

Market road damaged for building soakwell of toilets

EAM ASSADUZZAMAN, Nilphamari

A local influential person has damaged a portion of a busy market road and drain to make toilets of his house at Sahapara of Domar municipality under the district, much to the nuisance of locals.

One Bazlar Rahman Bozu built a two-storied building on his land in the main market area of Sahapara without leaving space for making toilet structures, locals said.

On May 24, he started

breaking the municipality drain adjoining his building and dug a 6-7 feet diameter hole to construct a 35-40 feet deep soakwell for accumulating waste from the toilets.

Local businessmen and residents immediately complained to the municipality authorities, but the callous act has continued unabated as the latter's office, situated only 150 metres from the spot, did not take any effective step, alleged locals.

Councillor of ward No-3 Shahiruddin, also panel mayor of Domar municipal-

ity, said locals informed him of the matter and he forbade the person concerned to stop the work but to no effect.

Many locals seeking anonymity said the municipality mayor, also president of the upazila unit of BNP, is favouring Bozu as his younger brother Rezaul Karim Razu, president of municipality unit of the party, played significant role in last mayoral election in his favour.

Contacted, Bozlar Rahman Bozu said, "There was a mistake in planning for the building as ade-

quate space was not left for toilet related structures. A small portion of the road and drain is being used to make only the soakwell which will remain under ground. I'll rebuild the broken road and drain, making the surface as before."

Contacted over cell phone on last Monday, municipality Mayor Monsurul Islam Danu said, "I was not aware of the matter. I will look into it."

However, the construction work was seen going on as of yesterday afternoon.

