TRAINING OF FAKE HEADMASTERS

# 5 found guilty, suspended

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Two officials and three employees of Secondary Teachers' Training Institute here were suspended yesterday for selecting 56 fake headmasters for a government training programme held between May 22 and 27, official sources said.

The suspended officials are institute director Dr Swapan Kumar Dutta and assistant director M Shamsuzzoha, registrar Jahangir Hossain, peon Shahadat Hossain and guard Nazrul Islam.

An enquiry committee formed earlier found the officials and employees guilty.

However, no action was cerned in this regard. taken against the teacher's quality improvement (TOI) training programme coordi-

nator Dr Selina Afroze although she was also held responsible for neglect of duty participants.

authorities formed the probe committee when they came to know that there are 56 fake headmasters among the total 84 participants of the six-day follow-up training programme on "teaching quality improvement" that began on May 22.

Associate Prof Dr Shamsul district. Kalam Azad of New Government Degree College conducted a thorough investigation and submitted a report to the higher authorities con-

Prof Azad told the newsmen that the five officials and employees were found guilty.

"The fake headmasters were enrolled as trainees without any teachers' registraduring registration of fake tion," Prof Azad said adding that the admission process Earlier on May 26 last, the was completely improper.

The institute authorities enlisted the 56 fake headmasters from five northern districts of Nilphamari, Dinajpur, Rashahi, Chapainawabganj, Naogaon and Natore, although as per official document all 84 participants should have been The committee headed by taken only from Dinajpur

> Contacted, institute director Dr Swapan Kumar Dutta told this correspondent that he was not involved with the wrongdoings.

"My suspension was unjust. I will challenge it and appeal to the higher authorities against the order," he said.



The big ball has reached Rajshahi. Sponsored by Sajib, a beverage company, the football is moving from district to district to popularise the game in the country. The ball will return to the capital on completion of its mission on June 30.

## Houses of 5 stalkers set on fire

A CORRESPONDENT, Sirajganj

Agitated people yesterday ser fire to the houses of five stalkers at Kalupara village in Tarash upazila of Sirajganj district immediately after the death of a villager who was injured by the gang the day before.

The victim, Aser Ali, 50, succumbed to his injuries while he was being shifted from Sirajganj Sadar Hospital to Rajshahi Medical College Hospital at around 12:30pm yesterday.

When the news spread at Kalupara village, the villagers attacked the houses of stalkers Rauf, Mujibar, Motaleb, Tofazzal and Mozammel and set them afire.

Locals said Rauf, Mujibar, Motaleb, Tofazzal and Mozammel stalked Joynab, 18, daughter-in-law of Aser Ali, at the village on Wednesday morning. Since Joynab lodged a complaint with Rouf's father, he (Rouf) along with his accomplices attacked the house of Aser Ali at around 11:00am, leaving him critically injured.

Aser Ali was first admitted to Tarash upazila then shifted to Sirajganj Sadr Hospital. As his condition deteriorated yesterday morning, doctors referred him to RMCH.

A murder case was yesterday filed with Tarash Police Station against the five stalkers who fled the village soon after the death of Aser Ali.

A large number of police have been deployed at the village.

## POLICE RAID RUET HALL

# Lethal weapons, jihadi books seized from Shibir rooms

A RU CORRESPONDENT

The authorities of Rajshahi University of Engineering and Technology (Ruet) with the help of law enforcers raided Ziaur Rahman Hall of the university early yesterday and seized lethal weapons, leaflets and books on Jihad (pro-Islamic uprising) from four Shibir-controlled

The law enforcers also seized 100 two other Shibir rooms during the two-

hour raid that began at 1:00am.

None was arrested during the raid as Shibir leaders and activists of the hall have remained in hiding since February 9 RU campus violence. BCL activist Faruque Hossain was killed by RU Shibir men during the violence.

Rahman hall, said they raided the dormitory on information that Shibir men had kept weapons in four rooms during February 9 incident at RU. Officer-in-charge of Motihar Police

Dr Kamaruzzaman, provost of Ziaur

Station Abul Khair said they will take legal steps as per the decision of the university authorities.

Meanwhile, the activists of a faction of BCL Shah Mokhdum Hall unit of Rajshahi

University (RU) beat up three activists belonging to their rival faction on Wednesday night alleging involvement of the three in stealing a bicycle from the hall recently.

The injured are Ferdous, Mithun Kumar Hawlader and Tuhin. Ferdous was admitted to Rajshahi Medical College Hospital with head injury. Hall sources said the activists of

Chhatra League RU unit Secretary Majedul-led faction beat up Ferdous, a supporter President Awal Kabir Joy faction, alleging his involvement in stealing the bicycle. As Mithun and Tuhin, also supporters of the faction, came in aid of Ferdous, their rivals also beat them.

