



Two elderly women preparing *bori*, a popular food item made of gourd and pulse, on the roof of a house to dry them in the sun, in Jhenidah town.

More BNP, Jamaat men arrested in districts

STAR COUNTRY DESK

Police in a drive arrested three leaders and activists of BNP and Jamaat-e-Islami while they were holding a 'clandestine meeting' in Salap railway station area of Ullapara upazila in Sirajganj on Wednesday afternoon, reports our Pabna correspondent.

The arrestees were identified as Iqbal Hossain, ameer of Panchacroshi union unit of Jamaat and son of Jahangir Hossain of Betkandi village, Abdul Malek, a Jamaat activist and son of Abdul Mannan of Bagbaria village, and Rafiqul Islam Thandu of Enayetpur village, a BNP activist.

Tajul Huda, officer in-charge of Ullapara model police station, said on a secret information, a team of police raided the area and arrested the trio while they were holding a 'secret meeting' there at about 3:00pm.

However, others fled the scene sensing the presence of the law enforcers.

In Rangpur: Police arrested four activists of BNP and Jamaat from different areas district on Wednesday night, reports our correspondent.

Police said, the arrestees are accused in different cases including for attacking and setting fire to polling centres, snatching ballot boxes and papers during January 5 national elections and the day before.

Police said they arrested BNP activists Biplob Chandra Sarker, 35, from Rangpur city, Mazharul Islam, 40, and Masud Rana, 38, from Mithapukur upazila and Jamaat activist Angur Miah, 45, from Pirgachha upazila in the district.

In, Jessore, police arrested Chowgachha BNP secretary Yunus Ali yesterday noon, reports our correspondent.

Motiyar Rahman, officer in-charge of Chowgachha police station said, Yunus was arrested from in front of a market in the municipality at about 12.30pm in

an explosive case filed on October 26, 2013.

Zohurul Islam, Thana BNP president and also party candidate for the post of upazila chairman in Chowgachha, said that the local Awami League candidate engineered to arrest Yunus as he was his main election agent.

Yunus was former chairman of Singojuli union parishad.

In Comilla, police arrested an upazila secretary of Jamaat-e-Islami from Daudkandi upazila yesterday, reports our correspondent.

The arrestee was identified as Mosharaf Hossain, 48, of the town.

Abu Salam Miah, officer in-charge of Daudkandi police station, said Mosharaf was arrested from his village home at noon, on charge of creating anarchy in the upazila during the recent hartals enforced by the party.

He was wanted by police in six cases, the OC said.

SNAPS AND SNIPPETS

Three children drown

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

Three children, including two siblings, drowned in a pond at Arka village of an Ashrayan Project in Kalapara upazila on Wednesday evening. The deceased were identified as Rumi, 7, his brother Habib, 5, and their cousin Fahima, 5. Locals and families said the three kids slipped into the pond and drowned while playing near it in the evening. Later, local people recovered the bodies from the pond around 9:00pm.

Man stabbed to death

UNB, Sherpur

A man was stabbed to death allegedly by his elder brother over land dispute at Gollarpar village in Nalitabari upazila early yesterday. The deceased was identified as Dulal Hossain, 32, son of late Mofazzal Hossain of the village. Locals and family sources said, there was a longstanding enmity between Dulal Hossain and his elder brother Abdul Malek, a retired army man, over the ownership of a piece of land. As a sequel to the enmity, Malek attacked Dulal and stabbed him indiscriminately with sharp weapons while he was sleeping in his house at about 4:00am, leaving him dead on the spot.

