

# 8 Shibir cadres caught from RU exam hall

BCL men beat them up before handing over to police

A CORRESPONDENT, RU

Police arrested eight Shibir cadres at Rajshahi University (RU) yesterday in connection with February 9 violence on the campus.

Arrestees Faruq, Abdul Karim, Baizid, Hassanuzzaman, Shamim, Abul Kalam, Habibullah and Isahaq are third year students of Islamic Studies

department.

Sources said, at around 12:30pm, several hundred activists of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) led by its secretary Mazedul Islam Opu blocked the three gates of Shahidullah Arts Building on hearing the news that a number of Shibir cadres were appearing in third year final examination of Islamic Studies.

On information, the university proctorial body along with law enforcers also rushed to the spot and took position at the gates to arrest the Shibir cadres.

At around 1:30pm, the BCL leaders and activists entered the building and caught the Shibir cadres from the examination hall. They then severally beat them up with iron rods and

sticks. Of them, Shibir cadre Faruq received serious head injury on the spot.

Police arrested the Shibir men from the main gate after the BCL activists dragged the Shibir cadres out of the building.

BCL leaders alleged that the eight Shibir cadres took part in February 9 campus violence. Among them, Faruque led the first attack at Bangabandhu Hall that left BCL worker Kowsar and Asad injured on February 8 night.

RU proctor Prof Chowdhury Zakaria said the Shibir men were arrested for their alleged involvement with February 9 campus violence that killed BCL worker Faruk Hossain and injured a number of others.

Abul Khair, officer-in-charge (OC) of Motihar police station told this correspondent that the eight are accused in the cases filed in connection with the violence.

"We will take necessary steps after primary interrogation", he said.

According to the police, over 215 Shibir leaders and activists have been arrested till date in connection with 14 cases filed after the February 9 violence.



PHOTO: STAR

Police yesterday arrest eight Shibir cadres at Rajshahi University after Chhatra League activists caught them from an examination hall.

# One killed, 32 hurt as storms lash Gaibandha, Joypurhat

STAR NATIONAL DESK

Storms killed one person and injured at least 32 others in Gaibandha and Joypurhat yesterday and the day before.

An old woman was killed and 17 others were injured in Gaibandha as a nor'wester lashed two upazilas early yesterday, according to our correspondent.

The storm hit Gobindaganj and Sunderganj upazila. A thunderbolt struck her as she came out of her house amid heavy rain. Two others Moyna Begum, 35, and Abu Sayeed, 12, received burn injuries.

Four shops in Mohimaganj Bazar under the upazila were destroyed when a big banyan tree fell on the roofs.

The badly affected areas are Kamarpara, Noontola, Ulipur Shakhahati, Mohimanaj Bazar under Gobindaganj upazila and Dahabandh, Ramjibon, Chapporhati, Sarbanada and Santiram under Sunderganj upazila.

At least 30 schoolhouses, mosque and temples also collapsed during the nor'wester.

Meanwhile, road communication between Dahabandh union and Sunderganj upazila snapped as a portion of the road washed away due to incessant rainfall in the last two days.

Locals said movement of vehicular traffic remained cut off. Surging water even washed away the pavement of the road.

In Joypurhat, a severe storm lashed five upazilas of the district on Sunday afternoon leaving at least 15 people injured and damaging scores of houses, reports UNB.

Of the injured, Aleya, 30, Jesmin, 18, and Kalpana, 32, of village Harail in Sadar upazila were injured as thunderbolt struck them during the storm.

Locals said the violent storm swept over the district at about 5:15pm damaging scores of dwelling houses and uprooting a large number of trees. It also twisted a few electric poles plunging the areas into darkness.

Critically injured eight people including Aleya, Jesmin and Kalpana were rushed to Joypurhat Modern Hospital while others were released after first aid.

# Outlaw held, sent to jail in Mongla

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Mongla police arrested a notorious outlaw on Friday midnight from Mirpur in the capital city.

The arrestee was identified as Zahid Fakir, 24, an armed cadre of M-L faction of outlawed Purbo Banglar Communist party.

Officer-in-charge (OC) of Mongla police station Kazi Salahuddin said that the outlaw was wanted in several criminal cases including extortions and murders filed against him with different police stations of Khulna and Bagerhat districts during last seven years.

He was sent to Bagerhat district Jail at 7 p.m following a court order on Sunday.

Zahid was brought to Mongla from Dhaka on the same day, the OC said.



