

Defeated UP chairman candidate arrested

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Thakurgaon
Police arrested a defeated chairman candidate of Ruhea Union Parishad (UP) in Thakurgaon Sadar upazila from Ramnath village on Sunday on charge of obstructing government officials from discharging duty at a polling centre during May 7 election in the UP.

Unfit buses get repaired for brisk business ahead of Eid

The old vehicles often pose risk of accidents on highways

EAM ASADUZZAMAN, Nilphamari
A number of outdated and virtually unfit buses get repaired and painted as owners want to do a brisk business ahead of Eid ul Fitr by arranging up and down journeys for home bound passengers, ignoring the risk of running such vehicles in highways.



PHOTO: STAR

A worker welds parts to repair a bus at a workshop at Adanir More in Saidpur upazila under Nilphamari district as such old and unfit buses are somehow made usable to carry passengers during the rush days before and after big festivals like Eid.

Usually, from the fag end of holy Ramadan, people working in the capital and other cities go to their village home to celebrate Eid with their near and dear ones. But many of them face a bitter experience in bus terminals as the number of running buses is usually too inadequate to meet the increased demand. Taking the opportunity, owners of very old buses earn windfall profit by arranging journey by the buses after some repair as the passengers are out to go home even if they have to pay double or triple the usual fare, said sources. Uthowainu Chowdhury, assistant director of Bangladesh Road Transport Authority (BRTA) in Nilphamari, said, "More than 70% buses in the district are without any fitness certificate. Before Eid, owners of many of these vehicles get them repaired to carry passengers, defying risk of fatal accidents."

Visiting different bus repairing workshops in Nilphamari and Saidpur, workers were seen repairing cracks in buses with galvanizers, replacing broken window glasses, sewing seats and painting the bus bodies. "This bus will appear as new after the painting work is complete," said Faruk Mistry, a worker at Adani More repairing workshop in Saidpur municipality. "Ahead of Eid Every year, we repair 8-10 old buses to make them fit for carrying passengers in long routes.

We take Tk 30-40 thousand as fee for repair of each bus while the owners supply spare parts," said Bablu Mia, owner of the workshop. Such an old bus usually carries 45 passengers in seats and 20-30 others who have to keep standing. During the rush period for around two weeks before and after the Eid earning of an outdated bus owner often reach Tk 12 lakh to 14 lakh as much more than usual fair is realised from homebound and return passengers, sources said.

Afzal Hossain, owner of an unfit bus in Nilphamari, said, "We are helping passengers to reach home as the buses run by government owned BRTC and non-government transport companies are unable to tackle the crowd of Eid time passengers." Md Waznabi, traffic inspector of Nilphamari police, said, "We regularly launch drives against unfit vehicles but sometimes law can't be implemented properly in view of transport crisis, especially during the Eid holidays."

Man to die for killing wife for dowry in Mymensingh

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh
A Mymensingh court yesterday sentenced a man to death for killing his wife for dowry in Muktagachha upazila in 2012.

the body and sent it to Mymensingh Medical College Hospital morgue for autopsy. Victim's father Billal Hossain lodged a case with Muktagachha Police Station the following day, accusing

yesterday sentenced a man to life imprisonment for killing his stepmother in Sadar upazila in 2015. The convicted is Faruk Sheikh, 30, son of Mokshed Sheikh of Kartikdia village under the upazila. The court also fined the convict Tk 20,000. In default, he is to suffer six months more in jail, reports our correspondent.



Ashraful Islam

Ashraful. Police arrested Ashraful, who confessed to the killing before the court under Section 164.

Police later submitted a charge-sheet against Ashraful. After examining the witnesses and evidence, Judge Md Helal Uddin of Women and Children Repression Prevention Tribunal delivered the verdict. Away in Bagerhat, a court

According to the prosecution, Hasina Begum, wife of Mokshed, was beaten to death by Faruk over a family feud on July 5, 2015. Locals caught him and handed him over to the police.

On July 6, the deceased's daughter Paira Begum filed a case with Bagerhat Model Police Station, accusing Faruk.