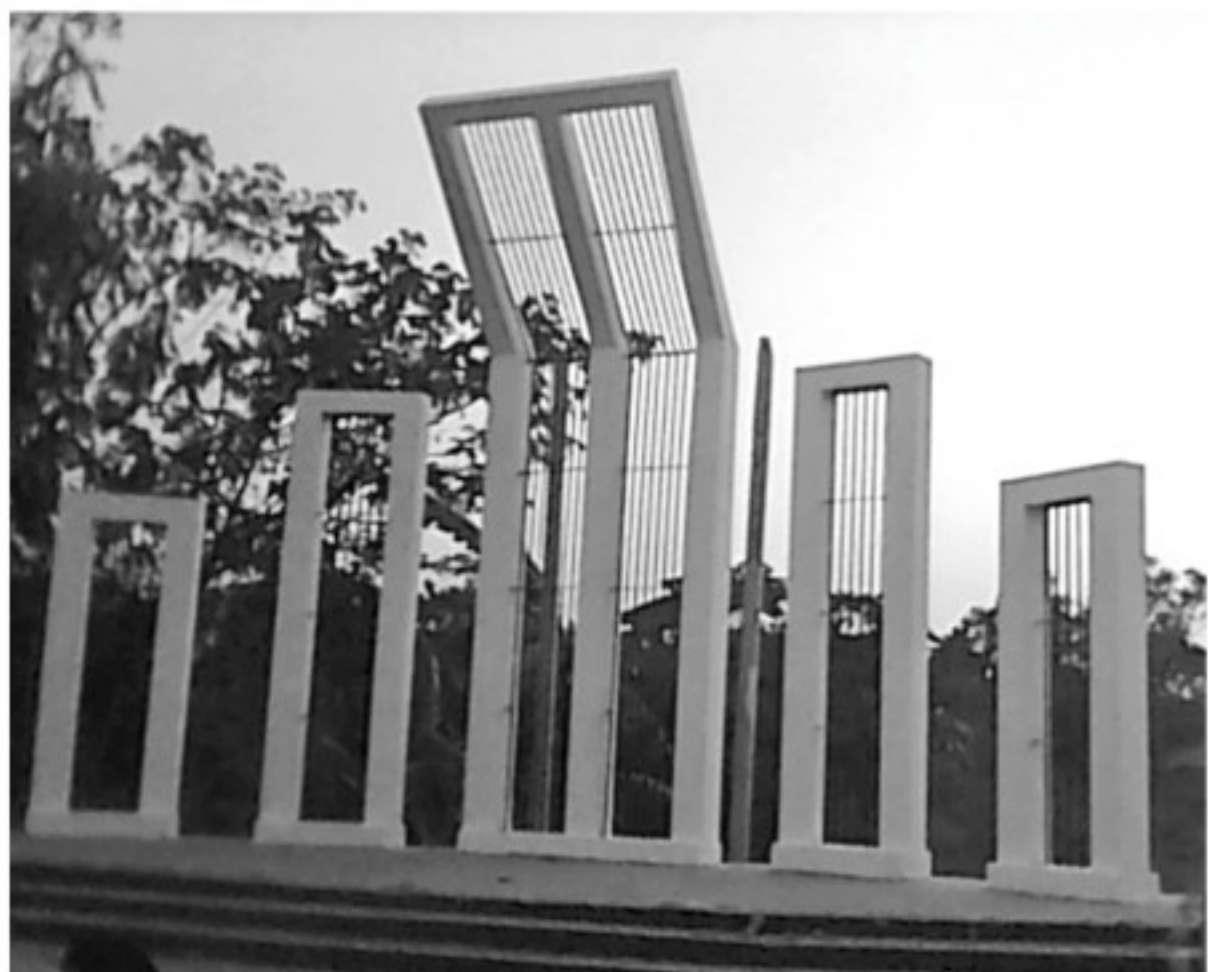


PHOTO: STAR

This Shaheed Minar in memory of the language martyrs was built recently at Kukutia Kamala Kanto High School in Sreenagar upazila of Munshiganj. The 1986 batch students of the school took the initiative to build and design it like that of the Central Shaheed Minar.

Abducted trader rescued

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur

Locals of Hajirhat area in Rangpur city on Wednesday morning rescued a businessman who was abducted from Jaldhaka upazila of Nilphamari district on Monday noon. Identified as Nur Alam, 40, he was son of Rafizul Islam of Jarjiga village under Dimla upazila in Nilphamari. Police and the victim's family members said, locals of Hajirhat area found Nur Alam in an unconscious condition at around 6:30am and rushed him to Rangpur Medical College Hospital (RMCH). Later they informed it to the family members of Nur Alam after collecting the address and mobile phone numbers of his family members from the pocket of his shirt. Omar Faruk, younger brother of the victim, said on Monday noon, a gang abducted his brother when he was going to Dimla Bus Stand after withdrawing Tk 2.81 lakh from Islami Bank Limited of Jaldhaka branch.

