



PHOTO: STAR

Imran Hossain at work with his father in a turmeric field owned by a villager. The boy secured GPA-5 in both SSC and HSC examinations.

## Give the golden boy a little boost

AZIBOR RAHMAN, Jhenidah

Performance of Imran, gifted son of a poor day labourer, in SSC and HSC examinations has become a talk of the village.

Since Imran Hossain was preparing for the Secondary School Certificate (SSC) examinations in 2010, friends, neighbours and teachers of Monohorpur School in Kaliganj upazila of the district helped him buy textbooks and other educational materials.

And the support by the villagers for this brilliant student certainly paid off.

Imran, son of Golam Mostafa of Monohorpur village, secured GPA-5 in SSC examinations with humanities group—the highest grade one can achieve.

This year, he has again stunned the villagers by securing GPA-5 in Higher Secondary Certificate (HSC) examinations from Mahtab Uddin Degree College in the upazila.

Not that he could devote all his time to studies. He had to work hard along with his poor father in croplands belonging to other people. The family of this rural prodigy owns only 40 decimal of land on which they live in a dilapidated tin-roofed house.

"Before my SSC exams, I worked as a peon at an insurance company. I also worked as a peon at an NGO named Palli Unnayan. I paid my exam fees by working in croplands from morning till dusk everyday," Imran said.

His determination and passion for studies earned a good reputation for Monohorpur High School as well as Mahtab Uddin Degree College.

Imran is extremely grateful to all who helped him continue his studies.

"I was inspired mainly by my teachers and friends to continue my studies," Imran said.

"Now I want to study at Dhaka University in Public Administration or English. I want to be an administrator," he added.

"I do not know yet how would I continue my studies, because poverty and hunger haunt my family all the time," Imran said.

Principal Mahbubur Rahman of Mahtab Uddin Degree College said they are proud of Imran.

"The college authorities took special care of the young man because his exceptional brilliance", Rahman said.

## Price hike of essentials, adulteration protested

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur

A human chain was formed on Sunday demanding proper implementation of a High Court order to prevent food adulteration.

The participants also protested the price hike of essential commodities across the country.

Khadya Odhikar O Samajik Nirapatta Andolan, an NGO, organised the human chain in front of Rangpur Press Club.

The protesters said that adulterated food items had flooded the markets countrywide despite frequent drives by the government.

Fishes, vegetables and all kinds of fruits containing chemicals like formalin and calcium carbide are threatening public health, they said.

They alleged that the authorities did not follow the 2010 HC order to appoint a food inspector in every district within a year to control such adulteration.

The Trading Corporation of Bangladesh (TCB) is selling essentials at higher rates than the market prices in the name of fair price, the participants said.

Taking advantage of the month of Ramadan, the TCB hiked the prices of items instead of bringing down the market price.

They also demanded an immediate intervention of the government to stabilise the prices of the commodities.

Among others, Kazi Monirul Islam Liton, general secretary of Workers Party of Bangladesh, Rangpur unit, Hasan Chowdhury and Abdur Sattar, spoke at the programme.

## School allows employee to make house on playground

A move to grab land, fear locals

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Nilphamari

Believe it or not, authorities of Saidpur Pilot High School have handed over, through a written agreement, a part of its playground to an employee of the institution for making house.

Locals have alleged exchange of a good amount of money for the process but the authorities denied it.

Local people including players and sports organisers submitted a memorandum to the upazila nirbahi officer (UNO) of Saidpur yesterday demanding cancellation of the arrangement and steps to free the playground.

Established in 1906, Saidpur Pilot High School beside Rangpur-Dinajpur road has a big playground in front of it.

The school ground boasts of being the venue of public meetings on different occasions when Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, Sher-e-Bangla AK Fazlul Haque, Hossain Shaheed Suhrawardi, Maulana Abdul Hamid Khan Bhashani and other national leaders spoke.