## Soccer fans block highway for smooth power supply

Thousands of soccer fans, agitated by load shedding during World Cup matches, yesterday block Panchagarh-

Dhaka highway for overfive hours demanding smooth power supply to Birganj upazila in Dinajpur.

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

Thousands of people, most of them soccer fans, of Birganj upazila yesterday blocked Panchagarh-Dhaka highway yesterday for over five hours demanding smooth power supply.

Hundreds of vehicles including passenger buses and trucks got stranded on the highway while road communications of Thakurgaon and Panchagarh with other districts remained snapped during the agitation.

The protesters demanded removal of General Manager of Dinajpur Palli Biddyut General of Dinajpur Md Samity-1 as he failed to main- Shamsul Alam, UNO Hasan tain smooth power supply to Maruf, ASP Shanjit Kumar the upazila.

withdrawn at 3.30pm. The power hungry people of the upazila organised it under the banner of 'Birganj Bidyut Unnayan Parishad yesterday and gathered at Old Shaheed Minar in the morning before staging the blockade.

At a rally the speakers also vowed to continue their agitation if smooth power supply is not ensured in

The protesters called off the blockade after ADC

Roy and OC of Birganj upazila The programme was assured them of necessary

Soccer fans of Kaharol upazila of Dinajpur also blocked Panchagarh-Dhaka highway yesterday afternoon demanding smooth power supply. Sources said, the protest-

ers gathered at Dashmail intersection under Panchagarh-Dhaka highway at around 4:20pm.

steps in this regard.

The programme was continuing till filing of this report yesterday evening.

rooms.

Police said they seized a Chinese axe, machete, knife and 15 iron rods from the rooms of university unit Shibir president Enamul and hall unit Shibir president Abdus Sattar.

books on Jihad, leaflets and CD disks from

Lightning killed at least eight people and

The dead was identified as Safigul

Quoting locals police said, Safiqul

died on the spot as lightning struck him

while he was at work on his cropland

near his house at about 10:30 in the

and around 20 others hurt by lightning in

28 and Kader ,28, both day-labourers

from Natore, reports our correspondent.

The dead were identified as Monirul,

Locals said Monirul and Kader were

Islam, 32, reports our correspondent.

STAR NATIONAL DESK

day and the day before.

Satkhira yesterday.

morning.

Wednesday.

# Lightning kills 8, injures 28

around 11:30 am. Meanwhile, around 20 students of Maligram Pilot High School were injured as a thunderbolt hit their classroom.

injured 28 others in five districts yester-A farmer was killed and three others A farmer was killed by lightning at were injured by lightning on Wednesday daughter of Khalil Hossain of village village Abhoytala in Tala upazila of noon at Jagusha village under Moheshpur upazila of Jhenidah, reports our correspondent.

The farmer was working at a jute field during rain.

He was identified as Rafikul Islam, 28, son of Abdul Goni of the village.

Three others hurt are Swapan and his wife Saira Khatun of Balibhadrapur and

In Faridpur, two people were killed Soyra Banu of Habashpur village. In Sirajganj, three people were killed two villages under Bahanga upazila on

and four others injured by lightning in separate incidents in Chouhali and Tarash upazilas Wednesday morning.

Locals said Samia Begum, 35, wife of Alek of village Char Shoiljana in Chouhli upazila died on the spot and Mariam struck by lightning while they were Khatun, 55, wife of Khorshed Mistri, working on a field at Kawlibera village at Amena, 20, wife of Sanowar Hossain,

Sakina, 30, wife of Salam and Juran Ali, 50, of village Omarpur in the upazila sustained serious injuries when lightning truck them in the morning.

In separate incidents, Mazeda, 18, Mulkandi in Enayetpur and farmer Bazlar Hossain, 35, of village Bastul in Tarash upazila died on the spot as they were struck by thunderbolts.

Meanwhile in Manikganj, a farmer was killed and a housewife was injured by lightning at Trishundi village in Shibalaya upazila Wednesday morning.

The deceased was identified as Tara Mia, 32, son of Kamar Ali of the village.

Locals said Tara Mia died on the spot when a thunderbolt hit him at about 9:00am while he was working at his paddy field.

Amena Begum, 32, wife of Abdul Aziz was injured by lightning when she was eating in her room.

She was rushed to nearby Ghior

## Hunger strike at KU called off

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Seventy students of Khulna University (KU) called off their fast-unto- death programme at 1:30 pm yesterday following an assurance given by City Mayor Talukder Abdul Khaleque that their demand would be considered sympathetically.

The mayor accompanied by Vice Chancellor Prof Saifuddin Shah, Pro- Vice Chancellor Prof Purnendu Chandra Gayeen and General Secretary of Khulna city Awami League Mizanur Rahman went to the venue of the programme in front of the university's main gate and gave the assurance.