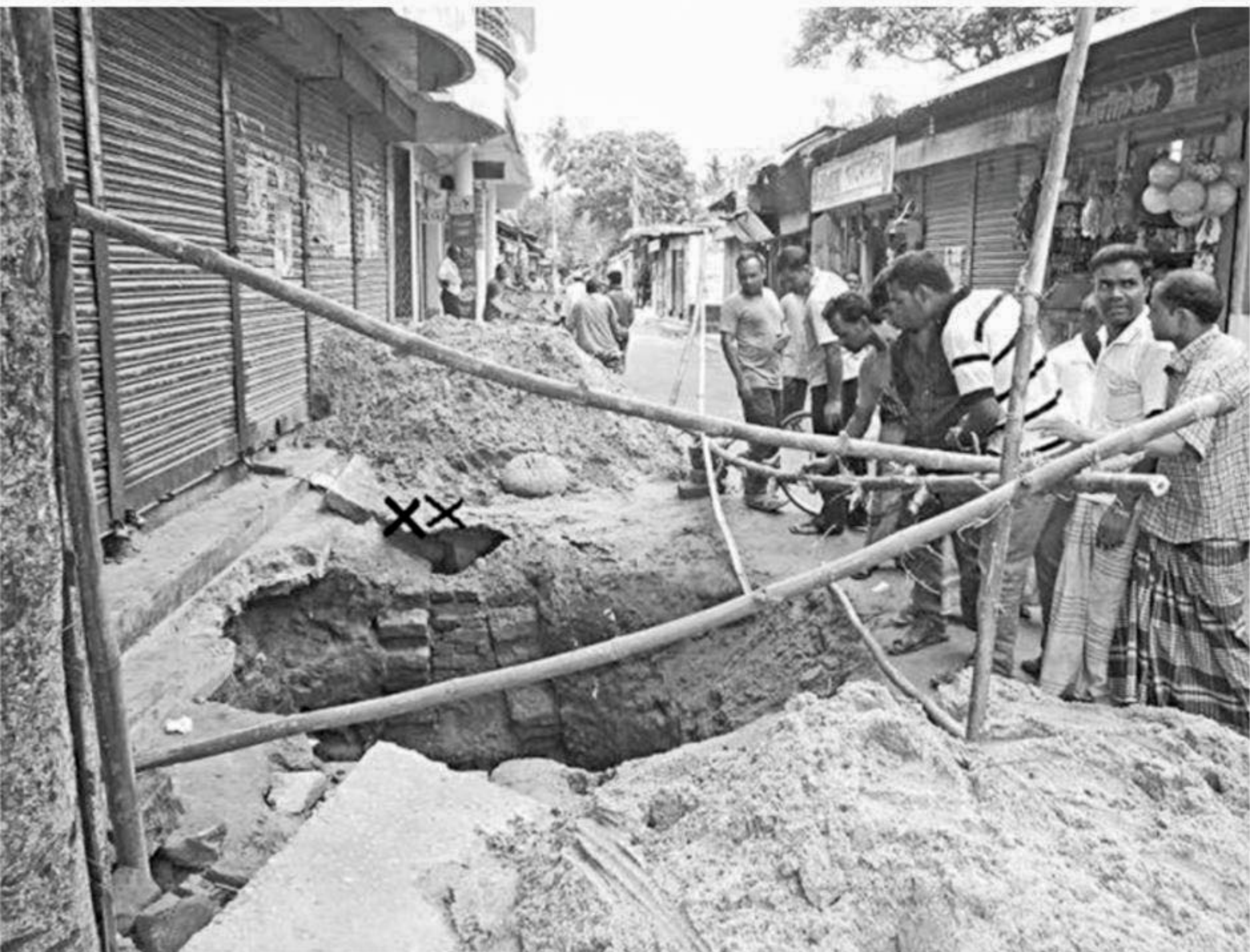


PHOTO: STAR

PUBLIC NUISANCE FOR PERSONAL INTEREST: This market road in Domar municipality under Nilphamari district has been dug up for making a soakwell for the toilets of a building constructed by a local influential person as the building was made without keeping adequate space for the toilet related structures.

BID TO SNATCH ACCUSED Relatives clash with cops in Bhola, 10 injured

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bhola

At least 10 people, including two policemen, were injured in a clash between police and relatives of five arrestees near Sadar Road under Charfashion Municipality yesterday morning.

Police and locals said police raided South Fashion village at around 1:00am and arrested Abul Kashem Batan, joint-secretary of upazila unit of Sramik League, his brothers-in-law Faruk and Sayeed, and nephews Manju Batan and Sharif from there on charges of extortion, land-grabbing

and other criminal activities.

The clash ensued when 30-35 people, led by Kashem Batan's brother Abu Kajal Batan, also Zinnahar UP member (Ward No. 3), attacked police with sticks and brick chips in a bid to snatch the accused at around 6:30 am. They blocked Bhola-Charfashion road in Sadar Road and Thatna Road area with logs and burning tires.

They also tried to attack the police station, according to Abul Bashar, officer-in-charge of Charfashion Police Station.

Being informed, police

teams from South Aicha, Shashibhushan Police Station and riot police from Bhola reached there, baton charged the attackers and brought the situation under control at around 9:00 am.

Riot police and Rab are patrolling the area, said Mahafuzur Rahman, ASP (Lalmohan Circle) of Bhola.

Of the injured, Abu Kajal was sent to Bhola Sadar Hospital and the rest to Charfashion Upazila Health Complex. Ripon Kumar and Arif Billah, the two injured policemen, were also admitted to the hospital.

Road blockade for restoring power supply

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gaibandha

People of eight villages under two unions of Gobindaganj upazila in the district yesterday blocked the Bogra-Rangpur highway at Balua demanding immediate restoration of power supply at the villages.

Power supply at the villages in Darbantha and Talukanupur unions has remained cut-off since May 25 as a nor'wester uprooted electric poles on the day. As such, eight villages of the two unions have not been getting power for the last seven days.

Despite repeated appeals, the local power supply

authorities have not repaired the damaged power lines as yet. Finding no other alternative, the people of the villages blockaded the highway for an hour from 12 noon demanding immediate power supply.

They threatened to launch a tougher agitation programme if power supply was not restored within the next three days.

Due to the blockade all modes of transports got stuck on both the sides of the road.

The agitated villagers withdrew the blockade as the local authorities assured them of restoring power supply within a very short time.



PHOTO: STAR

Locals form a human chain in front of the Shaheed Minar at Kulaura upazila headquarters in Moulvibazar district yesterday, demanding punishment of the criminals who raped a Garo woman in a microbus in the capital on May 21.

One to die, 5 get life for murder

UNB, Comilla

A court here yesterday sentenced a man to death and five others to life imprisonment for killing a man in Debidwar upazila of the district in 2001.

The death penalty awardee is Jahangir Alam while the lifers are Foyez Ahmed, Shamimuzzaman Babu, Emdadul Haque, Nazmul Hossain and Rafiqul Islam. They all are from Elahabad village of the upazila.

Among the lifers, Foyez Ahmed, Shamimuzzaman Babu and Rafiqul Islam were tried in absentia.

The Court of Additional Sessions Judge fined the lifers Tk 50,000 each, in default, they are to suffer six months more in jail.

According to the prosecution, Anwar Hossain of the village was murdered over a land dispute on August 10, 2001.

