



PHOTO: STAR

Students of Beergram Government Primary School in Korola union under Narail Sadar upazila attend classes under the open sky as the classrooms are too inadequate to accommodate all the students.

## SNAPS AND SNIPPETS

### Youth jailed for stalking

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

A mobile court here yesterday sentenced a college student to one year imprisonment for sexually harassing a school-girl. The convict is Romiz Uddin, 20, a first year student of Ghatail GBG College and son of Golam Mostofa of Lawagram village in Jamuria union. Police said Romiz had been stalking a class VII girl student of Ghatail Gono Uchcha Bidyaloy for long. As the girl refused to accept his proposal, Romiz went to the school yesterday and threatened her. Azhar Ali, headmaster of the school, informed Ghatail police about the matter and a police team went to the school and arrested Romiz.

### Boy drowns in pond

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Thakurgaon

A three-year-old boy drowned in a pond at Shingpara village under Sadar upazila on Wednesday. He was identified as Mizan, son of Kashem Ali of the same village. Witnesses said that the boy was playing around his house. Somehow he fell in a pond beside his house and drowned as he didn't know how to swim.

### 6 of a family food poisoned

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

Six members of a family at Tangail Sadar upazila were hospitalised yesterday after food poisoning. They were brought to Tangail General Hospital in unconscious condition, hospital sources said. The victims are Join Uddin, 50, his wife Fulmoti Begum, 40, their daughters Arjina Begum, 25, and Batasi Begum, 15, son Saddam Hossain, 27, and sister Mazeda Begum, 26. Dr Abdul Hakim at the hospital said they are now out of danger.



PHOTO: STAR

Blooming Night Queens adorn the tub at the bungalow of Magura Deputy Commissioner Sushanta Kumar Saha.

### Discussion, photo show held

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

A programme titled "Itihash Kotha Boley: Sangram Thekey Swadhinatai Bangabandhu" was held at Mymensingh Cantonment yesterday. The daylong programme included photo exhibition, discussion on Liberation War and a cultural function in the afternoon. Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Smriti Jadugor (museum) organised the programme. Major General (Retd) Amin Ahmed Chowdhury inaugurated the photo exhibition as chief guest. More than 100 photographs on different aspects of Liberation War and Bangabandhu were displayed at the exhibition. Major General AKM Mojahid Uddin, Brigadier Generals Mohammad Samsul Alam Khan, Md Abdur Rouf, Shameem Ahmed, Abu Wahab Md Hafizul Huq and Lt Col Mohammad Quamrul Islam were present among others. In his inauguration speech, the chief guest said such exhibition will inspire the younger generation and grow patriotic feelings among them to serve the nation in better ways.

### Two held on rape charge

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur

Two college students were arrested on charge of raping a Class IV student at Khorda Bhuthchara village under Shahidbagh union in Kaunia upazila on Tuesday. The accused were identified as Robiul Islam Robi, 20, and Almas Hossain, 20, both students of electrical department at Bialy Bridge Agriculture Diploma and Polytechnic Institute in the upazila. Police and locals said the accused violated a 12-year-old girl of a local madrasa near her house when she was playing there in the morning.

### ATTACK ON HEADMASTER

## Procession, class boycott as culprits at large

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

Students of Bindubasini Government Girls' High School boycotted classes and brought out a procession in the town yesterday in protest against Tuesday's brutal attack on their headmaster.

Demanding immediate arrest and exemplary punishment of the criminals, they demonstrated in front of the office of the deputy commissioner and submitted a memorandum to him.

They demanded security of the teachers and students and said they would not return to classes until arrest of the attackers.

Teachers under the banner of Sommilito Shikkhak Sangram Parishad (SSSP) held a protest meeting at Bindubasini Government Girls' High School auditorium yesterday afternoon.

At the meeting presided over by organisation convener Mohammad Abdul Karim, convener of SSSP and also headmaster of Bindubasini Government

Boys' High School in the town, the teachers urged the deputy commissioner and the superintendent of police of Tangail and the officer in charge of Tangail Model Police Station to arrest the attackers immediately and bring them to justice. They also told the administration that the teachers in the district will take to street again on September 9 if the culprits are not arrested by September 8.

DC M Bazlul Karim Chowdhury assured the agitating teachers and students that as the attackers were already identified, they will be arrested soon and tough action will be taken against them.

The three-member committee led by Additional Deputy Commissioner (Education) Shoyeb Ahmed, formed to probe the incident, was ordered to submit the report within seven days, he said.

Mohammad Afsar Ali, 50, headmaster of Bindubasini Government Girls' High School, received serious injuries as criminals allegedly belonging to Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) bludgeoned him at his school office on Tuesday evening when he refused to admit three students to the school as per demand of the attackers.

Moriam Begum, mother of the victim, on Wednesday filed a case with Tangail Model Police Station, accusing Tangail district BCL vice president Mostafizur Rahman Sohel, and 6/7 others in this regard.

