

Rumour of iron mine in Atrai River in Dinajpur

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Dinajpur

The banks of Atrai River in Khansama upazila under the district sees thronging of curious people from different areas of Dinajpur and adjacent districts as news about the presence of several hills with iron particles in the river spread in the last two weeks.

During a visit to the spot on Monday, this correspondent saw people collecting 'stone-like' mud from small hills in the riverbed. Many of them were using magnets, confirming the presence of iron in the mud that is much harder and heavier than usual mud.

Such mud and iron particles can be found in a few hills having 'hard to break' rocks with different colours including brownish and black in five kilometre area of Atrai River from Jyontiaghat of Khansama upazila to Dhanirdanga of Kaharol upazila in Dinajpur district, locals said.

"The hills have remained unchanged although river current causes erosion in the area," said Anju Ara Begum, 40, a resident on the riverbank at Guliara village under Bhabki union of Khansama upazila.

"When a magnet is moved on the sands of the river, it gets covered with particles of iron," said Md



PHOTO: STAR

Curious people yesterday walk on a patch of raised ground in the Atrai River in Khansama upazila of Dinajpur district to collect iron, *inset*, three people take away a stone-like object from the river following a rumour of presence of iron in the riverbed.

Abdur Razzak, another resident of the area.

"Presence of iron particles in the riverbed is now obvious," said Md Shafiqul Islam, chairman of Bhabki union parishad under Khansama upazila, who visited the area several times after hearing

the matter about two weeks ago.

Showing some collected stone-like mud that is much heavier than that from other areas, Nawsad Hossain, a visitor from Thakurgaon district said, "I could not believe it until I saw it myself."

"Primary observation suggests that iron mine may exist in the area. However, extensive tests are needed to ascertain the matter," Dr Shahadat Hossain Khan, professor of soil science department of Hajee Danesh Science and Technology University in



Dinajpur, said after visiting the spot on Tuesday. Md ATM Ziaul Islam, upazila nirbahi officer of Khansama, said, "We have collected samples after detection of iron particles in the riverbed. It will be sent to different departments for test soon."

Dinesh Chandra Roy, Amal Chandra and Jagadish Chandra of Dagrai village in Birganj upazila of Dinajpur.

Biren Barman of Shibpur village in the upazila and father of the victim, filed the case with Judicial Magistrate's Court here on Tuesday afternoon. The court asked the jail officials to be present at the court on March 6 with documents on the dead prisoner. In the complaint, Biren Barman said his son Rajen Barman, 28, a prisoner at Dinajpur jail died of torture

4 tiger poachers jailed, fined in Bagerhat

STAFF CORRESPONDENT,
Khulna

A Bagerhat court has sentenced four poachers to jail and fined them all in a tiger killing case.

The court also ordered the convicts to pay Tk 25,000 each as compensation for killing the tigers.

Senior Judicial Magistrate Md. Jamal Hossain handed down the judgment on Tuesday afternoon.

The convicts are Jamal Fakir, 38, Hemayet Howlader, 65, Dhalu Molla, 38, of Uttar Tafalbari village and Khair Boyati, 63, of Pachimkhada village in Sharankhola upazila of Bagerhat district.

According to statement of

the case, coastguards and forest guards in a joint drive in the guise of buyers on February 16 in 2011 recovered three pieces of skin, four skulls and 31 kilograms of limbs of tigers from Banglabazar village of Sharankhola upazila.

Poacher Jamal Fakir, arrested from the spot during the drive, later helped coastguards arrest the three others.

On February 17, forest official KM Kabiruddin of the East Wing of Sundarban Forest Division filed a case against the four poachers under Wildlife Protection Act.

The court, after recording statements of prosecution witnesses with evi-

dences during the trial, sentenced accused Jamal Fakir to four and a half years rigorous imprisonment (RI) and fined Tk 25,000, in default, to suffer more six months in jail.

Besides, Khair Boyati is to suffer 30 months of RI and pay a fine of Tk 10,000, in default, to suffer three months more in jail.

