

NEWS IN brief

Indian Rs 60 lakh recovered at Shahjalal airport

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Customs officials recovered Indian Rs 60 lakh from an abandoned bag at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport in the capital yesterday afternoon.

On information, the officials conducted a search and found the bag near the lost and found section, said Kazi Md Ziauddin, joint commissioner of Airport Customs.

The bag was brought from Turkey by a Turkish Airlines flight that landed around 9:00am, he added.

JCD calls indefinite strike at CU

CU CORRESPONDENT

Chittagong University unit of pro-BNP Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal yesterday called an indefinite strike at CU to realise its demands, including lifting the ban on processions, rallies and any other organisational activities on the campus, and release of JCD and BNP leaders arrested across the country.

In this regard, a press release was issued by JCD CU unit President Aminul Islam Towhid and General Secretary Saifuddin Salam Mithu in the afternoon.

The JCD also enforced a two-day strike on February 3 and 4.

Poachers kill 26 migratory birds in Bhola

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bhola

Bangladesh Coast Guard recovered 26 dead migratory birds which poachers left behind on the Meghna river shore in Banger Char area of Bhola before fleeing on Thursday night.

A Coast Guard team was in the river for conducting drive against catching jatka when they saw some five men, holding the Bali Ducks, trying to board a boat.

The team handed over the ducks, each of which is sold for around Tk 900, almost double the price of a local duck, to Bhola Sadar Upazila Nirbahi Officer.

Six shops, house gutted in Jessore

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Benapole

Six tin-roofed shops and a concrete house were gutted by a fire in Manirampur upazila of Jessore on Thursday night.

The fire originated from a stove at the house and soon engulfed the adjacent cosmetic and stationery shops at Rajganj Nengurhat Bazar, said fire officials.

Fire fighters doused the fire within an hour. The shop owners estimated the damage at around Tk 45 lakh.

Pangashi UP office set ablaze

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

Miscreants set fire to Pangashi union parishad office at Rajganj upazila in Sirajganj early yesterday.

Locals doused the fire within 15 minutes, said police, adding that some documents and furniture got damaged in the incident. Police are investigating the matter.

Youth held with 7.62mm pistol in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Police arrested a youth with a foreign made 7.62mm unlicensed pistol and a bullet at his house in Patiya municipality area of Chittagong on Thursday night.

On a tip-off, a team of Patiya police held Obaidul Haque, 25, son of Fazlul Haque. A case was filed.



Urination on footpath causes public nuisance in capital

MAHBUBUR RAHMAN KHAN

It was a busy Sunday morning. Pedestrians on the footpath between Jatiya Press Club and Cirdap in the capital were suddenly pausing at the intersection in between. Holding their nose, they were getting down on the street and again getting back on after walking around 30 feet.

Afsar Hossain failed to see what was going on in the rush to get to office on time. He suddenly discov-

ered himself standing in mud reeking of a repulsive odour. Muttering in anger, he tiptoed across the remaining area cautiously.

"Do not people have any sense? Is this a place to urinate?" he vented out his frustration.

