



Local youths under the banner of Youth for Better Society bring out a cycle procession in Saghata upazila under Gaibandha district as part of their awareness campaign against drug and tobacco yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

## Call of duty defeats flavour of festivity

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gaibandha

It was a different day for them.

When everybody was enjoying the Eid festival, they had no time to waste as they were promise-bound to do something for the society.

A group of dedicated youths of Saghata upazila, who vowed to root out the silent serpent of drug, went out on their bikes and brought out an anti-drug and anti-tobacco procession in the town yesterday.

They made man to man contact to spread a message and create awareness against the evil of drug that has been silently killing our young generation for the last several years.

The event was organised by Youth for Better Society (YBS), a local voluntary body of devoted students of schools, colleges and universities who want to build a drug free society and create awareness among the youths in the upazila.

Addressed by the Upazila Chairman Golam Shaheed Ranju, a discussion meeting was held at Bonarpara Kazi Azher Ali Model High School ground prior to the start of the procession. President of the organisation Khondoker Shahid Hossain and other prominent members of the local society were also present at the function.

The speakers at the meeting said despite frantic efforts and steps taken by the law enforcers, drug addiction, particularly among the youths were spreading alarmingly. The speakers also emphasised the need for appropriate laws to control smuggling of drugs.

Hundreds of cyclists from different institutions joined the procession and paraded Bonarpara Bazar, Ullah Sonatola, Jadurtair, Jharabarsha and Shaghata Bazar area and concluded their programme with a boat race competition on Jamuna River.

## Dyke collapse, erosion render hundreds homeless in Bogra

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bogra

At least 130 metres of a flood control dyke collapsed near Rohodoho in Shariakandi upazila of the district in two days since Tuesday due to constant onslaught by the Jamuna River.

Water Development Board (WDB) sources said around 200 to 300 families in the area have been made homeless during the period due to erosion by the river.

In last few weeks, the river engulfed homestead, croplands and orchards in 13 villages in the upazila, affecting around 1200 fami-

lies, sources added.

The erosion-hit villages are Rohodoho, Kamalpur, Koritola, Kashahar, Cahndan, Baisha, Ghugumari, Sonartaiyer, Kutubpur, Bibirpara, Daripara, Baghopara, and Jorgakaha.

Several thousand people, who have taken shelter on the flood control embankment, are facing crises of food and safe drinking water.

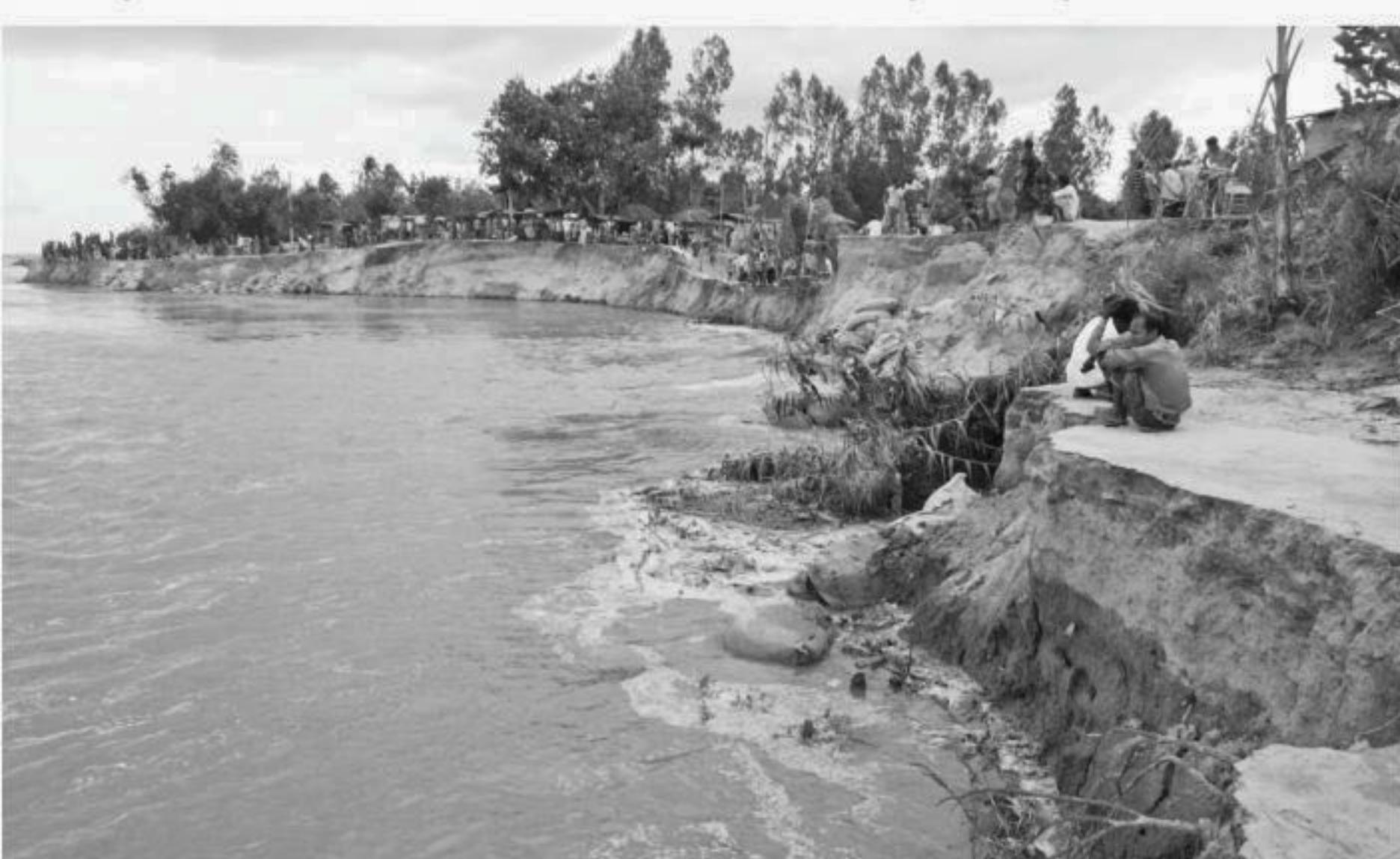
Erosion by the Jamuna has also taken a serious turn in some areas of Gabtoli and Dhunat upazilas of the district. Many people of the areas have started shifting