Prisoner dies in Comilla

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Comilla

A prisoner of the district jail died at the jail hospital yesterday morning. The deceased was identified as Mohamood Solaiman, 60, son of Ansar Ali of Sandi village in Daudkandi upazila. Jail Superintendent Subodh Ranjon Saha said, Solaiman fell unconscious due to respiratory problem in the morning. He was given first aid at jail dispensary. At a stage, when his condition deteriorated he was rushed to the jail hospital where the on duty doctors declared him dead. Solaiman was arrested on 24 September 2011 in a murder case filed with Khulna police station.

Cop held for bribery

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

A Rab team arrested a constable of drug control department in the district when he was receiving bribe from a drug peddler at 5.30pm yesterday in Patuakhali General Hospital area. The arrestee was identified as Abdul Aziz Khan. He was handed over to Patuakhali police station and a case filed in this connection. Rab and police sources said, following a secret message, a Rab team arrested Aziz when he was taking Tk 10,000 from a drug peddler, named Rasel, of Majhgrame area in the town.

Nothing could stop them from dreaming a dream

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Brahmanbaria

Nothing could stop them from dreaming a dream as they appeared at this year's Secondary School Certificate (SSC) examinations despite being visually impaired.

They are the two students of Asmatunnesa ABC Drishti Protibondhi Chhatrabas (hostel) who took part in the examinations from Brahmanbaria High School.

Avishek Roy Archon, son of Dhaka district and Jahedul Islam Barkat, son of Monirul Islam of Barisal district, got admission at the school in 2009 with an aim to do a brilliant result in SSC exams.

Of them, Avishek secured GPA-4.5 in Junior School Certificate examinations while Jahedul got



Jahedul Islam Barkat

GPA-4.64 in the Braille system, said research teacher Mahmudur Rahman of social welfare department, who has been teaching them from Class Six.

Avishek, who aspired of becoming a famous singer, is very optimistic about achieving GPA-5 in the SSC examinations.

Barkat said they would not be the burden of their family if they were taught



Avishek Roy Archon

and treated properly. He dreamt of becoming a radio jockey and writer.

Research teacher Mahmudur Rahman said, "Frankly to say, students and teachers still ignore them. If proper facilities are ensured for them in educational institution, they would be able to achieve success like anyone in the society".

In the examination hall, they had to sit with general students, which hampered their reply to questions due

Kid held for poll violence gets bail

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Thakurgaon

An 11-year-old madrasa student who was accused in a poll-violence case filed with Thakurgaon police station, got bail yesterday afternoon.

Chief Judicial Magistrate Julficar Ali Khan granted bail when the boy went to the court for seeking bail.

According to the case, on 5 January, during the day of 10th national parliament election, a group of BNP-Jamaat men attacked on former member of Begunbari union Monsur Ali in front of Jhaptoli Government Primary School Centre in Sadar upazila. The aggrieved activists also set fire to Monsur Ali's motorbike.

On 8 January, Monsur Ali filed a case against 133 people.

Shamim Alam said, in the election day he did not come out of his house. "But my name was enlisted in the case", Shamim said at the court.

Couple arrested for torturing domestic help

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chuadanga

Chuadanga police arrested a couple in the town on Wednesday night on charge of torturing a domestic help at their residence in the capital.

They arrestees are Dr Jannatul Baki Ratna and her husband engineer Rezaul Karim.

The victim, Asmaul Hosna, daughter of day labourer Sahidul Islam of Rail Bazar Arampara area of Chuadanga town, was employed at the couple's residence in the capital's Dhanmondi area a year ago.

Police quoted the victim as saying that Ratna and Rezaul used to torture her often in many ways on different excuses.

As Hosna fell sick due to torture, the couple took her to Chuadanga. They handed over the girl to her parents on Wednesday morning and

immediately left the scene.

When Hosna's parents found injury marks in her body, they informed the police, who detained the couple from Barobazar area in the town at around 9:00pm.

Officer-in-Charge Ershadul Kabir Chowdhury of Chuadanga Police Station said Hosna's mother Shilpi Begum filed a case against the couple with Chuadanga Police Station at around 5:00pm and police arrested the couple while they were trying to leave the town in a Dhaka-bound bus at night.

Police yesterday produced the couple before a Chuadanga court that sent them to jail.

Hearing the news, advocate Moni Khondaker, director of Human Rights Organisation Chuadanga chapter, went to the victim's house yesterday and assured her family of providing legal aid from the organisation.