The students began fastunto- death from June 13 demanding withdrawal of punishment imposed on 34 students of the university in connection with April 5 inci-

dent on the campus. On the basis of the probe committee's report, the university authorities on June 8 permanently expelled four students and take punitive measures against 30 others for their involvement in the incident.

The punished students while joining the fast-untodeath programme along with 36 general students pleaded innocence, saying they have been made worst victims of an internal rift between two groups of teachers of the university---one is headed by the vice chancellor and the other by pro-vice chancellor. They told the mayor that

action taken by the university authorities would spoil their academic career. "We want to die instead of being identified as spoilt students."

After giving patient hearing, the mayor assured the students of an acceptable solution to the crisis so that they can go back to their classes after being exempted from punishment.

He advised the students to abide by the rules and regulations of the university and show due respect to their teachers. He also asked them not to vitiate the academic atmosphere of the university

by resorting to vandalism. When contacted, Vice Chancellor Vice Chancellor Prof Saifuddin Shah expressed his satisfaction at the intervention of the city mayor in resolving the crisis.

## Cattle trader killed as BSF opens fire in Naogaon

OUR CORRESPONDENT, C'nawabganj

Border Security Force (BSF) of India shot dead a Bangladeshi cattle trader on Chakelam border under Dhamurhut upazila of Naogaon district early yesterday.

The dead is Motaleb Hossain, 36, son of Abed Ali of Sabdal village of the upazila.

BDR sources said the Indian border guards of Shalgram camp opened fire on some cattle traders while they were returning home from India with cattle through Chakelam border at around 2:00am. Motaleb died instantly while the rest escaped unhurt.

Immediately after the incident, the BSF men took away the body. BDR strongly protested the killing and asked its Indian counterpart to return the body through a company commander level flag meeting.



The newly built school-cum-cyclone shelter at Mirzaganj in Patuakhali district can accomodate around five thousand people during storms.

## School-cum-cyclone shelter

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

A multipurpose cyclone shelter was inaugurated at Mirzaganj upazila headquarters yesterday.

The school-cum-cyclone shelter was jointly opened by Saria Sadique, managing director of BASF Bangladesh and Hans Hinrich Schnelle, first secretary of German

Embassy. Built on the field of Subidkhali Rahman Ishaq

High School, it was financed by BASF, a German based multinational company.

A local construction firm built the three-storied building at a cost of Tk 75 lakh. The cyclone shelter was

built in remembrance of cyclone Sidr that hit the area and killed at

least 115 people on November 15 in 2007.

When the cyclone Sidr hit the area with a tidal surge upto League, Abdul Aziz, headmas-12 feet high, people ran to the ter of the institute were presschool for shelter but it could ent at the inaugural function.

them.

Subhas Chandra, headmaster of the school himself died when one of his school buildings collapsed on him.

Salma A Shafi, project Manager of UN Habitat, Gazi Ataharuddin, Mirzaganj upazila chair-

man, Kazi Mokhlesur Rahman, president of

She said Rubel fixed Wednesday for their marriage. upazila unit Awami But all of a sudden he confined Halima to his bedroom and poured kerosene on her person and set on fire.

## upazila health complex. 'Brutal killing' of

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

a domestic help

A teenage domestic help, allegedly set on fire by younger brother of her employer Wednesday morning, succumbed to burn injuries at 11:55 at night at Khulna Medical College and Hospital.

According to police, she

was set on fire by Khurshid Alam alias Rubel at the house of her employer at Arambag under Sonadanga police station in the city. Khurshid Alam is a student of M A final year class

of Chemistry department of Daulatpur Goverment B L College and younger brother of Professor Khairul not accommodate many of Alam of Khulna Ahsanullah Degree College.

Police said, Rubel developed an illicit relationship with the girl after she was appointed domestic help about 15 months ago.

Police quoting dying statement of Halima, 15, said Rubel sexually exploited her by

promising to marry her.

Neighbours rushed to the house after they heard the girl's screaming and loud cry for help. They rescued Halima and

admitted her to Khulna Medical College and Hospital (KMCH). Her entire body was badly burnt, police said. S I Khairul Bashar of Sonadanga police station

recorded statement of the girl

at 11:30 am as her condition continued to worsen. Halima breathed her last at 11:55 pm while under treat-

ment in the burn unit of the hospital, police said. The hapless girl was only daughter of Kashem Dhali and Mariam Bibi of Damodar

of Khulna district. Police picked up professor Khairul Alam and his wife Hosne Ara, a teacher of Alka Government Primary School in Phultala upazila at 8:30 am yesterday and freed them an

village under Phultala upazila

hour after interrogation. Sub-inspector Tipu Lal Das lodged FIR as complainant naming Khurshid Alam Rubel as the lone accused. Rubel is absconding, said OC Shahidul Islam.