

SNAPS AND SNIPPETS

Man jailed for torturing wife

UNB, Jhalakati
A court here on Monday sentenced a man to three years imprisonment for physically torturing his wife. The convict was Akhtaruzzaman of Ramanathpur village of sadar upazila. The court also fined him Tk 10,000, in default, to suffer six months more RI. According to the prosecution, Akhtaruzzaman used to torture his wife Jannatul Ferdous for dowry of Tk 50,000 since their marriage in 2004. In 2009, Akhtaruzzaman beat up Ferdous during an arbitration following a family feud over the issue. Later, Jannatul Ferdous filed a case accusing Akhtaruzzaman. Siddikul Arefin Chowdhury, judge of Woman and Children Repression Prevention Tribunal handed down the verdict.

Shops gutted in Sunamganj

UNB, Sunamganj
Fire gutted five shops at Ganiganj Bazar in Dakkhin Sunamganj upazila early Sunday. Locals said, the fire originated from a short circuit at a shop in the bazaar and soon engulfed the adjoining four shops. On information, fire fighters from Sunamganj fire service rushed to the spot and doused the fire after an hour of frantic efforts with the help of local people. Affected shops owners said the loss caused by the fire could go up to Tk 20 lakh.

Vendor beaten to death

UNB, Kurigram
A vendor was beaten to death as he refused to pay additional toll to market lessees at Kharibari Hat in Fulbari upazila Monday night. The deceased was identified as Kochimuddin, 60. Police said when Kochimuddin, a seller of bamboo-made products, refused to pay Tk 10 instead of 4 to the lessees, an altercation took place, between them. Later, lessee Mokbul Hossain's nephew Ahad Ali along with some goons beat up Kochimuddin, leaving him injured. He died when he was taken to a local doctor.

Students form human chain

UNB, Barisal
Students of electro-medical engineering course of Barisal Polytechnic Institute on Monday morning formed a human chain demanding government jobs and higher education facilities. The human chain was formed in front of Aswani Kumar Hall in the city. The students said diploma course on electro-medical engineering is running in nine government polytechnic institutes of the country. The course was introduced with an aim to provide skilled manpower for maintenance and servicing of electro-medical instruments in the health service providing organisations. But the general electricians are getting job in public hospitals or health service providing institutions while the skilled students passed from the electro-medical engineering department are sitting idle for lack of higher education facilities, they alleged.



PHOTO: STAR

Activists of United People's Democratic Front (UPDF) bring out a mourning procession in Khagrachhari hill town yesterday protesting the killing of four party men in Barkal upazila of Rangamati district on Saturday. They also demanded the removal of Chittagong Hill Tracts Regional Council Chairman Jyotindra Bodhipriya Larma, popularly known as Santu Larma, from the post.

OMS rice seized, dealers belonging to 2 ruling parties go into hiding

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

Eight metric tonnes rice meant for open market sale (OMS) programme were seized on Monday while being sold on black market near Swarnamoti bridge in Vadai union under Aditmari upazila. The two dealers of the rice went into hiding immediately after the incident. An Aditmari upazila food official said, two OMS dealers for Palashi union -- Mozammel Haque and Abul Kalam Azad -- took the delivery of four metric tonnes rice each from local depot on Monday.

They loaded the rice in two trucks and left the godown in the afternoon. Police said, following a tip-off, Aditmari upazila nirbahi officer (UNO) seized the rice near Swarnamoti bridge, as the trucks were going to Lalmonirhat town instead of Palashi union where the rice was supposed to be sold at OMS outlets. The seized rice was handed over to food department at night on Monday. Locals at Palashi union alleged that both the OMS dealers belong to ruling parties. Of them, Mozammel Haque is joint secretary of

Palashi union Awami League and Abul Kalam Azad is secretary of Palashi union Jatiya Party. The upazila level leaders of the two ruling parties were trying to settle the matter without any punishment, they alleged. "If the dealers fail to give satisfactory reply to my notice by 5:00pm today, I will take stern action against them," UNO Parvez Hasan told this correspondent. The correspondent could not contact the two accused dealers as their mobile phones were switched off till filing of this report yesterday afternoon.

CASE AFTER 2006 ARREST OF JMB CHIEF Deposition of Islami Bank official recorded in Sylhet

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

A court here yesterday recorded the deposition of an officer of Islami Bank in the explosives case filed after the arrest of the then outlawed JMB chief Sheikh Abdur Rahman five years ago. With this, deposition of 24 prosecution witnesses (PWs) out of 60 has been recorded.