Thousands suffer for want of a bridge

Three other bridges do not have approach roads in Melandah of Jamalpur

ABM AMINUL ISLAM, Jamalpur

Thousands of people of five villages are suffering much due to lack of a bridge and approaches on both sides of three foot-bridges on Saguna-Bongshi Beltail road in Ghosherpara union of Melandah upazila under the district.

The bridge, built over a canal at Nagerpara village in 1962, collapsed during floods in 2010, locals said.

Although the 10-metre-long foot-bridges with earthen approaches were built at Bongshi Beltail village in June, 1998, floods washed away the approaches the same year.

Later in March, 2010, Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) made concrete box approaches filled with earth, but those became unusable as the earth was

washed away during floods the same year, the LGED sources said.

As a result, the communication on the four-kilometre road has remained disrupted, much to the sufferings of the people of Saguna, Charalkandi, Nagerpara, Paschim Sabilapur and Bongshi Beltail villages.

"Before construction of the bridges, we could go through the road by rickshaws, bicycles and motorbikes to reach our destinations and carry agro-products to local markets by rickshaw vans or horse-drawn carriages in dry seasons," Moktel Hossain Sarker of village Charalkandi and Rashed Ali of village Bongshi Beltail said during a recent visit to the spot told this correspondent.

"With the approaches

virtually unusable, the bridges are of no use and our communication problem has further worsened," he added.

Students suffer as they have to cover additional distances to attend their classes while farmers face serious problem to carry their produces to market.

Patients including pregnant women become the worst sufferers while going to the upazila health complex and other treatment centres.

Contacted, local LGED engineer Mobarak Hossain said "We sent a proposal to the higher authority concerned to build a bridge over the canal at Nagerpara village in August, 2012, but to no effect. Development project on bridge-approaches has also remained suspended since 2012."



PHOTO: STAR

'Noisy' boats, especially the mechanised ones, often disturb the birds during fishing at Hakaluki Haor, one of the largest water bodies, in Moulvibazar.

Human chain today to save Hakaluki birds

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

Bangladesh Paribesh Andolon (Bapa) will organise a human chain at Kulaura town in the district today, demanding steps to protect migratory birds of Hakaluki Haor from noisy boats and poachers.

Bapa announced the programme a few days ago as a survey revealed that the number of migratory birds at the water body decreased by about 70 percent this year.

The survey, however, showed that the total number of birds, comprising mainly of local ones, marked an increase.

Bangladesh Birds Club launched the survey funded by USAID's Climate Resilient Ecosystems and Livelihoods (CREL) Project.

Arrival of migratory birds decreased last year as many of their natural sanctuaries were disturbed due to 'noisy' mechanised boats used during fishing and hunting, said sources.

Jubo League activist shot dead

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Noakhali

A Jubo League activist was shot dead at Chandpur village in Sadar upazila yesterday morning.

The deceased was identified as Shahadat Hossain, 26, an activist of Uttar Joypur union unit of the youth front of the ruling party and son of Harun-ur-Rashid of Gopalpur village of the upazila.

Father of the deceased said Shahadat went out of the house following a call over

his mobile phone on Wednesday night and since remained missing.

Locals saw the body with bullet wounds beside a mosque at his neighbouring Chandpur village in the morning and informed police. Police recovered the body and sent it to Laxmipur Sadar Hospital morgue for an autopsy.

Police said, rivals might have killed Shahadat some time at night on Wednesday and later dumped the body there.



PHOTO: STAR

Villagers cross the dried up canal on foot with their goods. The bridge on Saguna-Bongshi Beltail road at Nagerpara village in Ghosherpara union in Melandah upazila of Jamalpur district collapsed during the floods in 2010 and still awaits repair.

Bismillahir Rahmanir Rahim



The Qulkhani of late Musharraf Uddin Bhuiyan founder DG of BITAC, Industrial Advisor Commonwealth Secretariat, Director APO, Technical Consultant BIRDEM will be held today, 14th February 2014 at Tejgaon Air Force Mosque (adjacent to old airport) after Asr prayer (4.30pm).

We extend our warm invitation to relatives, friends and well wishers to join their hands in prayer at the Milad Mahfil.

Zeenat Ara Bhuiyan
Mussarrat & Bachchu
Mehreen & Intekhab
Aswad, Asim, Naveen & Aqeeb