

## Dhaka café attack condemned

STAR COUNTRY DESK

Different organisations staged demonstrations in Patuakhali, Kushthia and Jhenidah yesterday, protesting Friday's Dhaka café attack that killed 20 hostages and two police officers, report our correspondents.

Patuakhali Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) brought out a procession in the town, protesting the attack on July 1.

The procession ended in front of Patuakhali Awami League office following a street corner meeting addressed by district BCL President Nasir Uddin Hawlader.

The journalists formed a human chain in Kushthia town, protesting the brutality.

A human chain was formed in Jhenidah, protesting killing of two priests and Dhaka café attack.

Gonoandolon Jhenidah organised the programmes. The massacre took place when gunmen stormed the Holy Artisan restaurant at Gulshan in Dhaka on July 1.



Sacks full of sand are being dumped in the Swarnamoti River on Lalmonirhat-Burimari highway at Sarpukur village under Aditmari upazila to protect the vulnerable bailey bridge as it is in danger of collapsing due to surge of water and movement of heavily loaded trucks. PHOTO: STAR

## Marriage registrar strangled

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bogra

A marriage registrar was strangled by unidentified criminals at Baniagati village under Dhunat upazila of the district on Sunday.

The deceased was identified as Motiar Rahman Moti, 40, son of late Monser Ali of Balarbari village. He was also the imam of a mosque in Baniagati Bazar.

His younger brother Saiful Islam said he spent some time in the bazar area after Tarabee prayers and then started for his home one km away.

On the way, some criminals hit him with iron rods and then strangled him, leaving him dead on the spot, locals said. The criminals immediately fled the scene, said police.

# Malnutrition hits poor children in Lalmonirhat

Many do not attain normal physical and mental growth

S DILIP ROY, Lalmonirhat

Many children in the district do not attain normal physical and mental growth due to severe malnutrition.

Three children of Jarina Begum and Mansur Ali of Kakina village under Kaliganj upazila say they can't pay attention to their studies or take part in games or normal activities due to weakness, which is caused by malnutrition.

Jarina Begum said, "We feed rice to our children three times a day, but cannot give them meat, fish or fruit regularly due to poverty." Mansur Ali, a farm labourer, said, "The doctor told me to buy vitamin syrup for our children, but I cannot afford it."

Salma Akhter, 8, a Class III student at Bagdora village under Lalmonirhat Sadar, said she goes to school after eating some rice, but she does not have lunch in the school. "I feel very weak, and that affects my learning," she said.

Reaz Khandaker Rinkue, an NGO representative working for Char Health and Education in



The two siblings in Bagdora village under Lalmonirhat Sadar upazila hardly have the energy to go to school due to severe malnutrition. PHOTO: STAR

Lalmonirhat, said malnutrition in Lalmonirhat, especially in chars and remote villages, is very common. "It is necessary to build awareness among the people about the bad impact of malnutrition, and also to provide nourishing food to the ultra poor. That will remove malnutrition

gradually," he added.

Lalmonirhat Civil Surgeon Dr Ahsan Ali Babu said if a malnourished woman gives birth, the baby will also be malnourished. If it does not get nourishing food, its normal growth gets hampered and it will never be fit mentally and physically, he said.

Officials of the Women Affairs Department in Lalmonirhat said a lactating mother of an ultra poor family gets financial support for buying nourishing food, but the programme is meant only for the municipality area.

Juliya Sultana Suma, a teacher of Char Falimari Smriti Roy Primary School, said, "If the children of this school get nourishing food, it will make them very good in their studies," she added.

District Primary Education Officer Nabez Uddin said World Food Programme (WFP) is providing nourishing biscuits at some primary schools in Hatibandha and Patgram upazilas, but most schools, especially in char areas, are deprived of this facility. "I am trying to start the WFP programme in all schools in the district," he said.

## 'BANGLADESHI BAJRANGI' Brave Musa still faces trouble

SOHRAB HOSSAIN, back from Barguna

Jamal Ibne Musa, whose efforts helped a trafficked Indian boy to reunite with his family, has received a fresh threat yet again on Sunday allegedly from the boy's captors.

Aklima Begum, who allegedly brought Sonu, a 12-year-old Indian boy, to Bangladesh from the Indian capital New Delhi in 2010, went to Jamal's house at Geramardan village in Betagi upazila of Barguna in the evening and threatened him to implicate in another case.

Jamal's wife Niru Begum said Aklima and her cohorts are on the run since Sonu's return to India, but they often come to the village and warn Jamal and his family members of dire consequences.

"I feel proud when I think about Sonu's reunion with his family but at the same time I get frustrated when think about the six false cases filed against me and my family members," Jamal said.

"Now I demand impartial investigations in all the cases and acquit me and my family members of those cases to help me return to our normal life", added Jamal.

Jamal said as he had lost his job and had no earning sources it is difficult for his family of five to appear at different courts regularly in connection with those cases.

He also urged the authorities concerned to take necessary steps to withdraw all the cases filed against him and his family members.

Sonu was reunited with his family in New Delhi on June 30.

The boy flew to Indira Gandhi International Airport in New Delhi by a Jet Airways flight, from where his parents took him to their house in New Seemapuri locality in the northeast part of the Indian capital.



## Abandoned newborn gets new mother

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Thakurgaon

A newborn was found abandoned beside Panchagarh-Tunirhat road in Panchagarh municipality area.

Mominul Islam, officer-in-charge of Panchagarh Police Station, said motorcyclist Habibul Islam found a one-day-old baby boy beside the road on Sunday night.

Informed by Habibul, police rescued the newborn and sent him to Panchagarh Sadar Hospital.

The baby was abandoned there soon after birth and his physical condition was good, said Raziul Karim, resident medical officer of the hospital.