Sub-inspector Lutfor Rahman, also the investigation officer of the case, submitted the charge sheet against Faruk on September 8, 2015.

Examining all the records and 14 witnesses, District and Sessions Judge Mizanur Rahman handed down the verdict.

DEATH IN ROAD ACCIDENT

Locals block road, torch killer vehicle in Noakhali

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Noakhali
Locals blocked Choumuhani-Sonaimuri road at Bagadia under Sonaimuri upazila of the district and set fire to a pick-up van yesterday after a government employee was killed in a road accident. The deceased was identified as Abdul Gofur, 55, of Bagadia village under Sonaimuri village and an employ of Sonaimuri Upazila Health Complex. Kazi Haniful Islam, officer-in-charge of Sonaimuri Police Station, quoting locals as

saying that Gofur was walking to his work place at 8:30am. When he reached near his office at Bagadia Uttar pool, a Choumuhani-bound mango-laden pick-up from Sonaimuri ran over him, leaving him dead on the spot. Agitated people set fire to the pick-up van and blocked the road for an hour. The driver, however, managed to flee the scene. On information, police went to the spot and brought the situation under control. Police recovered the body and sent it to Noakhali Medical College Hospital for autopsy.



PHOTO: STAR

College teachers under the banner of Bangladesh General Education Association form a human chain on the premises of Government Debendra College in Manikganj yesterday demanding arrest and punishment of the criminals who hacked Ripon Chakrabarty, a lecturer of Government Nazim Uddin College in Madaripur, on June 15.

Extortionist threatens Chuadanga DC

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia
A caller in the name of [Sarbahara activists] in India. He also threatened to abduct the DC's kids and kill them if the money is not given," the GD said. After returning to Chuadanga, the DC talked to high police officials in the district. Contacted over phone, DC Saima Yunus admitted the matter. She, however, declined to say more in this regard and suggested this correspondent to talk to police. Tozammel Haq, officer-in-charge of Chuadanga Sadar Police Station, said police are trying to trace out the caller.

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Robbery bid at knit factory, four held

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail
Police arrested four members of an inter-district robbers' gang from inside a knit factory in Mirzapur upazila of the district early yesterday. The arrestees are Likat Hossain, 30, Rana Hossain, 20, Tanzil Babu, 20, and Hasan Mia, 20. Police said a gang of 10/12 entered Karnaphuli Knit Industries in Gorai Industrial Area, scaling its boundary wall around 2:00am. They beat up the factory manager Abdul Mannan and five security guards and tied them with ropes. Hearing screams from inside the factory, locals informed the police, who raided the factory and arrested the four.

SNIPPETS

Two held with fake notes

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Benapole
Police in separate drives arrested two people with 148 fake notes worth about Tk 1.18 lakh from Jessore town on Sunday night. The arrestees are Raju Ahmed, 29, son of Abdur Rahman of Sangkorpur area in the town, and Latif Hossain, 35, son of Akbar Ali of Gatipara village in Benapole. Amir Hossain, sub-inspector of Jessore Kotwali Police Station, said they arrested Raju with 59 fake notes of Tk 500 at Eden Market. In another drive, Latif was arrested along with 89 fake notes of Tk 1,000 at Bejarpara in the town. A case was filed in this connection, said the SI.

SI closed on bribery charge

UNB, Magura
A sub-inspector of Sadar Police Station was closed to the district Police Lines on Sunday night on charge of taking bribe during the recently concluded countryside crackdown against criminals. The accused is SI Nimai Chandra. Ehsan Ullah, superintendent of police, said several people alleged that Nimai Chandra took bribe from them during drives in different areas of the upazila. The action was taken against him as evidence was found in support of the allegations, added the SP.

Youth electrocuted

UNB, Brahmanbaria
A young man died from electrocution at Ahmmedpur village in Nabinagar upazila of the district on Sunday evening. The deceased was identified as Yunus Miah, 22, son of Jabbar Miah of the village. Family sources said Yunus came in contact with a live electric wire fallen on road while he was returning home after playing football at the village in the evening. He was rushed to Nabinagar Sadar Hospital where on-duty doctors declared him dead.