On the following day, Shahadat Hossain, son of Anwar, filed a murder case with Debidwar Police Station, accusing 12 people, including Jahangir. After investigation, police pressed charges against the accused on April, 30, 2002.

After examining the record of the case and 16 witnesses, Judge Chemon Ara Chowdhury handed down the verdict. She acquitted six other accused as charges brought against them could not be proved.

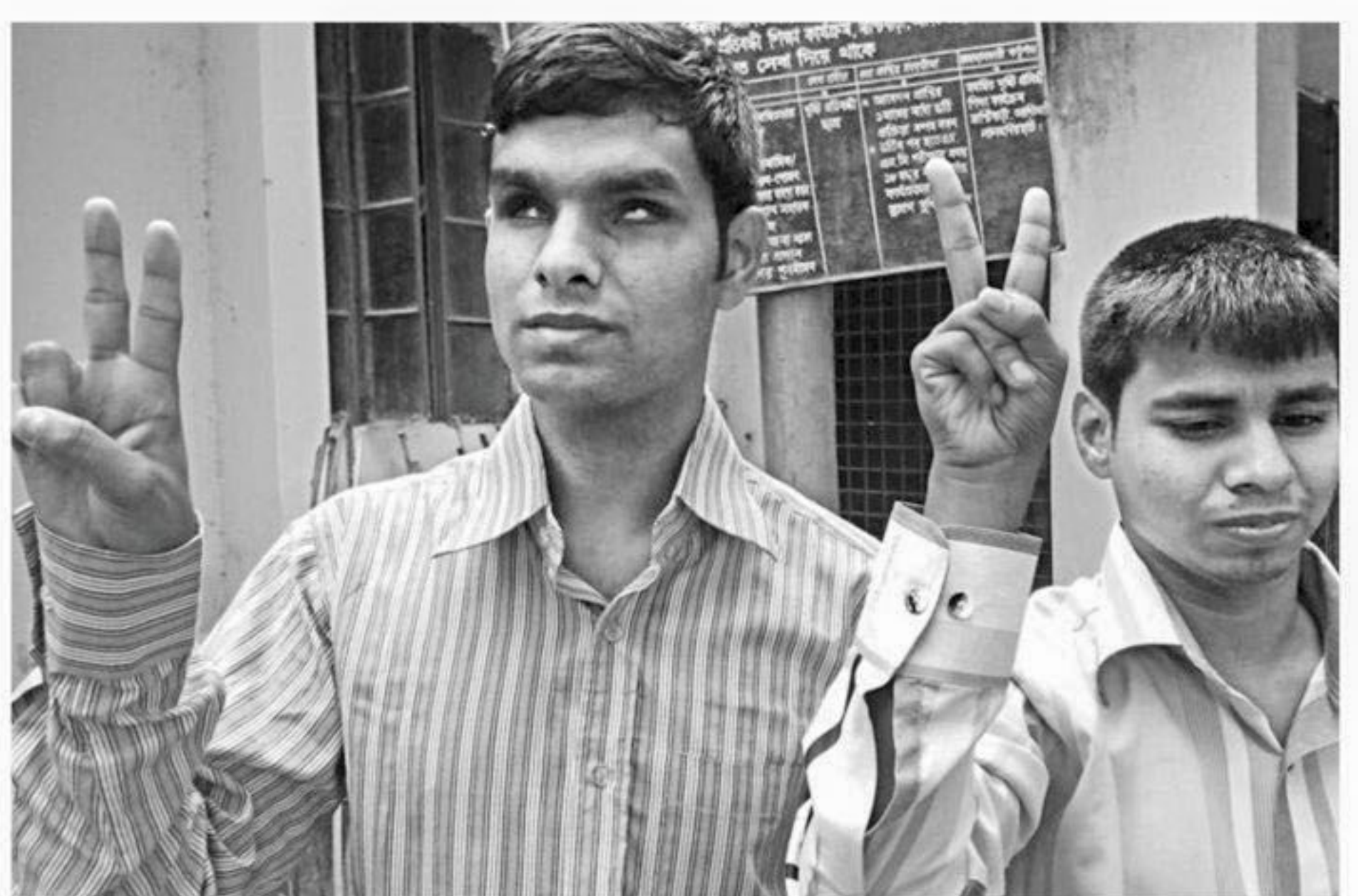


PHOTO: STAR

Visually impaired Mokaddes Hossain and Mokhlesur Rahman flash V-sign in front of their school at Saptibari village in Aditmari upazila under Lalmonirhat district yesterday.