"In my boyhood I played in the field along with my friends. Besides students of the school, players of different football and cricket clubs practice games here. A number of football and cricket tournaments are also held in the ground," said college teacher Shakhawat Hossain, also a local resident.

"But it is very sad that a part of the ground has been



PHOTO: STAR

A house (marked in circle), built by an employee of Saidpur Pilot High School in Nilphamari district, occupies a corner of the playground of the century-old institution, as the school authorities gave the allotment of the land for the purpose through a written agreement.

handed over for dwelling purpose," he lamented.

Asked about the matter, the lessee in question, Sankar Kumar, also a sweeper of the school, told newsmen, "I wanted some land from the school authority for my accommodation and the headmaster gave me the land at a corner of the school playground with consent of the school managing committee. I built the house on the land at my own expense."

He denied any transaction of money with school authority for getting the land.

Termining the incident as beginning of an unhealthy process, a number of guard-

ians and locals expressed fear that the entire school playground will be gradually occupied if the move is not resisted.

There is enough vacant land behind the school building within the campus and the school authority could allocate land for dwelling of the said employee there, they said.

Principal Shabahat Ali, general secretary of Saidpur Cricket Club, and sports organiser Nesar Ahmed said they would go for movement if the occupied portion of the playground is not freed.

When contacted, Anwarul Islam, headmaster of the school, told this correspondent, "A small part of

the playground was allotted to Sankar Kumar, a sweeper of the school, as per decision of the school managing committee. For this a written agreement was signed with the sweeper."

He claimed that Sankar was allowed to make house on a corner of the playground to protect the school ground from gradual occupation by outsiders.

Saidpur UNO Anarkoli Mahbub said, "The school field plays an important role in promoting games and sports in the area. Local people have submitted a memorandum to me to protect the playground. Necessary steps will be taken after proper investigation."

## Swechchhasebok League man dies during Rab raid

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

A local leader of Swechchhasebok League, an associate organisation of ruling Awami League, died of heart attack during an anti-drug peddling raid by Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) in Barisal city on Sunday night.

Shahabuddin Sabu, 49, president of ward No 10 unit of Swechchhasebok League, and a member of city convening committee of the organisation, was declared dead after he was brought to Sher E Bangla Medical College Hospital (SBMCH) after a Rab raid about 9:00pm on Sunday, said Shahidullah, local ward councillor.

Sabu's wife Rashida Begum alleged that when the Rab team failed to get Sabu at their rented house, they beather.

"Then searching the neighbouring house, they nabbed Sabu and beat him. Sabu, a cardiac patient, was released from SBMCH four days ago and he was supposed to go to Dhaka within a day or two for better treatment. He died of heart attack due to raid and torture by Rab," Rashida added.

Captain Sarfaraz, media

spokesman of Rab-8, denied the allegation of beating Sabu or his wife Rashida.

"Raiding Band Road area of the city, a Rab team led by Major Rashed arrested drug peddler Rafikul Islam Monu of Amanatganj Palashpur area with 360 pieces of yaba tablet at about 6:50pm on Sunday," he said.

"During interrogation, Monu said he had collected yaba from the local wholesale drug trader Sabu. Sabu, earlier arrested by Rab with yaba, was recently released from jail after one month's custody and again engaged in drug peddling.

"Rab raided Sabu's rented house at about 7:30pm on Sunday but failed to get him there. Hearing that he may have jumped to the neighbouring house to hide there, Rab men accompanied by local elites raided neighbouring Jahanara Manzil. Finding Sabu lying unconscious there, the law enforcers asked the family member to take him to hospital.

"The family members and witnesses acknowledged that Sabu was a cardiac patient and died of heart attack," said the Rab spokesman.

## SALVAGE OF MT MEHERJAN YET TO START Bad weather plays foul

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

BIWTA team yesterday again failed to start its operation to salvage sunken fuel carrier MT Meherjan due to inclement weather.