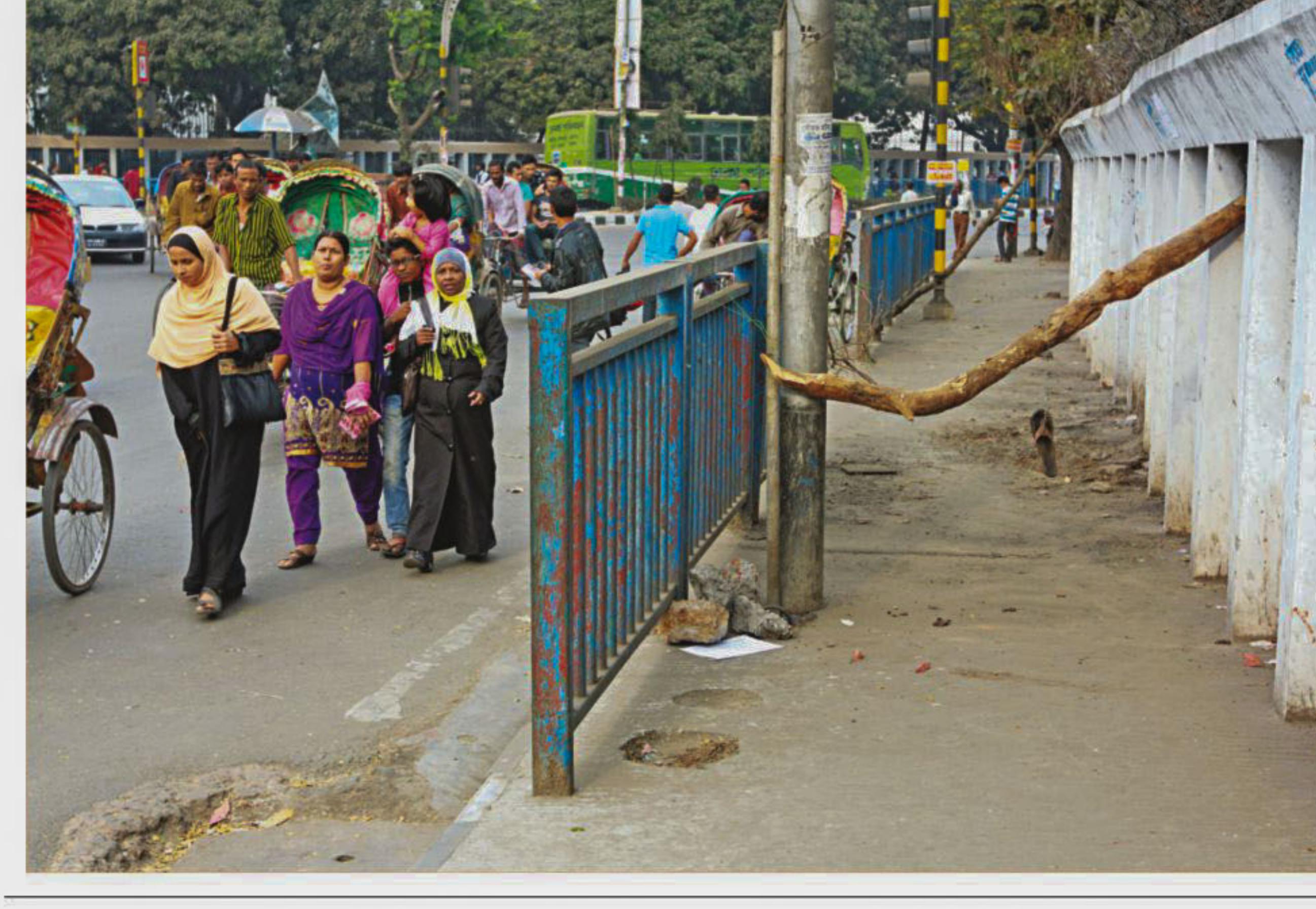
On Tuesday, the footpath is found blocked off by rope with a sandal hanging from it. A hesitant young man there hesitantly looks around. Casting aside his shame, he squats. After he finishes responding to the call of

nature, he is asked why he had to go there.

"I did not want to but the pressure was high. I could not resist myself," he blushes as he speaks, declining to reveal his identity.

He, however, recognised the need for a public toilet. "If there was a public toilet, no one would use footpaths," he added.

Vagabonds too use the area at night for excretion, causing an intolerable stench to spread around the area. The scenario is the same at the



A tree branch serves as a warning for a spot on the footpath at the intersection between Jatiya Press Club and Cirdap in the capital where pedestrians have been urinating, spreading an unbearable stench in the area. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: STAR

SSC examinee 'raped' in Mymensingh

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

An SSC examinee was allegedly raped in Roypasha village of Mymensingh early Thursday.

Quoting family members, Sub-Inspector Rezaul Karim of Nandail Police Station said one Nazmul Hossain Nayem, 20, broke into the girl's room around 2:00am Thursday and raped her.

Hearing the victim's screams, her family members and neighbours rushed to the spot and caught Nayem after a short chase, he said, adding that they handed Nayem over to police.

Nayem was produced before a Mymensingh court that sent him to jail on Thursday.

The victim's family claimed Nayem used to stalk the girl when she commuted between her home and her school.

Police recorded the statement of the victim and sent her to Mymensingh Medical College Hospital for forensic tests.

BSF tortures

FROM PAGE 3

as his condition deteriorated. He was taken to hospital immediately. Maj Nazir Ahmed Bakshi, commander of Border Guard Bangladesh-38, said they contacted BSF but they denied carrying out the act.

