

Dyke-cum-road across Titas being removed

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Brahmanbaria

The work for removal of 450-metre-long embankment-cum-road across Titas River at Akhaura has started finally.

One excavator and several tractors have been engaged in the work that started on Tuesday afternoon.

The cross embankment-cum-road beside Akhaura Rail Bridge was made under a memoran-

dum of understanding between Bangladesh and India to dispatch over dimensional cargoes (ODC) carrying heavy equipment to Palatana Power Station in Indian state of Tripura from Kolkata via Brahmanbaria.

"It will take seven to eight days for us to fully remove the embankment. All of the 15 such embankment-cum-roads, constructed beside the weak bridges from Ashuganj to Akhura, for

Indian ODCs, will be removed totally," said engineer Md Farook Ahmed, the project coordinator of Gulf Orient Seaways, a Bangladeshi firm assigned for the work.

A team headed by Brahmanbaria Deputy Commissioner Md Abdul Mannan visited the spot to see the work on Tuesday.

As the cross embankment in the Titas vertically cut the river, navigation through the point snapped and serious

decline in the river flow caused its silting.

Consequently, fish and other aquatic creatures in the river as well as ecological balance in the area got endangered.

The initiative to restore normal flow of the Titas River has come as a matter of relief for the people of Akhaura and Brahmanbaria Sadar upazilas, especially for those who have to depend on the river for livelihood.



PHOTO: STAR

The embankment-cum-road across the Titas River beside Akhaura Rail Bridge is being removed to restore normal flow of the river. The cross embankment was constructed for plying of Indian over dimensional cargoes carrying heavy equipment for Palatana power station in Tripura from Kolkata.

Two IU students, said to be outlaws, held with arms

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

Police arrested two students of Islamic University (IU) and recovered firearms and ammunition from their possession early yesterday.

According to police, both are members of an outlawed party and close aides to Gano Bahini leader Ali Reza alias Kalu.

The arrestees were identified as Jewel Rana and Almugir Hossain. They are students of honours final at Bangla Department of the university.

Of them, Alamgir is general secretary of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Hall unit of Bangladesh Chhatra League and nephew of Kalu.

Chokdar Abdul Halim, assistant police superintendent (ASP-circle) said a patrol team led by himself was waiting at Dakhula bazaar on a tip-off that a group of outlaws will go to Abdalpur village at about 3:30 am by that way.

Seeing a motorbike, the police team

stopped them. When the two riders—Jewel Rana and Almugir tried to flee police chased and arrested them and recovered one pistol and three bullets from Rana's possession.

Police said both had connection with Kalu. Kalu is most wanted Gano Bahini leader in the district.

Meanwhile, Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) Wednesday night arrested a top outlaw.

The arrestee is said to be the mastermind of bomb blast incident at Amla bazaar on December 28 that injured three Awami League leaders.

Rab said they arrested Golam Mostafa alias Mote Malitha, 45, from Ita village in Poba upazila in Rajshahi.

Mote is a regional leader of outlawed Purbo Banglar Communist Party (PBPC-ML) faction Lal Pataka, Rab sources said.

According to Rab-12, Kushtia unit, they had information that Mote had been hiding at a house of the village to evade arrest for the bomb blast.



Vehicles ply with difficulty a muddy and potholed portion of Mymensingh-Kishoreganj road that poses serious risk for commuters, especially during rainfall.

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AL-backed man wins Akhaura by-polls

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
B'baria

Awami League-backed candidate Takjil Khalifa Kajol was declared unoffically elected mayor of Akhaura municipality in the by-election yesterday.

Kajol polled 4,513 votes while his nearest rival Mainul Islam (rebel AL candidate) 3,552 votes. The by-election was by and large peaceful.

The seat fell vacant following death of NM Hasan Khan, also a local BNP leader, on October 14 last year.

Four others, who were in the election race, are BNP-backed candidate Joynal Abedeen (spectacles), rebel BNP candidate Hasib Humayun (inkpot and pen), and independent candidates Humayun Kabir (lock) and Farook Ahmed (wall clock).

Returning Officer Kazi Muhammad Muzammel Haque, also Akhaura Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO), said voters cast their votes in favour of their candidates in a peaceful atmosphere. No untoward incident was reported from any of the 10 polling centres, he added.

Police and Ansars were on-duty at the centres while Rab personnel patrolled the municipal area during voting that started at 8:00am and continued until 4:00pm without break.

Besides, members of Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) were deployed at different points in the municipality while striking units put on alert.