their houses, domestic animals and valuables things to safer places.

They have urged the authorities concerned to take immediate measures to protect the areas from onslaught of the river.

Contacted, Executive Engineer of Water Development Board (WDB) Nurul Islam said they are dumping sandbags in the river in Shariakandi area to stop further erosion.

A ring dam is being constructed along the 5-kilometre-long flood control dyke from Dhalirkandi to Rohodoho of the upazila, the engineer said.



Hapless locals gather on the Jamuna to see the fury of the turbulent river that eroded 130 metres of flood control embankment at Rohodoho in Kamalapur union of Sariakandi upazila under Bogra district during the last two days.

## Noakhali AL leader murdered

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Noakhali

A leader of Noakhali district Awami League was murdered at his village in Sadar upazila of Laxmipur on Sunday night.

Yusuf Ali Selim, 54, treasurer of the district unit AL and president of the Sadar upazila bus owners' association was killed near his home at Titarkandi around 9:30pm. He was going to Noakhali by a motorbike.

Eye-witnesses Javed and Sobhan, who were also on the motorbike told this correspondent that a man called the AL leader, addressing him as 'Selim Bhai', when their motorbike reached Mahatabpur area of Chormota union under Noakhali Sadar upazila.

The man who was standing on the road could not be seen and identified as the place

was dark. As Selim stopped his bike, the man threw the light of a big torch straight on his eye while five to seven people including a woman, who were hiding in the roadside garden, attacked Selim with iron rod. The gang also stabbed him soon after he fell down from the motorbike, they added.

Locals rescued the AL leader and took him to Noakhali Medical College Hospital where the doctors declared him dead.

Kohinur Begum, wife of Selim, later lodged a case with Sudharam police station under Noakhali district.

She alleged that members of local criminal gang 'Solaiman Bahini' had long been threatening to kill Selim following the death of their ringleader Solaiman in a gunfight with Rapid Action Battalion.

The man who was standing on the road could not be seen and identified as the place

## ORDEAL OF MANIKGANJ TOWNSPEOPLE ON

# They buy fuel for cooking, also pay gas bills

ZAHANGIR SHAH, Manikganj

Amid persistent gas crisis for over two years, the residents of the district town are using LP gas, kerosene stoves and earthen ovens for cooking.

"I pay Tk 450 for using gas stove but the gas supply is often too low for cooking. Now I prepare food in earthen ovens as LP gas cylinder and kerosene are too costly for us," said schoolteacher Renu Ara Begum of Gangadharpatty.

"My family members took *muri* (puffed rice) during *sehri* on several days in Ramadan as I could not cook food for want of firewood," she said.

Many others including Shirin Akter of Bewtha, Munni Islam of Uttar Sewta and Ankhia Akter of Bandutia in the town have similar tales to tell.

Locals said the situation has continued for the last two years although they have been paying gas bills regularly.

Authorities of Basundhara Steel Mill surrendered the gas connection to three units of their Steel Melting Unit and three units of Rolling Unit as the gas pressure is too low, said Sayem Biswas, an engineer of the company.

