

Fueling station beside electric sub-station!

Locals demand its immediate shifting to avert accident

KM REZAUL HOQUE,
Gaibandha

A fuelling station has been set up just beside the boundary wall of Sundarganj Palli Bidyut (rural electrification) sub-station at bypass intersection in Sundarganj municipality area, posing threat of serious fire incident and explosion.

Local people submitted application to the higher authorities of PBS not to provide power connection to the fuelling station.

They also demanded immediate shifting of the fuelling station to avert possible disaster.

The upazila health complex, fire brigade station, Sundarganj Mohila College, NGO offices and dwellings are situated around the sub-station set up in 1986.

Singapore expatriate Abdul Karim set up Karim and Sons Filling Station attached to rural electrification sub-station unit in 2012, locals said.

The proprietor of fuelling station Dil Afroza Begum, wife of Abdul Karim, applied for power connection from the sub-station and submitted requisite papers including clearance from fire service department and environ-



PHOTO: STAR

DANGEROUS CO-EXISTENCE! A fuelling station set up just beside the sub-station of Sundarganj Palli Bidyut in Gaibandha district poses risk of serious explosion.

ment directorate.

A former general manager of Palli Bidhut Samity (PBS) Rangpur-1, Shatibari approved the power connection to the fuelling station and recently PBS started drawing wires for power connection to the fuelling station, much to the grievance of the locals.

A local political leader alleged that the approval for setting up the fuelling station

adjacent to the electric sub-station was managed through bribery.

Dil Afroza Begum, proprietor of the fuelling station, said she has all the required documents in support of power connection.

Mohammed Alam Hossain, deputy general manager of Sundarganj Palli Bidyut Samity, said, "I don't know how the previous officials approved

power connection to the adjacent fuelling station, without considering the risk. The higher authorities have been informed of the matter."

Power connection to the said fuelling station remained suspended until further order from higher authority, said Dewan Md Tofazzal Hossain, general manager, Shatibari Palli Bidyut Samity, Rangpur.

5 hurt in BNP-AL clash in Pabna

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

At least five people were injured in a clash between the activists of BNP and Awami League in Bera municipality area of the district yesterday.

Police said local activists of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) brought out a procession in the area at 11:00am, marking the party's founding anniversary. The activists of BNP and Jubo Dal also took part in the procession.