Accused Hemayet Howlader and Dhalu Molla got three years of RI. They were fined Tk 15,000 each, in default, to suffer four months more in jail.

Of the convicts, only Jamal Fakir and Khair Boyati were present at the court as the two others remained at large.

Two jail officials, 6 others sued as prisoner dies

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Dinajpur

Jail superintendent, jailer and six others were sued on Tuesday on murder charge following death of a prisoner of district jail at Dinajpur Medical College and Hospital on January 27 this year.

The accused are Md. Shajahan Ali, Jail Superintendent of Dinajpur, Joynal Abedin, Jailer, Purna Chandra Barman, Krishna Kanta Roy, Jagadish Chandra Roy,

Dinesh Chandra Roy, Amal Chandra and Jagadish Chandra of Dagrai village in Birganj upazila of Dinajpur.

The court asked the jail officials to be present at the court on March 6 with documents on the dead prisoner.

In the complaint, Biren Barman said his son Rajen Barman, 28, a prisoner at Dinajpur jail died of torture

on January 27.

Shilpa Rani, wife of Rajen, was murdered on September 18 last year. Later police arrested Rajen on charge of murder.

He alleged that six relatives of Shilpa Rani with the help of jail authorities including jail superintendent and jailer, tortured his son causing his death at hospital.

Contacted, the jail superintendent and jailer told this correspondent that Rajen died at cardiac arrest.

SNAPS AND SNIPPETS

Missionaries hurt in attack

A CORRESPONDENT, Jamalpur

Three foreign missionaries were injured in an attack by local people in Madarganj upazila of the district yesterday morning. They are Benjamin Frank, Rick Firesen and Annette Firesen. Abdul Awal, officer-in-charge of Madarganj Police Station, said all of them were Americans. According to police and locals, a team of missionaries came to Teghoria Kamarpara under the upazila to visit a spot for setting up a missionary school and a church at about 11:00am. Meanwhile, a rumour spread that the missionaries were trying to convert Muslims to Christians. At this, a group of local people vandalised the team's car, leaving three members injured. Later, police picked up three people, including Teghoria Madrasa Principal Abdul Barik, for quizzing.

Under trial prisoner dies

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Natore

An under trial prisoner who fell seriously ill on Tuesday in the district jail died at Sadar hospital yesterday. The deceased was Bir Mohammad, 82, son of Gustam Charan of Dighapatia in the district town. Bir was arrested in a drug case recently and a court sent him to jail hayat. The jail authorities admitted him to Natore Sadar Hospital on Tuesday night where he died yesterday morning. Earlier on February 18, another prisoner, Ibrahim Hossain, 35, of Matipara in the town died at the same jail.