Hearing the news, a number of couples thronged the hospital and showed interest to adopt the newborn, said police.

Considering the couple's interest and their financial condition, police give the baby to childless Lipi Akhtar, wife of Saharier Pervez of Ghatiapara village.

## Woman's kidney removed, instead of stones

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

A doctor removed one of the kidneys of a woman instead of removing the stones that had developed around the vital organ.

Dr Hazrat Ali conducted the operation at HK Mother Care Hospital at Kalitola (opposite of Sadar Police Station) in Dinajpur town on June 30.

The doctor, earlier convicted by a court for eight years' imprisonment in a case for illegal abortion, set up the clinic at a 10-storey building, said sources.

The victim woman, Anwara Begum, 42, wife of Abdul Kuddus of Pakura village in Biral upazila of Dinajpur, was admitted to HK Mother Care Hospital on June 29 for removing stones of her left kidney, said family members.

"Examining an X-ray and other reports, Dr Hazrat Ali told us that the kidney was alright and in view of the position of the stones, there was no possibility of any harm to the kidney if the stones were removed through surgery," Anwara's son Aynul Islam

told journalists.

Dr Hazrat Ali conducted the operation on June 30.

As the woman felt complications, her family members on Saturday informed the doctor of the matter several times, but the latter ignored the matter.

Pressed by Anwara's relatives, Dr Hazrat Ali later admitted to them that he had cut off the patient's left kidney after finding problems during the surgery.

Hearing the matter at her hospital bed, the woman started wailing.

"Dr Hazrat Ali cut out the entire kidney instead of removing the stones from it. He offered us Tk 1 lakh to settle the matter. But we demand exemplary punishment of the doctor," said the victim woman's son Aynul Islam.

Contacted, Hazrat Ali declined to make any comment regarding the incident.

In 2013, a Dinajpur court convicted him to eight years' imprisonment in a case for illegal abortion. Spending nearly a year in jail, he got bail from the High Court and returned to his medical profession.



Losing a kidney due to alleged callousness of a doctor, Anwara Begum lying on the bed of HK Mother Care Hospital at Kalitola in Dinajpur town on Saturday. She was 'forcibly' released from the hospital the next day. PHOTO: STAR

## Man kills wife, son

Husband's extramarital affairs alleged

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

A man allegedly killed his wife and four-year-old son by slitting their throats in Dinajpur Sadar upazila early yesterday.

The deceased are Bakulara Parveen, 24, and her son Sayeed Al Niloy of Joydevpur village.

Law enforcers arrested accused Sohrab Hossain Bhuttu, 34, from the spot.

Family sources said Bhuttu killed his wife and son with sharp weapons around 12:30am.

Husband's alleged extramarital affairs might be the reason behind the double murder, said Dedwanur Rahim, officer-in-charge of Sadar Police Station.

## Shopping gets momentum in Pirojpur as Eid nears

HABIBUR RAHMAN, Pirojpur

People are thronging different shopping centres in the district town to buy dresses of choice as Eid-ul-Fitr, the biggest religious festival of the Muslims, is only a couple of days away.

"Ongoing heavy rain has hardly affected the sale as customers come to the market to buy clothes when rain stops," said Md Raju Ahmed, manager of Ehsan Cloth Shop in Pirojpur town.

Till a few days ago, the demand of women's dress 'three pieces' was great, and depending on quality design and size, a set was sold for Tk 900 to Tk 7,500, shopkeepers said.

Lately sari is selling large numbers, one piece being sold for up to Tk 3,500, said shopkeepers.

Jeans pants and punjabees are also in great demand to the boys.

"Our sale is good. Young customers' main choice is different styles' of jeans pants and punjabees. Some customers also like to

buy shirts," said Mahatab Uddin, a shopkeeper in the town.

A jeans pant is selling for Tk 400 to Tk 3,200 and a punjabee for Tk 900 to Tk 3,000, he said.

"I have come to buy a punjabee. I bought jeans pants two days back," said Kamrul Islam, a customer in the town.

To choose punjabee, he came to the town again, he said.

Most of the customers in the markets are women. They come to do Eid shopping for themselves as well as family members.

"I have already completed most of the Eid shopping. Now I have come here for buying a few other things," said Sultana, a customer.

Gatherings in the cosmetics shops are also noticeable.

Women are buying ornaments and cosmetic items including mehedi from there.

Shopkeepers expect that the Eid shopping will go on till the chand raat, the night before the Eid.

## 5 more Pabna missing men shown arrested

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

Five people from two villages of Faridpur upazila under the district have been detained by Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) in Madhabpur upazila of Habiganj district on Saturday, nearly two months after they were picked up allegedly by law enforcers.

The arrestees, including siblings Tikkah Sardar, 35, Ershad Miah, 30, and Saddam Hossain, 25, and Rony Pramanik of Khagarbaria village and Dulal Pramanik of Savar village had remained missing after people introducing themselves as law enforcers picked them up from their houses on May 11.

"A team of Rab-9 detained the five with 355 Yaba tablets from Madhabpur of Habiganj and a case for drug peddling was filed with Madhabpur PS. Later they were shifted to Habiganj jail," said Md Habibur Rahman, OC of Faridpur PS.

"Informed by Madhabpur police, we told the detainees' family members about their arrest on Sunday and they went to Madhabpur on Monday," the Faridpur OC said.

Dulal Hossain, Suruj Hossain, Liton Hossain and Ramjan Ali of Savar village in Faridpur upazila, who were also picked up allegedly by law enforcers, were detained by Rab from the capital's Paltan on May 27.

They were shown arrested in a murder case.



A salesman displays a sari to the customers at a shop in Pirojpur town on Saturday.

PHOTO: STAR