# People suffer for months for want of ferry

## Parts of the lone inoperative vessel being stolen

SOHRAB HOSSAIN, Patuakhali

Ferry service on Andharmanik River at Baliatali point of Kalapara-Kuakata alternative road has remained suspended since the lone ferry on the route went out of order 22 months ago.

In 2008, Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) set up the ferry terminal at Baliatali near Kalapara town on Andharmanik River and arranged a ferry service on the alternative road to Kuakata tourist spot.

The alternative road link offers easier journey as it requires only one ferry crossing instead of three on the 22-km-long main road and so, it became popular to tourists as well as local commuters.

LGED handed over the ferry to Kalapara upazila parishad for management and maintenance, upazila parishad sources said, adding that about 60,000 people of Lalua, Mithaganj, Baliatali and Dhulashar unions under the upazila got facility to communicate with the upazila headquarters and Kuakata tourist spot.

But shortly afterwards, the ferry faced troubles and Kalapara upazila parishad repaired it three times.

Lastly in June 2010, the

ferry went out of order, causing indefinite stoppage of the service.

Unscrupulous people are stealing different parts of the ferry that is lying idle on a char (landmass emerged from riverbed).

The lessee now uses country boats to carry passengers across the river for extra fares.

"I started for Kaukata on the alternative road, thinking it more convenient. But I

have to suffer due to lack of ferry. I had to pay Tk 20 as boat fare instead of Tk only 5 in the ferry," said Abu Raihan, a tourist from Barisal, who was crossing the river with his motorcycle on a country boat.

Masum Billah, driver of the ferry, said, "Hundreds of passengers and vehicles used to cross the river by the ferry. But an important pipe of it broke 22 months ago, making the machine dys-

functional. The upazila administration did not take any step to repair it by this time."

When contacted, Pro Mostafizur Rahman, chairman for Kalapara upazila parishad, said, "We spent Tk over 2 lakh to repair the ferry three times. Now we are planning to run the service on lease basis after repairing the ferry. We have already asked the upazila engineer to take step in this regard."



PHOTO: STAR

Passengers on the alternative road to Kuakata cross the Andharmanik River near Kalapara upazila town as the lone ferry on the route has remained inoperative for the last 22 months. Right, the dysfunctional ferry lying stranded in a char (landmass emerged from riverbed).



## Jubo League men injure 2 Jubo Dal activists

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

Two Jubo Dal activists were injured in Dashmina upazila as Jubo League men pounced on them in two separate incidents on Wednesday afternoon.

Police quoting locals said Jubo Dal activist Hasan Jahangir, 25, was returning home from town by his motorbike.

While he was crossing T&T road, a few Jubo League activists, led allegedly by Ripon and Sujon waylaid Hasan.

They stabbed Hasan with sharp weapons before taking away his motorbike and

cell phone.

As the victim raised a hue and cry, locals rushed to the spot and sent the victim to Dashmina upazila health complex.

In another incident, Kawsar Alam, 27, was attacked allegedly by Jubo League men in bazaar area at about 4.00pm.

Locals admitted him to the upazila health complex.

Contacted, officer-in-charge of Dashmina police station Md Mobarak Ali said, on information, an officer visited the injured but the victims were yet to submit any complain in this regard.



PHOTO: STAR

Jubo Dal workers Hasan Jahangir and Kawsar Alam who were attacked and injured by Jobo League men in Dashmina upazila of Patuakhali on Wednesday.

### FACTIONAL ATTACK

## Injured Chilmari BCL leader dies after 4 days

UNB, Kurigram

A local leader of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) succumbed to his injuries at Rangpur Medical College Hospital on Wednesday, four days after attack on him allegedly by his rivals.

The deceased was identified as Raihanul Islam Bahadur, 22, cultural secretary of Chilmari upazila unit of Chhatra League, also the son of Ataur Rahman Badshah of village Demnarpur Thanapara in the upazila.

Party sources said activists of a faction of local Chhatra League stabbed Bahadur and cut off his tendons near Momtaz Medicine Corner at the upazila headquarters on Saturday noon, leaving him critically injured.

He was admitted to the RMCH where he died early Wednesday, mounting tension in Chilmari upazila.

Locals said there had been a long-standing dispute between two factions of Chhatra League in the upazila.

Bahadur was the supporter of Zakir Hossain, MP of Kurigram constituency-4, while his rivals back Shawkat Ali Sarker, Chilmari upazila chairman and president of upazila unit Awami League.

Victim's father Aataur Rahman filed a case accusing 17 people of their involvement in the murder.

Additional police have been deployed in Chilmari to avoid any untoward incident.

Meanwhile, Kurigram district unit Chhatra League president Minhazul Islam Ayub said they brought the matter to the notice of their central leaders and they will take necessary steps in this regard after getting the decision.

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