

**5 missing as boat collides with trawler in Padma**

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Munshiganj  
At least five people went missing as a speedboat collided with a passenger trawler in the Padma River at Louhojang turning point of Mawa on Sunday evening.

Quoting a witness, BIWTC manager Sirajul Haq said the accident occurred at about 5:30pm when a speedboat carrying 13 passengers collided with a trawler with 20 to 25 passengers on board, about two and a half-kilometre away from Mawa ferry terminal.

Soon after the accident, a passenger launch coming from behind rescued the passengers from the river but five people went missing after the incident.

**Freshers' orientation at SUST**

SUST CORRESPONDENT

Orientation of 1395 newly admitted students of Shahjalal University of Science and Technology (Sust) was held yesterday.

The grand event started with national anthem at the volleyball ground at 10:00pm. Students adviser Dr Md Younus chaired the occasion. Sust VC Prof Dr Saleh Uddin was present as chief guest while Dr Mohammad Zafar Iqbal, Dr Yeasmeen Haque and deans of all faculties spoke.

Newly admitted students were provided with diary, identity card, syllabus, class routine, examination date on the first day of campus life, said admission committee chairman Dr Yeasmeen Haque.



PHOTO: STAR  
The bailey bridge near Elasin Bazar in Delduar upazila of Tangail district collapsed under the pressure of a stone-laden truck on Sunday afternoon, causing death to one and injuries to 15 others. Vehicular movement on busy Tangail-Aricha road has remained suspended following the accident.

**Bailey bridge in Tangail collapses, one dies**

**Road link with Aricha snapped**

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

One person was killed and 15 others were injured as a bailey bridge near Elasin Bazar in Delduar upazila collapsed on a ditch when a stone-laden truck, four three-wheelers and a motorcycle were crossing it on Sunday afternoon.

Vehicular movement on busy Tangail-Aricha road, especially of heavy vehicles including passenger buses and goods-laden trucks, has remained suspended following the bridge collapse, sources in Roads and Highways Department (RHD) said.

However, some light vehicles are trying to cross the area using a LGED

constructed road through an adjacent village.

The bridge collapsed when the stone-laden truck came to its middle point, causing injuries to at least 16 people, police and witnesses said.

Critically injured Afroza Begum, passenger of a three-wheeler, succumbed to her injuries after she was taken to a hospital in Dhaka while the others were admitted to different hospitals including Tangail General Hospital, said Abu Bakar Siddique, officer-in-charge of Delduar police station.

Being informed, lawmaker of Tangail-6 Khandakar Abdul Baten, Tangail Deputy Commissioner M

Bazul Karim Chowdhury and Delduar Upazila Nirbahi Officer Shibir Bichitra Barua rushed to the spot, supervised the rescue operations and formed a three-member committee to inquire into the incident.

They also directed the authorities concerned to take immediate steps about five other risky bridges on the road from Tangail to Elasin.

When contacted, Golam Mostofa, executive engineer of RHD in Tangail, could not say how long it will take to resume vehicular movement on the busy road as the matter of repairing or reconstructing the bridge will be decided after higher authorities of RHD inspect the spot.

**Mayor-elect stabbed in Matiranga**

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Khagrachhari

The mayor-elect of Matiranga municipality was stabbed allegedly by Chhatra League (BCL) men in Bazar area of Matiranga upazila town on Sunday night.

The victim, Md Aladdin, 35, is also a member of Khagrachhari district Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) and son of Abu Yusuf Chowdhury.

Police and family sources said a group of about 6 to 10 BCL activists led by BCL Matiranga upazila unit vice-president Md Palas stabbed Aladdin, leaving him critically injured.

Locals rushed him to Matiranga Upazila Health Complex. Later, doctors referred him to Chittagong Medical College and Hospital.

Demanding immediate arrest of attackers, Khagrachhari JCD district unit secretary Md Ibrahim Khalil blamed the BCL men for the attack.

Contacted, Matiranga upazila BCL vice-president Md Palas blamed the internal feud of JCD for the attack.

No case was filed with Matiranga Police Station as of 5:00pm yesterday.

**Trial of Rangpur mutineers resumes**

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur

Trial of 11 BDR mutineers of 36 battalion resumed here yesterday.

The accused were produced in the special court-13 headed by Col Salehuddin Ahmed at 10:00am. Attorney general's representative Biswajit Roy and prosecutor Major Abdullah Mamun were present.

At the beginning, Col Salehuddin read out the charges against the accused.

Of the accused, neyok Md Shahidul Islam, lance neyok Moeenul Haque Sarker, sepoy Kalyan M Sanggoma and Md Firoz Hossain Khan, Havilder Md Ataur Rahman Pramanik, and lance neyok Md Abdul Wares claimed innocence while neyok Rezaul Karim, sepoy Saiful Islam, Md Shahidul Islam, Yunus Ali, and Harun-or Rashid confessed to their involvement in the mutiny.

The court recorded statements of seven witnesses. The rest 12 witnesses will give their deposition today.

**SNAPS AND SNIPPETS**

**Arms recovered**

OUR CORRESPONDENT, C'nawabganj

Members of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) on Sunday recovered three firearms from Pardilalpur village of Shibganj upazila. On a secret information, a team of Rab-5 went to Moslempur Gaidohra intersection at Pardilalpur village at around 4:20 pm. They recovered two country made LG guns and one shooter gun in an abandoned condition from a mango orchard, owned by Nazrul Islam Master of the area. However, none was arrested in this connection.