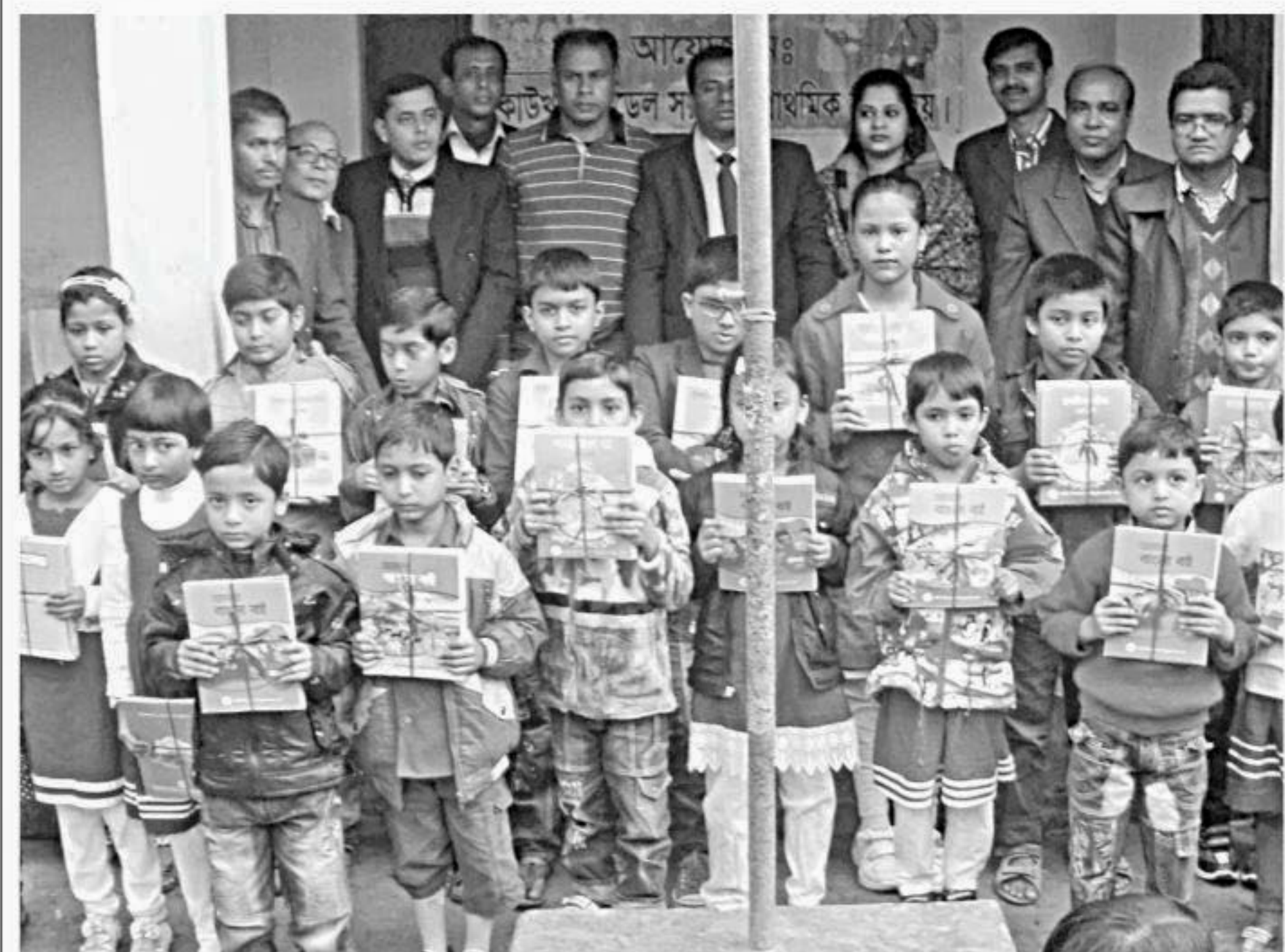
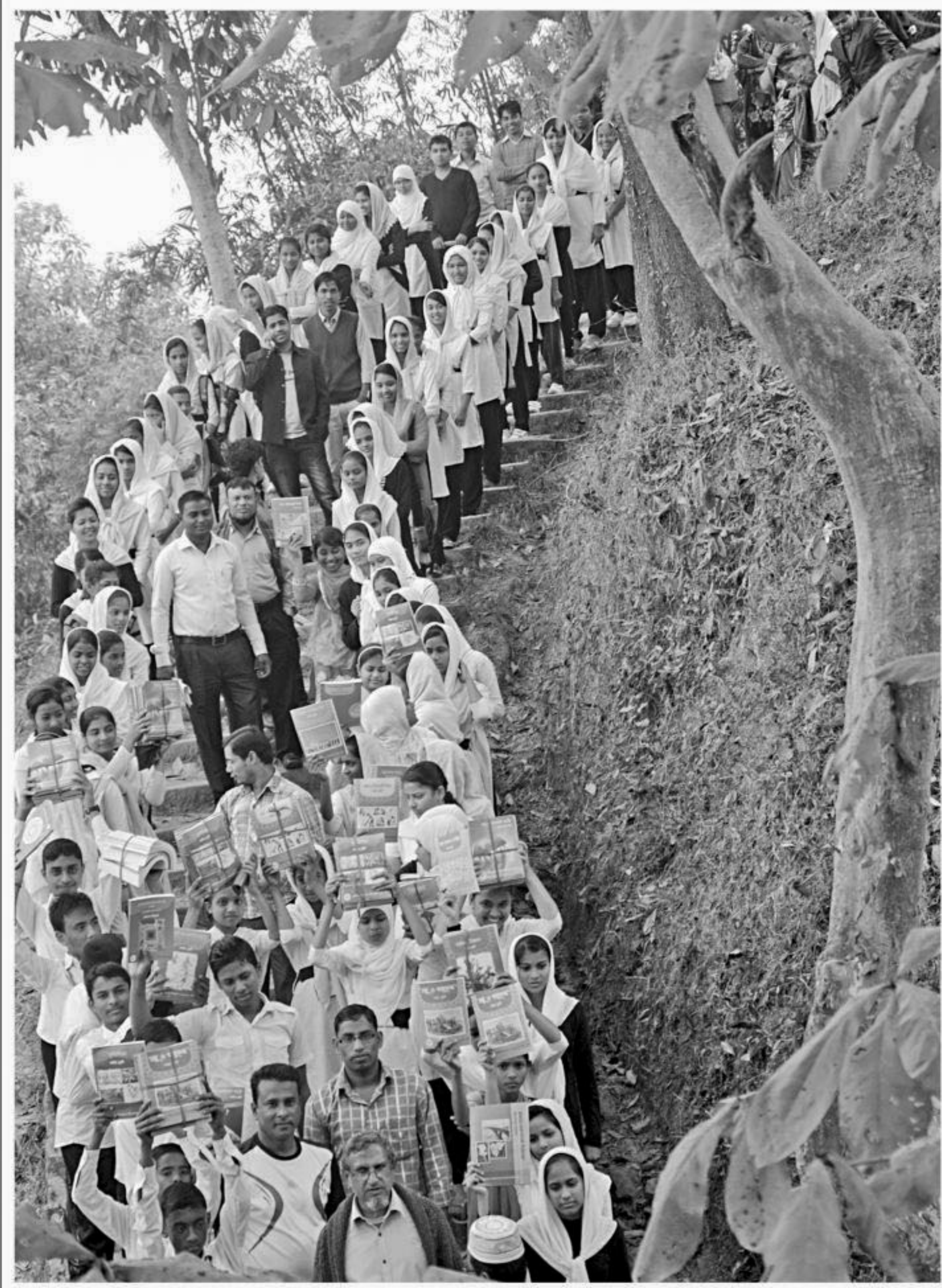
When they came to the main street of the upazila headquarters with the procession, some unruly BNP men destroyed banners and festoons of AL on the road, triggering the clash.