Pickpockets innovate

FROM PAGE 3
in a hurry but actually the five women were trying to steal her wallet.

Suddenly, Sumaiya saw that hersling bag was open and the purse had vanished. The woman behind her had taken it out and was about to run away. Before the offender could make her way through the speeding vehicles, Sumaiya caught her by the hand. She tried to escape, but her attempts all went in vain.

Sumaiya took her to the nearest police box in Shahbagh and reported the incident. The policeman disregarded her complaint, saying, "Let her go, you have recovered your wallet."

Surprised by this, she reminded that he could not disregard this. But Sumaiya was left baffled when he laughed at her over "such a petty issue".

Sumaiya says she had heard of similar incidents near the Farmgate, Banglamotor and Panthapath intersections from people close to her.

There are "innovative" ways of mugging the city dwellers, she says. Sometimes female snake charmers and men on elephants on the city roads will terrify people for the money. Police is always there, unfortunately they do nothing to stop them, she adds.

Road crashes kill two

FROM PAGE 4
upazila. Sagar was rushed to Mymensingh Medical College Hospital.

Police seized the truck but its driver fled.

Our Gazipur correspondent adds, a teenager was killed and his three-year-old cousin was injured when an oncoming bus of Samrat Paribahan hit their motorbike near Anjabo Primary School area in Kapasia.

The body of Al Amin, 17, son of Mojibur Rahman of Dhakhin Goar village, was sent to Gazipur medical college morgue for autopsy. Mahin was admitted to Kapasai Upazila Health Complex.

Police arrested the bus owners Jakir Hossen and Monira following which Gazipur Anto-Paribahan Sramik Union blocked Dhaka-Kapasia road from 11:30am to 1:30pm demanding their release.

11-yr-old girl

FROM PAGE 4
Quoting family, Sub-Inspector Sohel Rana of Sreepur Police Station said Firoza left the house in the morning for shopping. When she returned she saw Shanti's hanging body.

He said police found a "suicide note" near the body.

The note said she committed suicide as her family could not afford the dowry, he said.

Spring brings

FROM PAGE 3
the ceremony.

While the huge influx of people at the fair yesterday brought smiles to publishers, the clouds of dust made it difficult for people to breathe.

Tuhin Adhikary, who came to the fair for the first time this year, said, "The organisers should do something about the dust. We cannot breathe."

Tahir Md Asif, staff of Bishwo Shahitto Kendro, said, "The academy sprays water only once in the morning. By the time we arrive at the stalls the water dries off."

Yesterday 311 new books arrived at the fair and 25 were launched.

Let's Build A Beautiful Tomorrow

LAND DISPUTE
Man shot dead, 30 hurt in Ctg attack

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A man was shot dead and around 30 people were injured in an attack by their rivals over land dispute at Char Khagaria village in Satkania upazila of Chittagong yesterday morning, said police and the victims.

Saber Hossain, 30, who was shot in the right eye, succumbed to his injuries at Chittagong Medical College Hospital, the hospital sources said.

The other victims were undergoing treatment at the CMCH, they said.

The dispute has been prevailing between a group led by Habibur Rahman and his uncle Md Mafiz, and the supporters of Md Musa for a long time, said Satkania Police Station Officer-in-Charge Khaled Hossain.

Habib's group also torched three houses of their rivals, he said, adding that six people were arrested in the area.

The injured include Md Ishak, sexagenarian Pakhi Akter, Laila Akter, and seventh-grader Abdur Rahman Emon. Of them, Laila and Emon sustained bullet injuries.

Ishak and Emon said they came under the attack launched by around 30 people while they were taking tea at a stall.

Habib and Mafiz are on the run, said police.

Commercial spaces	Dhaka City
Dhanmondi	Gulshan 2570~3850 sft
1330~3615 sft	Banani 1600 sft
Banani	Niketon 1400sft
3850~4215 sft	Uttara 1650~2500sft
Panchlaish R/A	Bashundhara 2000~2100 sft
1500~2300 sft	Shahidbagh 1075~1150sft
East Nasirabad	Middle Badda 1195 sft
1478~1907 sft	Mohammadpur 1700~1800 sft

Dhaka office
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