PHOTO: STAR

Jessore municipality authorities yesterday demolish 18 illegal structures on the bank of Laldighi, an ancient water body located in the heart of the district town.

# Move finally to save Jessore Laldighi from encroachers

18 illegal structures demolished

A CORRESPONDENT, Jessore

Eighteen illegal structures on the bank of Laldighi, an ancient water body located in the heart of Jessore town, were demolished yesterday.

Jessore Poursava (municipality) authorities with the help of district administration, police and Rab conducted the drive from 9:00am to 2:00pm.

Earlier, the municipality authorities had decided to fill up Laldighi for constructing a market there, ignoring the residents' demand for saving the important water body.

Several political, social and cultural

organisations including Workers Party, NAP, Gono Forum, Sammilita Sangskritik Jote and Sangbadpatra Parishad formed human chains on a few occasions protesting the move to fill up the water body.

Moksimul Bari Apu, a councillor of Jessore Poursava said, "We have cancelled our earlier plan to construct a market there, showing respect to the demand of the townspeople."

Nazir Ahmed, executive engineer of the municipality, said illegal structures were built, encroaching upon the water body. Notice was earlier served on the owners of these structures to vacate the land by June 7, but they failed to comply

with the order, he added.

Restaurant owner Abdul Hannan said, "We have been running our business on this land for long by taking lease from the pourasava authorities. But the pourasava has demolished our shop, breaching the agreement."

Khandaker Firoz Ilyas, secretary of Jessore Poursava, said the authorities will not lease any land around Laldighi in the future.

In 1864, authorities under the then British government arranged digging several water bodies including Laldighi in Jessore town to meet people's need for water.

# Robber killed in mob beating in Magura

UNB, Magura

A robber was killed and another injured seriously in a mob beating at Nohata village in Mohammadpur upazila on Saturday night.

The deceased was identified as Korban Ali, 26, son of Golam Sarwar, of Bilupara village in the upazila. Injured Aminur, 24, is son of Lal Miah, of Charpachuria village in Alfadanga upazila of Faridpur district.

Police said, a gang of robbers numbering 6/7, inter-

cepted a three-wheeler Nasimon when it reached Nohata from Narail carrying a businessman at midnight.

Later, the gang tied up the driver and tried to hijack the Nasimon.

Hearing the hue and cry of the driver, locals after a hot chase caught two robbers Korban and Aminur and gave them a good thrashing, leaving them critically injured.

Later, they were rushed to the Mohammadpur upazila health complex where Korban died after a few hours.

## SNAPS AND SNIPPETS

### 60,000 yaba tablets seized

UNB, Comilla

Members of Bangladesh Rifles seized 60,000 yaba tablets and other spurious drugs at Lakshimpur border in Sadar South upazila on Sunday night. Acting on secret information, a team of 33 Rifles Battalion led by Lt Col Fakhruddin Ahmed conducted a drive in the area and recovered 60,000 yaba tablets, 100 bottles of whisky and 250 bottles of phensidyl in an andoned condition. The border guards estimated the value of the seized drugs at Tk 3.04 crore. The seized drugs were handed over to the district Narcotics Control Department.

### Three killed in Bhola

UNB, Bhola

Two fishermen were killed and two others injured as thunderbolts struck them and a minor girl was electrocuted in separate incidents here on Sunday. Police said fisherman Mahidul, 19, was killed and two others were injured as a thunderbolt struck them while catching fish in Tetulia river at Gangapur area under Borhanuddin upazila at noon. The two injured fishermen Maidul, 18, and Ilias, 25, were admitted to the upazila health complex. They hailed from Mehendiganj upazila of Barisal district. Locals said another fisherman Ripon, 21, of Baliakandi village in Tajumuddin upazila died in lightning strike. They said the incident occurred when Ripon was returning home after catching fish from Meghna river. In yet another incident, a minor girl named Trisha, 3, of Dhania Giringi bazaar area in Sadar upazila died instantly when she came in contact with a live electric wire.

### Muggers kill truck driver

UNB, Bogra

Muggers took away a wheat laden truck after killing its driver and injuring the helper in Jamadarpukur area on Bogra-Natore highway in Shahjahanpur upazila early yesterday. The deceased was identified as Mokhlesuddin, 45, of village Shekherhat in Kahaalu upazila. Police said a gang of six in the guise of passengers boarded the Bogra bound truck from Chittagong when it stopped at Hatikomrul in Sirajganj district at about 2pm. At one stage the bandits took control of the truck tying up the driver and the helper. Later, they killed the driver and threw him and the injured helper on the road and fled away with the truck. Later, patrol police team recovered the body of the driver at about 4:15am and sent it to hospital morgue for autopsy. They also sent the injured helper Anwar Hossain, 24, to Shaheed Ziur Rahman Medical College Hospital in critical condition.



