in Dhaka and could not receive private tuition from them. When I went to get my admit card before the examinations, the principal asked me to pay Tk 15,000 to any of the four teachers, saying that that otherwise I would not be allowed to appear in the examina-

tions," he said.

"Can the college authorities give me back the one year?" said a weeping Salman.

Scores of students of the institution were compelled to receive private tuition from the four teachers, the students said at the conference.

Earlier on April 6, Jarin Tasrin, another HSC examinee from Rangpur Collectorate School and College, at a press conference at Rangpur Press Club said the college authorities did not give her admit card as she did not give Tk 20,000 to Ali-ul Karim as 'compensation' for refusing to have private tuition from him.

Asked about the matter, Principal Md Ishak Ali said, "I received admit cards of Jarin Tasrin and Salman Khan from Dinajpur education board about seven days before the examination. But the two students

were not allowed to fill up forms for the final examinations as they had failed in one subject each in the test examinations. That is why I did not issue them admit card."

When asked if it is possible to fill up forms without permission of the college authorities and get admit cards from the board, the principal said they (Jarin and Salman) managed it with the help of their men working at Dinajpur education board.

Jarin and Salman, on the other hand, said they duly filled up the forms and college authorities included their names in the list of students for the final examinations and sent it to the board.

Asked about the matter, an official of the education board said they got the names of

Jarin Tasrin and Salman Khan in the list of HSC candidates sent by the college authorities.



PHOTO: STAR

Greater Khulna Development Action Coordination Committee forms a human chain near Picture Palace intersection in Khulna city yesterday demanding allocation of adequate fund in the next national budget for development of the region and steps to reopen closed newsprint, jute and textile mills there.

'Allocate adequate fund in next budget for uplift of SW region'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Greater Khulna Development Action Coordination Committee (GKDACC) yesterday formed a human chain in the city demanding allocation of adequate fund in the next national budget for implementation of different development projects of the south-western (S-W) region.

The human chain programme at the Picture Palace cinema intersection was followed by a big rally.

Over 2,000 people from all walks of life including leaders of all political parties, lawmakers of Khulna-1, 2 and 4, district bar association, non-government and professional organisations, business community and socio-cultural organisations joined the human chain. The rally was presided by president of GKDACC Alhaj Liakat Ali.

According to the committee, the demands for allocation of different development projects include construction of sustainable ring embankments and dikes in the Aila-hit districts and implementation of the rehabilitation projects for Aila affected people, supply of gas through pipelines, development of all power generation plants, gearing up of Khulna Wasa

activities, reopening of all closed jute mills and newsprint mill, construction of an airport, implementation of Khulna rail station modernisation project, modernisation of Mongla sea port, deep-sea port at Akram point, implementation of the projects for protection of biodiversity of the Sundarbans, shrimp industries and poultry industries, development of tourism and Khulna divisional stadium.

President of GKDACC Liakat Ali, also editor of Dainik Purbanchal, while addressing the rally urged the government to allocate required fund for greater economic interest of the country for implementation of different development projects of the south-western region.

He also called upon the people to rally round GKDACC for realising their legitimate rights through peaceful movement.

The rally was addressed, among others, by editor of The Daily Tribune Begum Ferdousi Ali, ex-lawmaker Nurul Islam Dadu, president of Khulna District Awami League Sheikh Harun-Rashid, president of Khulna Press Club Ahmad Ali Khan, general secretary of city Awami League, executive directors of NGOs Rupantar Rafiqul Islam Khokan and Swapan Guha and chairperson of Khulna Citizens' Forum Sheikh Abdul Kayyum.

Criminals demolish shaheed minar

A CORRESPONDENT, Natore

Criminals have destroyed the newly constructed shaheed minar at Naopara Government Primary School under Lalpur upazila in the district.

The incident occurred Friday night.

Abul Hossain of Naopara village said, Pakistani occupation forces in 1971 shot dead three people including Kartik Sarker of the neighbouring village on the ground of the school.

Headmaster of the school Ahsan Ali said the shaheed minar was built on the school ground under Durduria union with the help of the local elites to show respect to the martyred.

The construction of the shaheed minar ended a few days back. Those involved in demolishing the shaheed minar must be found out and punished, he said.

Durduria union Awami League general secretary Nayeb Uddin Malitha said the shaheed minar was scheduled to be inaugurated on April 15.

Lalpur police station sub-inspector Jamat Ali said he was not aware of the incident. None made any complaint with police in this regard, he said.

Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) Md Zahirul Islam said, action would be taken against the culprits after investigation.

College student, grandmother electrocuted

A CORRESPONDENT, Chandpur

An Honours student of Chandpur Government College and his grandmother were electrocuted in Amin Road area in Hajiganj municipality of the district yesterday.

The victims were identified as Sohag, 24, and Shahar Banu, 65.

Hajiganj fire service sources said, Sohag, son of Karim who is the owner of the five-story building was electrocuted when he was doing some electrical work on the third floor of the house where he lived.

As his grandmother went to save Sohag she also got electrocuted.

Sohag and Shahar Banu died on the spot.

Three outlaws arrested

A CORRESPONDENT, Madaripur

Rab members in a drive at Rajarhat under Sadar upazila yesterday morning arrested a 'regional commander' of outlawed Purba Banglar Sarbahara Party and his two accomplices.

The arrestees are 'regional commander' of the outfit Julhas Sarder and his aides Masud Sarder and Sobhan Bepari.

During the raid, Rab personnel also recovered a foreign made revolver, two bullets and a knife from their possession.

Rab said there are several cases against the arrestees with Madaripur police station.

Villagers clash for control of new land mass: 20 hurt

UNB, Comilla

At least 20 people including four policemen were injured during a fierce clash between people of two villages over taking control of a newly emerged land mass at Charvatera village in Daudkandi upazila on Friday noon.

Police said residents of Chengrakandi village of Daudkandi upazila and Charvatera village of Meghna upazila were at loggerheads over taking control of the land for long.

Daudkandi upazila nirbahi officer (UNO) and officers-in-charge (OC) of both police stations at a meeting with the feuding groups on Friday morning decided to settle the dispute on Sunday.

But at noon, the musclemen of Mohiuddin of Charkathalia village of Meghna upazila and Shahjalal of Chengrakandi village of Daudkandi upazila equipped with lethal weapons attacked each other leaving 20 people including four policemen injured. Some 10 houses were also ransacked by the feuding groups.

The injured were rushed to

different hospitals and clinics.

Another report from Pabna adds: At least 15 people were injured as villagers and police clashed at Arambaria village in Ishwardi upazila on Friday.

Police said the villagers caught Muktar Hossain, 23, suspecting him a human trafficker and gave him a good beating.

When police rushed to the spot to rescue Muktar, villagers attacked them. A scuffle between police and villagers left 15 villagers injured. Villagers claimed that police at one stage opened fire on them leaving two young men - Ripon and Masum - injured.

Ripon was later sent to Rajshahi Medical College and Hospital in critical condition while others were admitted to upazila health complex and clinics.

Outraged by the police firing, agitated villagers blockaded the Pabna-Lalpur road and vandalised 10/15 vehicles. Later, police cleared the barricade and restored traffic movement.

Ishwardi police station OC Shamiul Alam, however, claimed that none was hit by bullet. He said police fired only once to bring the situation under control.

Invitation UNDP Procurement Fair for Vendors



Bangladesh

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Bangladesh is organizing a Procurement Fair for prospective local, regional and international vendors who are legally registered in Bangladesh. The aim of the Procurement Fair is to:

- Analyse the local market capacity;
- Create a pool of potential vendors for UNDP procurement tenders;
- Facilitate the process of vendor registration in the UNDP Vendor Data Base (VDB);
- Provide vendor orientation to UNDP procurement rules and regulations;
- Project UNDP needs in goods and services to meet our procurement requirement of US\$ 45 million;

The UNDP Procurement Fair schedule is as follows:

Date: 18 April 2010
Time: 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 pm
Venue: Carnival Conference Room, Bangabandhu International Conference Center (BICC), Sher - E - Bangla Nagar, Dhaka, Bangladesh.

Requirements:

The interested vendors have to fill-in the Supplier Registration Form, which is available at: <http://www.undp.org.bd/proc.php> and send it to UNDP on or before **15 April 2010** through an email to fahim.khan@undp.org.

The completed application form should identify the procurement category. For companies specializing in several categories, separate application forms should be filled.

For any further details please visit the web-site <http://www.undp.org.bd/proc.php>, "UNDP Vendor Data Base" section, or contact: Mr. Fahim Adnan Khan, Procurement Associate, UNDP Bangladesh, IDB Bhaban, Sher-E-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka 1207, Bangladesh; E-Mail: fahim.khan@undp.org; Phone Number: Phone:(880-2) 8150088 Ext: 1233; Fax: (880-2) 8117787.