On information, the law enforcers rushed to the spot and fired 12 bullets to disperse the mob.

Police arrested four BNP men from the spot in connection with the incident, said Md Tofazzal Hossain, officer-in-charge of Bera Police Station.

The arrestees are organising secretary of Bera municipality BNP Abdul Mannan, joint secretary of Jubo Dal Md Jahangir Hossain, JCD activists Shahidul Islam and Monir Hossain.

NEW BOOKS ON NEW YEAR



FROM TOP: Students of Zahiria Government School in Sylhet Sadar upazila accompanied by their teachers come out in a jovial mood as they got new textbooks on the New Year, officials hand over books to the students of Khankah Rahmania Nurani Talimul Quran Ebtedayee Madrasa in Dinajpur Sadar upazila, and kids of Kawkhali Model Government Primary School in Pirojpur district pose with their teachers, holding new textbooks yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

SNIPPETS

Polytechnic student murdered

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bogra

A student of Bangladesh Institute of Information Technology (BIIT) in Bogra was found murdered at Silimpur Talukdarpara near Hotel Naz Garden in the town yesterday. Son of UAE expatriate Rana Sheikh of the town, Md Bakirullah Shake alias Biplob, 18, was the student of first semester of computer technology at BIIT, a non government polytechnic institute. Family sources said Biplob went out of home on Wednesday evening for repairing his motorbike and did not return since. Locals found his body in the area early yesterday and informed police who sent it to Shaheed Ziaur Rahman Medical College Hospital (SZMCH) morgue for autopsy. Some of his friends killed Biplob and took away his cell phone and motorbike, suspected Assistant Police Superintendent Gaziur Rahman. One Antu, friend of Biplob, was arrested for his alleged involvement in the killing, said the ASP.

Two drug peddlers held

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Benapole, Jessore

Members of Border guard Bangladesh (BGB) arrested two women drug peddlers along with 256 bottles of Indian Phensidyl from Putkhali bordering area under Benapole Port Police Station on Wednesday night. The arrestees, Farzana Begum, 19, wife of Rafiqul Islam, and Bilkis Rozina, wife of Milon Khan, are residents of Bhoberber village under the PS. Acting on a tip-off, a team of the law enforcers conducted a drive at the village around 11:00pm and arrested the two women and seized the drugs, said Abdul Haque, in-charge of Putkhali Camp under BGB 23 Battalion. Later, the same night, the arrestees were handed over to Benapole police. A case was lodged in this connection.