On January 9, Laily filed a case with Panchagarh Chief Judicial Magistrate's Court, accusing her husband Manik, his elder brother Khokon, father-in-law Ramizuddin, mother-in-law Rowshan and sister-in-law Lucky.

Chief Judicial Magistrate Abu Monsur Mohammad Ziaul Haque issued arrest warrants against the accused the same day. None of the accused was arrested as of filing of this report as 5:00pm yesterday.

Contacted, OC Humayun Kabir said they have not yet received arrest warrants

Two women brutally tortured for dowry

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Thakurgaon

Two women have been brutally tortured allegedly by their husbands and in-laws for dowry in Panchagarh and Thakurgaon districts.

In Panchagarh, Laily Begum, wife of Md Manik of Tularanga in Panchagarh municipality, was tortured by her husband and in-laws on December 27 in 2011 as she refused to bring Tk one lakh in dowry from her parents.

They shaved Laily's head and forced her to leave the house, locals said.

The victim alleged that she along with her father Habibur Rahman of Kamatpara area of the municipality went to Sadar police station to file a case against her husband and in-laws two days after the incident, but police refused to accept the case.

When asked, Officer in-charge Humayun Kabir refuted the allegation, saying that none came to file such case with the police station.

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Chief Judicial Magistrate Abu Monsur Mohammad Ziaul Haque issued arrest warrants against the accused the same day. None of the accused was arrested as of filing of this report as 5:00pm yesterday.

Contacted, OC Humayun Kabir said they have not yet received arrest warrants

from the court. "Once we get warrants for arrest of the accused, we shall go for action," the OC added.

In the case statement, Laily alleged that Md Manik married her on February 11 in 2011. After a few months, Manik and his family members demanded Tk one lakh in dowry from her parents. "They often tortured me physically and mentally for my failure in bringing the money from my poor parents," she stated in the statement.

In Thakurgaon, Jasmin Begum, 30, wife of Abul Kalam of Chit Chilarang village in Sadar upazila, sustained serious burn injuries allegedly as her dowry-greedy husband and in-laws

wife over the issue. After a few minutes, Jasmin's mother in law, and sister-in-law joined the feud.

At one stage, they poured hot water on Jasmin. Hearing screams, neighbours rushed to the house and took her to Thakurgaon Sadar Hospital.

Following a case filed by Jasmin with Thakurgaon Sadar Police Station on Wednesday, police arrested her husband Kalam, his father Sona Mia and sister-in-law Banu Akhter.

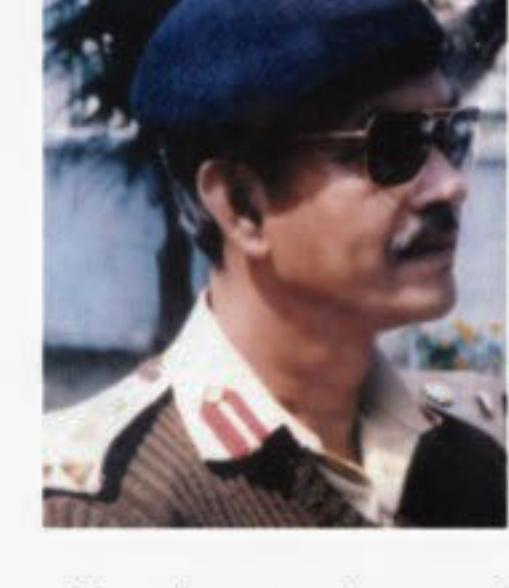
Meanwhile, a housewife was killed allegedly by her husband over a family feud at Joytul village in Kahalu upazila of Bogra on Wednesday morning, reports UNB.

The deceased was identified as Halima, 35, wife of Abdur Rashid of the village.

Police quoted local people as saying that Rashid picked up a quarrel with Halima over a trifling matter at around 6:00am and at one stage, he beat up Halima mercilessly, leaving her dead on the spot.

Brigadier General (Rtd) T.U.M. Iftekharul Bashar

(3rd September 1944- 13th January 2006)



Remembrance is a golden chain, Death tries to break, but all in vain.
To have, to love, and then to part is the greatest sorrow of one's heart.
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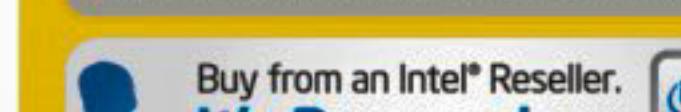
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