Conference on physics held

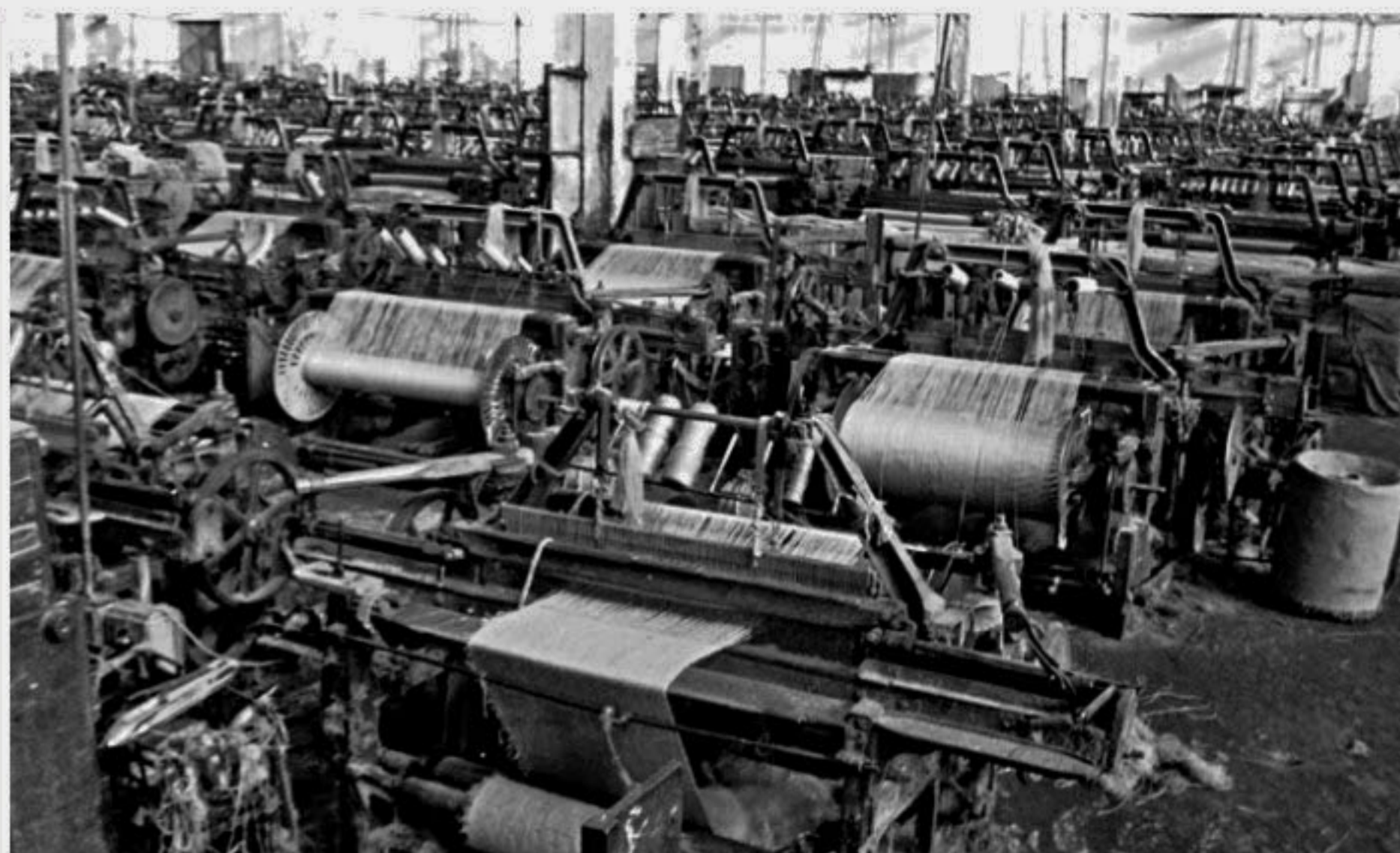
SUST CORRESPONDENT

A two-day 'National Conference on Advances in Physics 2012' concluded at Shahjalal University of Science and Technology (Sust) in Sylhet yesterday. The physics department organised the event participated by about 400 national and international delegations. Vice Chancellor Dr Saleh Uddin inaugurated the programme on Tuesday with Dr Yasmeen Haque, head of the department and convener of the organising committee, in the chair. Sust professor Zafar Iqbal moderated as open discussion on 'Popularising Science Education in Bangladesh' at the central auditorium of the university yesterday afternoon.



PHOTO: STAR

Gaibandha townspeople formed a human chain at DB Road yesterday demanding steps to ensure proper healthcare services at the Sadar Hospital and upgrade the 100-bed hospital to a 250-bed one.



Production at Platinum Jute Mills in Khulna remained halted, *right*, workers of Zeal Bangla Sugar Mills at Dewanganj in Jamalpur staged a sit-in in front of the unit yesterday, the concluding day of a two-day strike enforced by the workers of the state-owned jute and sugar mills demanding implementation of the recommendations of the National Wages and Productivity Commission with retrospective effect from July 1, 2009.

Man put behind bars for torturing wife over dowry

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Benapole, Jessore

A court here yesterday sentenced a man to two years' imprisonment for torturing his wife for dowry.

The convict is Humayun Kabir, son of Billal Hossain Biswas of Narendrapur village in Sadar upazila in the district.

The court also fined the convict Tk 5,000, in default he is to suffer another three months in jail.