Defying visual impairment, they do brilliant results

S DILIP ROY, Lalmonirhat

Two visually impaired students of Saptibari High School in Aditmari upazila under the district have set laudable examples by obtaining brilliant results in this year's Secondary School Certificate (SSC) examinations.

Mokhlesur Rahman, son of late Anwar Hossain of Dhala village of Hatibandha upazila, obtained golden GPA-5, while Mokaddes Hossain, son of Alamgir Hossain of Bangram village of Sadar upazila of Lalmonirhat district, obtained GPA-5 from humanities group under Dinjapur Education Board.

"I want to be a professor of English. I study regularly

in my room with proper supervision of our resource teacher. We the visually impaired students get the opportunity to read our textbooks as these are written in Braille system. But we also need sufficient books on general knowledge and a variety of subjects written in the system," said Mokhlesur.

He had also obtained talent-pool scholarship in the Junior School Certificate (JSC) examinations.

Mokaddes Hossain said he wants to be a lawyer.

Both of them are residents at a 10-seated shelter home for visually impaired students, set up at Saptibari village of Aditmari upazila in 1996 under the Comprehensive Blind Education Programme of

Social Welfare Department.

The beneficiaries of the shelter have been doing good results in PSC (Primary School Certificate), JSC and SSC examinations every year, sources said.

"Despite visual impairment and poor family background, Mokhlesur Rahman and Mokaddes Hossain have achieved brilliant results. Now they need proper help and assistance for continuation of their higher studies," said Ershad Ali, resource teacher of the programme.

"Mokhlesur and Mokaddes always did well in classes and school examinations. We feel proud of their brilliant success in the SSC," said Tayez Uddin, headmaster of Saptibari High School.



PHOTO: STAR

The district administration and health department bring out a procession in Thakurgaon town yesterday, marking World No Tobacco Day.

MOBILE THEFT CHARGE Madrasa boy brutally tortured, hospitalied

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pirojpur

Some local influential people tortured a madrasa boy brutally, bringing charge of stealing a cellphone against him at Chouthaimahal village in Nazipur upazila of the district on Friday.

The victim is Md Abu Hanif, 20, a student of a qawmi madrasa, and son of Abdul Kader Hawlader of the village.

Witnesses said one Shafayet Hossain Sheikh, 21, son of late Shakhawat Hossain of the area, called Hanif out of his house on

Friday noon and took him in front of a shop where he was tied with rope.

"Later, Shafayet along with his uncle Nasiruddin Sheikh, 35, and one Mahub Sheikh, 45, of the village, beat me mercilessly, bringing charge of theft against me," said Hanif, adding that they used electrical pliers during torture on him.

The hapless boy was later admitted to the hospital, said family members.

"The trio tortured me in presence of 30 to 40 villagers but none came forward

to help as they are very influential in the area," the victim told this correspondent at the health complex.

Contacted, MA Malek Bepary, chairman of Sreerumkathi Union Parishad, said he was staying in another area when the incident took place.

"But on my return to the village, I came to know that locals beat Hanif for teasing a girl," said the chairman.

He did not hear about the matter, said Md Nasiruddin, officer-in-charge of Nazipur Police Station.

Schoolboy commits 'suicide'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Benapole, Jessore

A schoolboy allegedly committed suicide at Sadipur village under Benapole Port Police Station in Jessore district on Friday.

The deceased is Garif Ali, 7, a student of Class III of Sadipur Government Primary School, and son of Kawar Ali of the village.

Police said Garif took his life by hanging himself from the ceiling of his room as his mother did not accompany him to a marriage ceremony at night.

Lightning kills HSC examinee

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Khagrachhari

An HSC examinee was killed by lightning in Karalyachhari area under Panchhari upazila of the district on Saturday.

The deceased was identified as Babu Chakma Nayan, 18, son of Kanchan Kumar Chakma of the area.

Criminals set ex-cop's house afire in Manikganj

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Manikganj

Criminals set fire to the house of a retired police constable at Nayakandi village in Manikganj municipality early yesterday.

However, house owner Abdul Gafur Khan, 70, and

his wife Amena begum, 60, survived the attempt on their lives in the arson attack.

Munmun Nasrin Siddiki, daughter of Gafur, alleged that the gang carried out the attack to kill her parents.

She said her parents have been living at their village

home since her father's retirement.

Necessary action will be taken against those responsible for the attack after getting complaint in this regard, said Aminur Rahman, officer-in-charge of Sadar Police Station.