**Valuables looted from store**

UNB, Sherpur

Burglars looted valuables worth Tk 9 lakh from the store of a Grameen Phone (GP) distributor in Kharampur Mohalla of the district town early Sunday. Police said, a gang of burglars entered the four-storey building of distributor Amin and Company by cutting its grill late at night. Later, they broke the collapsible gate of the store and took away scratch cards, 12 mobile phone sets, 100 SIM cards and other valuables worth about Tk 9 lakh from the almira of the store. They also damaged important documents before leaving the scene. Police visited the spot in the morning.

**3 shrimp traders fined**

UNB, Bagerhat

A mobile court, in a drive, fined three shrimp traders Tk 1.10 lakh at Kurshail Bazaar in Sadar upazila Sunday evening. The court led by executive magistrate Mohammad Rashed Wasif fined shrimp traders Aungshupoti Bormon and Laxmon Kumar Biswas Tk 50,000 each and Gobinda Saha Tk 10,000 while pushing chemicals into shrimps through injection to keep those fresh for a long time. Later, the mobile court destroyed about 3 maunds of shrimps.

**Debate workshop at CU**

CU CORRESPONDENT

A month-long Debate Workshop and Debate Competition of Freshers-2011 will start at Chittagong University (CU) from tomorrow. The workshop and debate competition is being organized by Chittagong University Debating Society (CUDS). At the workshop, classes will be held on various contemporary issues of home and abroad including human rights and rule of law, globalization and open market economy, foreign policy and international relations, environment and climate change, cold war and international conflict. Nationally and internationally reputed debaters and university teachers will deliver lecture in the workshop.

**Science fair begins**

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A three-day science fair began at Bangladesh Council of Scientific And Industrial Research (BCSIR) in the city yesterday. BCSIR Laboratory has organised the fair. Acting vice-chancellor Prof Dr Md Alauddin was present at the inaugural session as chief guest. Director of BCSIR Jaripa Begum presided over. Speakers stressed on organizing more science fairs for building a science-based society. The science fair would inspire the students as well as science loving people, the speakers hoped. Students of 30 schools and colleges assembled at the fair with different innovations. The fair will conclude on January 26.

**Orphanage dev project**

PRESS RELEASE

Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) and Department of Social Service (DSS) inaugurated a development project at Baitul Aman orphanage in Faridpur on Thursday. One of the objectives of the project is flourishing of proper development of the orphans. KOICA is funding to establish a children's park inside the orphanage. For amusement of children at their leisure time, footballs and other playing materials are being supplied. An overhead tank was constructed to supply pure drinking water to the orphans. A well-equipped computer lab also been established through KOICA fund which will facilitate skill development training for children. A library was established at the orphanage for creating interest of reading books among children.



PHOTO: STAR  
Workers sort hilsa at a wholesaler near the fish landing station in Barisal city as huge catches of the popular fish are being netted in the Bay.

**Over 400 sued for N'ganj clash**

OUR CORRESPONDENT, N'ganj

Over 400 people were sued in two separate cases filed in connection with Sunday's clash between workers of ACI Pharmaceuticals and police at Siddhirganj in Narayanganj.

A worker of the medicine factory was killed and more than 100 were injured, 15 by bullets, in the clash occurred on the factory premises at Godnail over pay-hike and regularisation of temporary workers.

Sub-inspector Zakir Hossain of Siddhirganj Police Station filed the cases with the police station at around 10:00pm on Sunday.

Of the cases, one was filed for obstructing law enforce-

ers in discharging their official duties, attacking police and ransacking vehicles and the other for death of Enamul Haque, a worker of ACI pharmaceuticals.

Meanwhile, Ain O Salish Kendra (ASK) yesterday expressed deep concern over death of the medicine factory worker in clash between workers and police on Sunday.

In a statement, ASK Executive Director Sultana Kamal urged law enforcers as well as company owners to show tolerance to the workers and defuse their unrest.

**'Forced' pvt coaching, fee hike spark protest at Pabna polytech**

**Four students expelled for rampage on campus**

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

The authorities of Pabna Polytechnic Institute yesterday temporarily expelled four students of the institute in connection with rampage on Sunday when the agitated students ransacked three rooms of the institution and assaulted a teacher protesting 'exorbitant rise' in private tuition fees.

Later police rushed to the spot and brought the situation under control.

"On Sunday, some unruly students assaulted Md Moniruzzaman, a teacher of the institution, and ransacked the doors, windows and furniture of three rooms of the institution without any reason. We have identified four of them and decided to expel them from the institution till completion of the investigation about the incident," Md Shahjahan Ali, principal of Pabna Polytechnic Institute, told this corre-

spondent yesterday. Protesting the assault on a colleague, teachers of the institution boycotted their classes yesterday. The college authority also submitted a complaint against them with Pabna police station yesterday.

The temporarily expelled students are Md Sajal of electrical department, Md Hafiz of power department, Md Russel of construction department and Md Mejbah of civil engineering department.

Talking to this correspondent, several students claimed that a few teachers of the institution forced the students to get private coaching from them.

The fees for private tuition was Tk 400 to 500 last year but recently it has been raised to Tk 800 to one thousand, much to the grievance of the students, said a student of power department.

"On January 16, the students of all departments submitted an application to the principal about this matter but no step was taken. Later when the students went to talk to the teachers about the issue they misbehaved with the students, sparking the demonstration on Sunday," he said.

The agitating students also denied the allegation of assaulting the teacher.

Asked about the matter, Principal Shahjahan Ali said, "Following the demand of students we held a meeting with the heads of all departments of the institution last week. In the meeting I instructed the departmental heads to ensure holding regular classes by teachers instead of engaging in private teaching practice."

"Process is on to file a case. Police will investigate the matter," said Pabna police station Officer in Charge Md Enayet Uddin.



PHOTO: STAR  
Sand brought for construction of a road near Boro Masjid in Mynensingh town, is kept in the middle of the road, much to the nuisance of common people.