The team on Sunday postponed start of the rescue operation as strong current of the Meghna washed away the indicator marking spot of the capsized tanker.

Imdadul Huq, director of Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority (BIWTA), said they had to postpone start of the rescue operation for the second day yesterday due to adverse weather. He, however, said they succeeded in marking the location of the sunken vessel at around 5:30pm.

"Divers of the navy have done a lot to mark the location of the capsized vessel and one of them has become sick during operation," he said.

Ashraf Hossain, deputy director of BIWTA,

said if everything remains okay, we will again try to start salvage operation. A navy team from Chittagong will also join us, he added.

Success of the rescue operation greatly depends on the availability of favourable weather, sunlight, speed and nature of the river current at the spot, said the officials engaged in salvage operation.

Salvage ships MV Hamza and MV Rustam, their tugboats, and MT Jaal Kumari, an oil tanker belonging to the owner of sunken tanker MT Meherjan, are waiting for favourable weather, current and timing to start the salvage operation, said Rafikul Islam, assistant director of BIWTA and commander of MV Hamza.

MT Meherjan carrying around seven lakh litres of fuel including 1,27,552 litres of patrol and 5,62,479 litres of diesel sank in the Meghna River Wednesday night after it collided with an empty cargo vessel.

## Schoolboy's death in road accident sparks protest

UNB, Pirojpur

Angry locals blocked Zianagar-Balipara road and vandalised six vehicles following death of a schoolboy in a road accident in Zianagar upazila yesterday morning.

Nazmul Hasan Babu, 11, a Class V student of Indurkani Model Primary School and son of Mosharraf Matabbar of Indurkani village, was crushed under the wheels of

a truck near Zianagar Bazar at about 9:15am.

Police said the banana-laden truck knocked Babu down while he was returning home from the bazaar, leaving him dead on the spot.

As the death news spread, locals took to the street and put up barricade on the road, disrupting road communication.

They also vandalised three trucks and three buses.

**WALTON**  
It's our product

The **PLATINUM** Series  
World's best Refrigerator

Walton is proud to present highest technological "PLATINUM" series Refrigerator with world's most advanced state-of-the-art design & quality.

www.waltonbd.com

MADE IN BANGLADESH  
The mark of ultimate confidence

★ Only we have ISO 9001:2008 Certified largest after sales service network all over the country.

**হিন্দু স্পেশাল প্যাকেজ এবার ভূটান**

প্যাকেজ যা পাবেন:

- \* রিটার্ন এয়ার টিকেট (ঢাকা-ভূটান-ঢাকা)
- \* ৩ বেলা খাবার খাওয়া
- \* প্রতিনিয় সাইট সীং
- \* ভিসা এনিসিট্যান্স
- \* রিটার্ন এয়ারপোর্ট ট্রান্সফার

ভিসা প্রসেসিং: লাউস, ইন্ডিয়া, সিঙ্গাপুর, দুবাই, ফিলিপিন এবং আরো অনেক দেশ

ড্রাগন প্যাকেজ ভূটান

২৬,৪৯৯	+ ট্যাক্স	২৪,৪৯৯	+ ট্যাক্স
৪দিন ৩রাত (জনপ্রতি)		৪দিন ৩রাত (জনপ্রতি)	

ঢাকা-কাঠমন্ডু-নাগারকেট-ঢাকা

**বুকিং চলছে** কক-শনিবার বেলা

শেষ তারিখ ১৫ আগস্ট  
হিন্দু উপলক্ষে সার্ভিস চার্জ সম্পূর্ণ ফ্রি

কিঞ্চিত জানতে যোগাযোগ করুন:

Dishari (Travel, Tour & Holiday Package)  
Muna (2nd Floor), 1/C Green Corner, Green Road  
Dhaka-1205, Bangladesh. w/p: 8613171, 9615228  
h/p: 01754991051, 01682861308, 01199666111, 01715645246  
E-mail: joyeeta@disharibd.com