2 held with fake notes

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chapainawabganj

Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) member detained two youths along with counterfeit Indian currency worth Tk One lakh from Monakasha village in Shibganj upazila of the district yesterday. The arrestees are Sadekul Islam, 30, son of Zillur Rahman of Mobarakpur village, and Mukul Mia, 30, son of Shahabuddin of Barorasha village of the upazila. BGB sources said the border guards of Monakasha Border Observation Post (BOP) intercepted a motorcycle at Monakasha village around 1:40pm. Later, the law enforcers searched their bodies and recovered the fake Indian notes from their possession, said Lt Col Abu Zafar Sheikh Md Bazul Haque, commanding officer (CO) of BGB 9 Battalion in Chapainawabganj. A case was filed with Shibganj Police Station in this connection.

Jubo League man beaten dead

UNB, Comilla

An activist of the local unit of Jubo League was beaten to death by miscreants at Laxmipur Bazar in Monoharganj upazila on Wednesday night.

The deceased was identified as Shah Alam, 28, of Baupur village in the upazila.

Locals said Shah Alam came under attack by a group of miscreants on his way home from Laxmipur Bazar around 10.00pm.

The miscreants beat Alam with sticks, leaving him injured.

Alam died on the way to Comilla Medical College Hospital.

Local Awami League leaders blamed BNP activists for the attack.

Inspector (Investigation) Sadequr Rahman of Monoharganj Police Station said he heard about the death of the Jubo League activist.

Trader's house set afire

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

Unidentified criminals set fire to the house of a local trader at Khorarpul village in Sadar upazila on Wednesday night.

Police quoting house owner Nasir Uddin, a fruit trader at a local market in the upazila, said the criminals set fire to the house around 9:30pm when none of his family members were present at home as they went to visit a relative's house for dinner.

On information from locals, a fire fighting unit from Lalmonirhat Fire Service Station went to the spot and doused the blaze after a frantic effort of nearly an hour.

FF murdered over land dispute

4 others hurt

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

A freedom fighter (FF) was killed and four others were injured in an attack allegedly by his rival neighbours in Parbatipur upazila over the ownership of a disputed land on Thursday night.

The deceased, Md Nurul Islam, 68, son of Hezab Uddin of Khagrakhand-Paschimpara village of the upazila, was a member of Muktijoddha Sangsad's Parbatipur upazila unit.

Police quoted victim's family members as saying that there had been a long standing rivalry between Nurul Islam and two brothers, Ansar

Ali and Afsar Ali of the village, over a disputed land.

As a sequel of the previous enmity, a group of 20/25 people led by the two brothers went to Nurul's house and started to beat up Nurul and his other family members. At one stage of the beating, Nurul died on the spot.

Injured Asaduzzaman, 40, Nazma Begum, 35, Mukul, 35, and Arifa Begum, 35, are undergoing treatment at Rangpur Medical College Hospital.

"We will go for a tougher programme if the culprits behind the murder are not arrested," said Abdul Hye, commander of Parbatipur Muktijoddha Sangsad.

Three among UZ chairman sued

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

Kaliganj upazila chairman and two others have been sued on charge of misappropriating 48 tonnes of General Relief (GR) rice.

They are Mahbubuzzaman, chairman of Kaliganj Upazila Parishad, Hafizur Rahman Hafiz, Kakina UP chairman, and the then upazila project implement officer Navendu Narayan Chowdhury.

Assistant Director of Anti-

Corruption Commission in Rangpur region Mohammad Zakaria filed a total of 19 cases with Kaliganj Police Station against the three on Wednesday.

According to the cases, a total of 48 tonnes of GR rice were allocated against 19 projects in Tushbhandar and Kakina union parishads under Kaliganj upazila in the fiscal year 2011-12 but the accused misappropriated it.

The three declined to make any comment on the issue.



PHOTO: STAR

Mongla-Ghasiakhali Development Committee in cooperation with CDP and Karitas organises a march for Sreephaltala Bridge over the now dried Daudkhali River yesterday demanding steps for restoration of the navigability of the river and removal of all the illegally set up structures on the water body.

Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB)

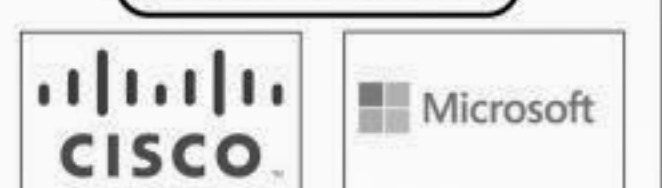


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