



PHOTO: STAR

Boats lie stranded at Haripur landing station on the Teesta River in Sundarganj upazila under Gaibandha district as the adjoining waterways have lost navigability due to drastic fall of the water level in the once mighty river.

SHARP DECLINE IN WATER LEVEL

Ten river routes in Teesta basin area closed

KM REZAUL HOQUE, Gaibandha

At least ten river routes in the Teesta river basin area of Sundarganj upazila under the district have closed as the area sees sharp decline in water level during the ongoing dry season.

With a large number of cargo and passenger boats lying idle, over 1500 boatmen and workers have become jobless and locals are undergoing immense sufferings as they have to either walk miles or take costly ride on horse carts to reach the destinations.

Fishermen are mostly passing time idle, while many of them migrated to other places in search of work. "My son is now working as a rickshaw-van puller to feed the family," said Hari Chandra Das, a fisherman of Belka.

3 held on charge of selling 'leaked' questions of NU

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bogra

The Detective Branch (DB) of police arrested three people on charge of selling 'leaked' question papers of honours second year final examinations of National University (NU) from Kamargari near Government Azizul Haque College in Bogra town on Tuesday night.

One to die, 3 get life for murder in Netrakona

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Netrakona

A Netrakona court yesterday sentenced a man to death and three others to life imprisonment for killing a villager in Kendua upazila of the district in 2007. The man, awarded death penalty, is Bablu, 35, son of Abdul Sahed of Dewly village in the upazila.

Criminals set school afire in Feni

A CORRESPONDENT, Feni

Criminals burnt down Pashim Bijoy Singh High School in Panchgachhia union under Feni Sadar upazila early yesterday. After the arson at around 1:00am, a few locals sensed the matter and they along with many others rushed to the spot and engaged in dousing fire, locals and school sources said.



PHOTO: STAR

Children look bleakly, standing at a charred classroom of Pashim Bijoy Singh High School in Feni Sadar upazila yesterday.

Later a fire service team brought the fire under control but the school-house including its furniture, valuable documents and computer sets got burnt by the time, said Belal Hossain, headmaster of the school.

Set up in 1992, the school now enrolls four hundred students, he said. Students have been sitting for the Secondary School Certificate examinations from the school since 2005.

The incident seems pre-planned, said Abdul Gofran Bachchu, president of school managing committee.

Visiting the school yesterday morning, Deputy Commissioner Md Humayun Kabir urged the authorities to continue school activities with the help of the primary school adjacent to the school.

Earlier on March 30, activists of Islami Chhatra Shibir, student wing of Jamaat-e-Islami, tried to have some students of the school fill up forms of the

organisation when several students protested the act, said students, teachers and locals.

Then the school managing committee at a meeting attended by teachers, students and guardians banned any political activities in the school and asked

all concerned to refrain from such activities. Police detained a Class X student of the school and an HSC candidate in the area but released them a day later.

School activities remained suspended on April 3 as miscreants left human excrement at the classrooms the previous night.



PHOTO: STAR

A large number of women wait for their turn to cast votes at Gopalpur Government Primary School centre in Thakurgaon Sadar upazila during the election to the upazila parishad yesterday. Voters from cross section of the society exercised their right to franchise in the polls that were held peacefully.

Criminals assault 2 teachers in Bogra

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bogra

Two government primary school teachers were assaulted by criminals following a feud over forming managing committee in Belgaria area of Nandigram upazila yesterday. The victims are Rashedul Islam, headmaster of Monibag Government Primary School and its assistant teacher Yushub Ali.

Yaba smuggler held after gunfight with cops

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar

An alleged yaba smuggler, who sustained bullet wounds following a gunfight with the detectives, was arrested in Kalatali area of the district town early yesterday. They also seized a pistol, two bullets and 1400 pieces of yaba tablets from the spot, said officer-in-charge Manjur Alam of DB in Cox's Bazar.

were holding a clandestine meeting at Bypass road in the area, a team of DB police conducted the drive at 1:45am. Sensing the presence of the law enforcers, the criminals opened fire, prompting the DB men to fire back, said OC Manjur Alam.

TARUN LEAGUE LEADER RAJU MURDER CASE Main accused arrested

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

The main accused in Tarun League leader Sabbir Amed Raju murder case was arrested at Hazraniya village in Kaliganj upazila of the district yesterday. The arrestee is Aslam Hossain, 40, general secretary of Jubo Dal Lalmonirhat municipality unit.

accused in the case, the OC added. Sabbir Amed Raju, 28, convener of Mogholhat union unit of Awami Tarun League, was stabbed to death by Jubo Dal leader Aslam Hossain and his accomplices at Putimari Dola village in Lalmonirhat Sadar upazila on January 2. The killers also took away Raju's motorbike. Victim's father Ahmed Ali filed a murder case with Sadar Police Station the same day, accusing Aslam and seven others. Police said Aslam was wanted three other murder cases lodged with Sadar and Kaliganj police stations.