According to the prosecution, Humayun married Sabina Khatun, daughter of late Akbar Ali Biswas of Sirajsinga village in the same upazila on February 7, 2007.

As Humayun put pressure on Sabina for dowry, her mother gave him

Tk 60,000. In 2010, Humayun again demanded Tk one lakh in dowry and tortured Sabina several times as she refused to bring the money.

On March 5 in 2010, Sabina filed a case against her husband with the Court of Senior Judicial Magistrate Abdus Sabur Mia who pronounced the verdict yesterday noon. Our Sathkira correspon-

dent reported that a housewife was beaten to death by the husband allegedly for dowry at Baikari village in Sadar upazila on Tuesday night.

The victim is Fatema Khatun, 18, daughter of Akram Sardar of Alipur Purbo Para village in the upazila.

Police arrested Fatema's husband Mominur Rahman and her brother in law Azizul Islam from Bakal check post area in Sadar upazila yesterday.

In Chapainawabganj, a rickshaw-puller killed his wife following a quarrel at Paikara village under Niamatpur upazila of Naogaon district early yesterday, reports our correspondent.

The dead was identified as, Ahiron Khatun, 22, wife of Nurul Babu, alias Tutul.

Shafiu Islam, officer-in-charge (OC) of Niamatpur Police Station, quoting locals as saying that Tutul picked up a quarrel with Ahiron over a trivial matter at around 1:00am. At one stage, he hit her wife with an iron rod, resulting in her death on the spot. Police later arrested Tutul.

Politics banned at Rokeya University

A CORRESPONDENT,
Rangpur

The authorities of Begum Rokeya University, Rangpur have banned all kinds of political activities on the campus for an indefinite period.

The decision was taken at an urgent meeting of the university academic council yesterday with vice chancellor Abdul Jalil Miah.

The ban was imposed following a series of clashes between the activists of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) and Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) in the last two days.

The VC told this correspondent that stern action would be taken against those trying to continue political activities defying the decision.

At least ten people, including a policeman, were injured during a clash between the activists of BCL and JCD on the campus on Tuesday.

The VC said, although students politics was not allowed on the campus, some organisations took the advantage of liberal attitude of the authorities and spoiled the academic atmosphere.

Telephone Shilpa Sangstha (TSS) Limited
Tongi, Gazipur, Bangladesh.

"Time Extension"

The Re-Tender by TSS published in The Daily Star, The Daily Ittefaq, The Daily Kaler kontho and The Financial Express on 20.02.2012 is hereby amended as follows:
Tender Last Selling Date: 07-03-2012 instead of 29-02-2012
Tender Closing Date & Time: 08-03-2012 at 12.00 pm. instead of 01-03-2012 at 12.00 p.m.
Tender Opening Date & Time: 08-03-2012 at 3.00 pm. instead of 01-03-2012 at 3.00 pm.

Other terms and conditions will remain unchanged.
General Manager (Plant & Commercial)
Telephone Shilpa Sangstha (TSS) Limited.
Tongi, Gazipur, Bangladesh
Phone: 9803105

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Head Office, 36, Dilkusha C/A,
Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh.

Sealed tenders are hereby invited from the reputed Hardware Company/Supplier/ Firm/ vendor for Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Blade Servers.

The tender document will be available at the Head Office, ICT Division of the Bank from 4th March to 15th March, 2012 during office hours. Tender responses will be submitted in a sealed Tender Box kept at ICT Division of the Bank on or before 15th March 2012 by 11.00 a.m. and the same will be opened at 11.05 a.m. on the same day in presence of the representative (if any) of the tenderer. If the tender cannot be opened as per scheduled date and time due to unavoidable circumstances, the same will be opened on the next working day. Two copies of technical proposals, each copy being physically separated, sealed and labeled as "Technical Proposal" in separate envelopes shall be delivered. The financial proposal should be provided in a separate sealed envelope and labeled as "Financial Proposal". The price of the schedule is Tk.10,000/-(non-refundable).

The bank authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders in part or full without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Syed Masodul Bari
Executive Vice President