4 Jamaat-Shibir men detained

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Benapole
Jessore police arrested four activists of Jammate-Islami and its student wing Islami Chhatra Shibir yesterday. The superintendent of police in the district confirmed it.

Two kids drown in river

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur
Two kids drowned in the Chhoto Jamuna River under Phulbari upazila of the district on Sunday afternoon. The victims are Raiful Islam Ruhin, 5, son of Taimur Rahman of Doulatpur village, and Zannati Khatun, 5, daughter of Azim Hossain of Kulshalpur village in the upazila. Family members said the two went to take bath in the river and drowned. Later, locals and firefighters rescued the bodies, said Mokshed Ali, officer-in-charge of Phulbari Police Station.

Elephant kills man

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangamati
A man was killed by an elephant in Bengchari area under Kaptai upazila of the district on Sunday. The victim is Sonadhan Chakma, 37, a resident of the area. When Sonadhan was returning home through the hilly road around 9:00pm, all of a sudden, an elephant attacked him, said Md Sahajahan Ali, range officer of Kaptai forest range. He died on the spot, said Kaptai police.

FOUR-KID MURDER CASE

Habiganj court rejects bail petition of five accused

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar
A Habiganj court yesterday rejected bail petition of five accused in the case for killing four kids. The accused are Abdul Ali, Rubel Mia, Jewel Mia, Arju Mia and Shahed Mia. They are all residents of Sundrateki village under Bahubal upazila of the district, said lawyer Tilok Kanti Chowdhury. Advocate Abul Hasem Mollah, special public prosecutor, said Women and Children Repression Prevention Tribunal in Habiganj rejected the bail petition of the five accused and fixed June 28 for the next hearing. Muktadir Hossain, inspector of the Detective Branch of police in Habiganj, placed the charge sheet against nine accused on April 6. Two of them are on bail and two are absconding. According to the case statement, Abdul Ali had a longstanding dispute with Panchayet leader Khaleque Master over establishing supremacy in the locality. Abdul Aziz, father of Tajel Miah, was known

as a close aide to Khaleque. Bachchu, a CNG-run auto-rickshaw driver, was also a supporter of Khaleque. However, he was expelled from the Panchayet following a dispute with Khaleque. Later, Abdul Ali along with Bachchu made a plan to teach Khaleque a lesson and targeted Abdul Aziz first. They decided to kill Aziz or his son to take revenge on the Panchayet leader, the statement said. Rubel and Bachchu planned to abduct Aziz's son Tajel from a football match scheduled for February 12. However, the match was abandoned due to rain. Bachchu later tactfully took Tajel and his cousins Monir Mia, Ismail and Shuvo, on his auto-rickshaw that evening from near the playground. Later, Rubel, Arju and other accused joined him and drugged the children to make them unconscious. They then strangled the children inside the three-wheeler and kept their bodies at Bachchu's garage. Later, they buried the bodies.

Minor girl raped, hospitalised

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Noakhali
A minor girl was raped by an aged man at Gorapara village under Noakhali Sadar upazila yesterday. Md Anwar Hossain, officer-in-charge (OC) of Sudharam Model Police Station, quoting victim's parents, said her mother went to Banderhat near their house after reciting the Holy Quran at noon. The girl was alone when neighbour Md Mostafa, 60, entered the house and raped her. At one stage, she became unconscious.

The girl's mother returned home after 45 minutes and saw her daughter lying on the floor with blood around her. Locals rushed her to the Noakhali Medical College Hospital immediately. On information, police raided the area to arrest the rapist, but he had gone into hiding soon after the incident, the OC added. Dr Farid Uddin Chowdhury, Resident Medical Officer, said the condition of the victim is very critical. She has been given two bags of blood, he added.



PHOTO: STAR

Rubble from construction work of a drain occupies a portion of Hari Kishore Roy Road just behind the municipality office in Mymensingh town, hampering vehicular movement there. The work is going on at a snail's pace while the people concerned hardly care for removing the rubble, showing utter callousness to commuters' sufferings on the busy road.