



AT THE RIVER GYPSIES' DEN

BEDES (gypsies) and adivasis gather at Porabari in Savar on the outskirts of the capital to sell snakes. Every day they come bearing boxes full of these venomous reptiles. Wednesdays are usually a big deal when the market seems to be at its peak. A snake charmer could buy a cobra for prices ranging from Tk. 500 to Tk. 1500. The snakes do not live long. Once their fangs have been removed some do not even last a month. Individuals catching snakes from various regions of the country make their way to Porabari to make a good sale.

Photo: ANISUR RAHMAN