PHOTO: STAR

Nagorik Committee backed candidate in Chittagong city mayoral election ABM Mohiuddin Chowdhury seeks blessings from voters in Stadium area in the city, right, Chattagram Unnayan Andolon supported candidate M Manjur Alam does the same at Kattali yesterday.

# Businessman killed, two rescued 'False' case against another sparks protest

STAR NATIONAL DESK

Two kidnapped businessmen were rescued in Patuakhali while a rally was held in Chapainawabganj demanding release of a businessman yesterday.

In Satkhira, a businessman was murdered by criminals.

Patuakhali Sadar police yesterday rescued two businessmen from a locked house at Khalishakhali village under Sadar upazila. They are Murad, 35, and Ratan, 38, residents of municipal area in Laxmipur district, reports our correspondent.

Police arrested three alleged kidnapers from the spot. They are Saiful, 40, Nuru, 35 and Rasel, 32, of Khalishakhali village under Patuakhali Sadar upazila.

Police said, acting on a tip-off, they raided the house and rescued the two businessmen. The victims told local newsmen and police that they had business link with Saiful, Nuru and Rasel. The three invited Murad and Ratan over cell phone to come

to Kuakata on a business purpose. As they came to Patuakhali from Laxmipur on Thursday, Saiful and others received them in their houses.

Later Saiful and his two accomplices locked them in a house and demanded Tk 4 lakh as ransom from their family members. In Chapainawabganj, businessmen formed a human chain and held a rally in the town yesterday demanding withdrawal of 'false' case against a local businessman and his unconditional release.

Chapainawabganj Zila Babosayee Oikya Parishad, a body of district businessmen, organised the programmes in front of Chapainawabganj press club.

Over 300 businessmen in the district joined the human chain and the rally, reports our correspondent.

At the rally, president of the organisation Golam Morshed, general secretary Shawkat Ali and other leaders said that owner of Nabab Auto Rice and Feed Mills Akbar Hossain filed a false case against owner of M Traders Nazimuddin, a leader

of the Chapainawabganj Zila Babosayee Oikya Parishad and his two brothers-in-law Abdul Kader and Kabir Ali on May 20 for harassing them.

They also alleged that after filing the case Akbar has been trying to force Nazim's in-laws to sell their house to him.

Terming Akbar a land grabber, they also demanded his punishment.

In Satkhira, body of a foodgrain trader who went missing Sunday, was found hanging from a tree at village Goadanga bazar in Assasuni upazila early yesterday.

Police suspect that criminals might have abducted the trader and murdered him.

The victim was identified as Binoy Kumar Kundu, 55, son of Prafulla Kumar Kundu of Goadanga village.

Quoting locals police said, a gang called the trader out of his house on Sunday afternoon. Villagers found the body of Binoy hanging from a tree near the newly-built mosque at Goadanga bazar early yesterday.

Police said the abductors tied his hands and legs with rope before killing him.

# Lalmonirhat BNP leader expelled

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

The central BNP has expelled Lalmonirhat district BNP publicity secretary ABM Faruque Siddiki from the party following his scandalous act concerning a girl.

Faruque, 45, also the vice principal of Barabari Shaheed Abul Kashem College in Lalmonirhat Sadar upazila, recently developed immoral relation with a female student of HSC second year at the college.

Later he married the girl belonging to Hindu community without taking permission of his first wife, BNP sources said.

After getting a letter from central BNP that ordered the expulsion, Lalmonirhat district BNP executed it yesterday, district BNP General Secretary Hafizur Rahman Babla said when he was contacted at noon.

Earlier on Sunday, Faruque Siddiki was removed from the post of vice president of Lalmonirhat Sadar upazila BNP due to the same reason, said Sadar upazila BNP President Nogendra Nath.

When contacted over mobile yesterday, Faruque, a resident of Barabari village in Lalmonirhat Sadar upazila, said, "The expulsion is illegal as my first wife did not submit any allegation. I will apply to the party high command regarding the matter."



PHOTO: STAR

Physically challenged people form a human chain in Chapainawabganj town yesterday demanding quota in government services and proper implementation of the Disabled Welfare Act 2001.