The authorities of Akij Hardboard and Particle Mills also surrendered their gas connection due to the same reason, said M Sirajul Islam, manager of the regional office of Titas Gas Transmission and Distribution Company Ltd.

"The situation worsened recently as the authorities use huge gas for production of electricity and fertiliser. Gas supply in Manikganj comes from Ashulia of Savar

through 12 inch X 150 PSI line. The industrial units of Ashulia, Nabinagar and Dhamrai take gas from this line, causing shortage of supply in Manikganj. My office has written to the higher authorities for an immediate solution," he said.

Mir Moshirul Rahman, director (Operation) of Titas Gas Transmission and Distribution Company Ltd, said, "My office submitted a proposal to make 20 inch X 1000 PSI line between Elenga of Tangail district and Shibalaya of Manikganj. Asian Development Bank is likely to provide fund for the 65-km-long line. We are hopeful about solution of gas crisis in Manikganj when the proposed line is set up."

Earlier people of the district town brought out processions, formed human chains, besieged the Titas Gas Company office, blocked Dhaka-Aricha highway, and submitted memorandum to the deputy commissioner to press for the demand of smooth gas supply.

Oliar Rahman Khan, general secretary of Manikganj Poura Samajik Kalyan Parishad, and ABM Shamsunnabi Tulip, general secretary of Nagarik Committee, said they will go for tougher movement soon if the authorities fail to take effective steps to solve the problem.

There are 15971 residential connections of gas while 98 connections for commercial use, 57 for industry and 17 for CNG stations in Manikganj, said engineer Sirajul Islam, Manikganj regional manager of Titas Gas Transmission and Distribution Company Ltd.



A woman cooks on an earthen stove at her Gangadharpatty house in Manikganj municipality as the area hardly sees adequate gas supply.

## SNAPS AND SNIPPETS



PHOTO: STAR

Passenger buses, loaded trucks and other vehicles get stuck in a seven-kilometre-long tailback on the road leading to Paturia terminal yesterday as ferryboats carrying the vehicles require much longer time to cross the Padma on Paturia-Daulatdia route due to navigability problem and strong current.

## Clash leaves one dead, 10 hurt

UNB, Chandpur

A man was killed and 10 others were injured in a clash between two rival groups over holding Eid congregation on Farajikandi Madrasa ground in Matlab Uttar upazila on Tuesday morning. The deceased was identified as Rafiqul Islam, 27, son of Nannu Mollah of the same area. Locals said the two groups—one led by Farajikandi Darbar Sharif's Boro Hujur Pir Manjur Ahmed Siddiqui's son Maulana Masud another by Pir's brother Moshtaq-e-locked in a clash in the morning, leaving Rafiq of Masud group killed and 10 others from both sides injured.

## Alleged mugger beaten to death

UNB, Jaypurhat

An alleged snatcher was beaten to death by local people at Komogram village in Sadar upazila yesterday. The deceased was identified as Arif, 24, son of late Alam Hossain of the same village. Locals said Arif on Tuesday night stabbed shop owner Phul Mia at his shop near the Jaypurhat-Bogra highway. They caught Arif at the village at around 8:00am yesterday and beat him dead on the spot.

## Journo's house looted

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

A journalist and his family members came under attack by a gang at Khordasapanta para in the town on Monday. The journalist, his parents, brother and two other family members were assaulted by the gang members, who also vandalised his house and looted mobile phones, gold ornaments and other valuables. The journalist's father and his younger brother were critically injured and admitted to Lalmonirhat Sadar hospital on the day.

## 11 fishermen still untraced

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

The members of the families of 11 missing fishermen in Pathorghata upazila in Barguna district are passing their days amid agony and uncertainty. The fishermen, who went to the Bay for fishing on July 16, are still missing after 15 days of the incident. The fishermen of trawler FB Anwar Hossain— Shahidul Islam, 32, Shahjahan, 35, Ismail Hossain, 40, Saiful Islam, 38, Yusuf Ali, 36, Sultan Ahmed, 35, Chan Mia, 42, Jasim Uddin, 41, Abdul Malek, 36, Abu Hanif, 28 and Babul Hossain, 30, from different villages of the upazila remained untraced till filing of this report yesterday.

## ADMISSION

Fall 2014

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Tuesday, 5 August 2014

Admission Test:

Friday, 8 August 2014

9:00 am

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### Application Instructions:

- Application forms are available at UCBL (Bashundhara Branch) for Tk 1000.
- Please submit: (i) completed application form, (ii) three pp. size photographs, (iii) copies of all previous certificates and mark sheets, and (iv) photocopy of National ID card to the MBA Programs Office

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