Additional District and Sessions Judge-VI, Sylhet, Nazir Ahmed recorded the deposition, said APP Jasimuddin Ahmed. Among the accused, current JMB chief Moulana Saidur Rahman, Sheikh Rahman's close aide Moyezul Islam Chowdhury alias Sona alias Hridoy, his wife Chameli Begum alias Sabina Yasmin, Sheikh's bodyguard Abdul Aziz alias Hanif and Sabbir Ahmed alias Dulal, were produced in the court yesterday. Sheikh Rahman's wife Nurjahan Begum Rupa and daughter Afifa Rahman, who had been on bail, also appeared before the court. The case was filed after the arrest of Sheikh Abdur Rahman and his men along with family members from a house in Sylhet on March 2 of 2006. Sheikh Rahman was later hanged in a case for murder

of two judges in Jhalakati. Additional District and Sessions Judge, Sylhet, Ferdous Ahmed, also judge of arms and explosives court, framed charges against seven accused on January 3 of 2008. Huge explosives were recovered and seized from 'Surjadighol Bari' in the city's Shaplabag area after the surrender of Sheikh Abdur Rahman, his family members and men on March 2 of 2006. Besides, a few documents and papers including cheque books of Islami Bank and Janata Bank were recovered and seized. The Islami Bank official yesterday admitted the cheques belonged to their bank and transactions were made through the account. Meanwhile, warrants were issued against five witnesses for skipping court, sources said.

Deposition not recorded

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Deposition of prosecution witness (PW) in a sensational case for grenade attack on the then British High Commissioner to Bangladesh in 2004 could not be recorded yesterday for absence of outlawed Huji, B chief Mufti Abdur Hannan. However, JMB chief Moulana Saidur Rahman, activists-Delwar Hossain Ripon and Shahedul Alam Bipul, Mufti Abdur Hannan's brother-Muhibullah alias Muhibur Rahman and Mufti Mainuddin alias Masum Billah were produced in court. Mufti Hannan could not be produced in the court yesterday as he was in the capital in connection with other cases, court sources said. Two cases, one for mur-

der and the other for explosive substances, were filed in connection with the grenade attack on Anwar Chowdhury after Juma prayers on 21 May of 2004 near the gate of the shrine of Hajrat Shahjalal (RA) in Sylhet. Yesterday was fixed for deposition in case for explosive substances. Three people were killed while over 50 people including the district bar president Abdul Hai Khan sustained injuries in the incident. The divisional speedy trial tribunal of Sylhet on 23 December of 2008 awarded death to Mufti Hannan, Shahedul Alam Bipul and Delwar Hossain Ripon while it awarded Mufti Muhibur Rahman and Mufti Mainuddin life term imprisonment. The court also fined Tk. 10,000 each, in default, to suffer 2 years more in jail.

Indigenous people want return of ancestral land

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangamati

Indigenous people of 11 villages under Rajasthali upazila of Rangamati district yesterday demanded return of their ancestral land acquired by Rangamati Pulpwood Forest Division in 1993 and 1995. They raised the demand at a press conference in the district town yesterday. Headmen (mouza chief), Karbaries, union Prarishad (UP) members and school-teachers from 334 no Dhonuchhari and 335 no Kukkiyachhari mouzas organised the conference at a local restaurant under the banner of CHT forest and land right protection movement. Indigenous people of the 11 villages under the two mouzas have been living on 39,9,60 acres of forest land in the two mouzas from time immemorial. Of the total 39960 acres of land, Pulpwood Forest Division at Kaptai under Rangamati Forest Department had acquired 3889 acres of land, including

140 acres of registered land, in Dhonuchhari mouza in 1993 in the name of afforestation for producing pulpwood for Karnaphuli Paper Mills. Subsequently, the forest division acquired 715 acres land, including 104 acres of registered land, in Kukkiyachhari mouza in 1995 for the same purpose. As result, 220 indigenous families belonging to Khiyang, Marma and Tangchangya communities, who depended on jhum cultivation for their livelihood, were compelled to leave their ancestral land and took shelter in different areas in Rangamati and Bandarban. In the face of strong protest against 'eviction' of indigenous people, a seven-member committee, headed by the then divisional commissioner of Chittagong, was formed. After investigation, the committee submitted its report with a recommendation for giving 5 acres of land to each of the 220 families in

the two mouzas. The committee also set a condition for the forest department that it would return the forest land to the locals after procuring soft wood from there. The indigenous leaders alleged that instead of return of forest land to the locals, Pulpwood Forest Division has again started planting trees in the area. As per recommendation of the committee, each of the 220 families was not given five acres of forest land, they said. They urged the government to resolve the issue by implementing the recommendation of the seven-member committee. Otherwise, they threatened to go for agitation. Mishu Marma, headmen of Kukkiyachhari Mouza, Lathoi Khiyang of Dhonuchhari Mouza, UP Member Chingcha Maoung Khiyang and secretary of CHT forest and land right protection movement Sudutta Bikash Tangchangya addressed the press conference.

Advertisement for Jahangirnagar University (জাহাঙ্গীরনগর বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়) regarding a recruitment process for various positions. The ad includes details about the university, the recruitment process, and a list of 10 positions with their respective qualifications and salaries. The positions include roles like Assistant Professor, Lecturer, and various administrative and technical staff. The ad also mentions the university's address and contact information.

Advertisement for the Office of CMES (Air) in Kurmitola, Dhaka Cantt. The ad is an invitation for tenders for various services and goods. It includes a list of 21 items to be procured, such as military engineering services, maintenance of buildings, and supply of goods. The ad also provides details about the tendering process, including the deadline for submission of tenders and the location of the office.