

Amputee dreams of higher edn

She needs help for treatment, artificial leg

MAMUN-UR-RASHID, Bogra

SSC examinee Sharna Khatun had a dream to bring solvency to her poor family after getting higher education, but a road accident turned everything upside down seven months ago.

Sharna, 15, daughter of rickshaw van-puller Harun-ur-Rashid of Domdoma village in Shantahar union under Adamdighi upazila, was an SSC examinee from nearby Shantahar Golsha Ahsanullah Institute this year.

She got serious injuries to her right leg in a collision between a three-wheeler and a motorcycle near Shantahar railway station area when she was returning home from a coaching centre on December 7 last year.

"After the accident she was rushed to the upazila health complex. As her condition deteriorated, she was admitted to Shaheed Ziaur Rahman Medical College Hospital on February 7 this year. There doctors said cancer developed in her bone and suggested sending her abroad," said Sharna's father Harun.

Meanwhile, seriously ailing Sharna failed to complete her SSC examinations this year after attending only two papers.

"We are too poor to send her abroad. We admitted her to Khwaja Yunus Ali Medical College Hospital in Sirajganj on February 29 this year. There doctors arranged amputating her right leg from below the waist on March 2," said her father.

"Now she will need at least 7-8 sessions of therapy, each costing Tk 25 thousand, but it is impossible for her father to afford it," said Sharna's uncle Enamul Haque.

Doctors said that proper treatment will enable her recovery and she will be able to walk with the help of an artificial leg.

Sharna, now passing her agonising days on the bed at home, said, "I want to start my study again to stand on my own feet and I need proper treatment and an artificial leg for the purpose."

Arshadul Haque, who assumed chairmanship of Shantahar union parishad recently, said, "I will help the family as much as possible. I also urge the rich and generous people to help the accident victim schoolgirl to see her dream come true."



A real estate company put up a signboard in Gangamoti area on Kuakata beach in Patuakhali, occupying the beach's land.

PHOTO: STAR

Grabber feasts on Kuakata

Criminals fell at least 70 kewra trees

SOHRAB HOSSAIN, Patuakhali

A real estate company named The Sunrise Beach Resort hung a signboard in Gangamoti area on Kuakata beach, 'occupying' khas land.

The company hung the signboard on the bank of the Bay about 4 km to the east from Kuata zero point near Gangamoti reserve forest while a local gang felled at least 70 kewra trees in the area.

The gang later set fire to the trunks of the felled trees to destroy

all evidence, said Patuakhali forest department sources.

There is a reserve forest, covering 13,980 acres of land including Gangamoti, Latachapplee, Khajura, Kuakata and around 14,000 species of trees there. Of them, most of two local varieties -- Kawra and Akashmoni -- are in the reserve forest.

But a gang felled at least 70 kewra trees in Gangamoti area in two separate phases this year, grabbing the forest land and the beach, said the sources.

Despite filing of three cases, tree felling continues in the area, said Ajit Kumer Rudrho, divisional forest officer.

Finding no alternative, forest department on March 15 wrote to the deputy commissioner (DC) to take immediate steps in this regard, but to no effect yet.

Rather, a real estate company set up a signboard on the beach to occupy the land.

"We placed the signboard on our own land and we have all valid

documents of the land," Abdur Rahman Sohel, director of the Sunrise Beach Resort, said, claiming that they are not involved in tree felling.

A section of forest robbers set up a signboard in the area after cutting trees, the forest officer said, adding that there is no scope to claim ownership of forest land or beach.

Punitive action will be taken against the grabbers after taking information in this regard, said DC AKM Shamimul Haq Siddiquee.

Slain pro-AL body leader's family seeks justice

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

Family members of a slain Swechhasebak League leader yesterday demanded exemplary punishment to the killers, alleging that the main culprits have not been arrested even after two weeks of the murder.

They also alleged that the killers are moving freely.

They were speaking at a press conference at the Pabna Press Club auditorium. Amin's family members claimed the criminals are moving freely and threatening them to withdraw the case as they are influential ruling party men.

"Shahid and his men killed my husband, who protested against Shahid's drug business. Shahid is an influential party man so we are worried we may not get justice," Farzana Parvin, wife of the deceased, told journalists.

Amin's father Bablu Pramanik said, "My son did politics for the Awami League, but the party rivals killed him. I want justice for killing of my son."

Amin Uddin, 28, publicity secretary of Pabna poura unit of Swechhasebak League, was hacked and shot dead by the party rivals on July 23 over supremacy of drug business in the Pabna bus terminal area.

Pabna poura AL President Advocate Taslim Hasan Sumon said Shahid is being politically harassed.

A case was filed against poura AL Organising Secretary Shahidur Rahman and 11 of his accomplices with Pabna Police Station, police said.

Man beaten to death in Bogra

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bogra

A man died as he was mercilessly beaten at a vegetable field near the house of his second wife at Parbhanipur Jannatpara under Sherpur upazila of the district.

The deceased was identified as Enamul Haque Babu, 25, son of Nazrul Islam of the village.

Police, quoting the victim's uncle Nurul Islam, said Enamul married Shima Akhtar of Khamarkandi

Pashchimpara four years ago, and they had a daughter.

Later, Enamul built a relationship over cellphone with a girl of Burnighat of the upazila, and married her about 5 months ago.

Police arrested Enamul after filing of a case by his first wife. He was granted bail on Sunday after a reconciliation meeting between the families of the two wives, accepting the marriage.

In the afternoon, he went to the residence of his second wife's father. He was rescued in a critical state from a vegetable field yesterday. He died while being taken to his house, police said.

Gazir Rahman, senior assistant superintendent of police of Bogra, said there were injury marks on his stomach.

Despite the marks, police are yet to be certain about the cause of death.



Shah Alam and his wife Nasima, herself attacked with B virus infection, see only a bleak future as their 18-month-old son is also affected with the problem. The poor couple had earlier lost two sons to the liver damaging disease.

A family devastated by B virus

Two sons die, another son, mother affected

Habibur Rahman, Pirojpur

B virus has brought immense distress to a poor family at Jolagati village in Kawkhali upazila under the district.

Md Shah Alam, 45, a day labourer of Jolagati village, is now struggling for existence with his B virus affected wife and 18-month-old son, having earlier lost two sons to the same disease.

"Nine years ago, my five year old son Md Kayum fell ill with serious fever and I took him to Kawkhali Upazila Health Complex. Shortly afterwards, I took him to Barisal Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital and he died there next day," said Shah Alam.

Earlier he became sick sometimes

but it was not serious, he said.

After four and a half years, his elder son Md Shameem, a student of Class IX, suddenly felt serious pain in his belly and he was admitted to a private hospital in Khulna.

"Due to serious monetary crisis, I brought him back and admitted him to Barisal Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital and came to know that he was attacked by B Virus, which causes death in most cases. Within one and a half months, he died," he said.

As per doctors' suggestion, bloods tests of Shah Alam, his wife Nasima Begum, 37, and daughter Aysha, 4, were conducted in Dhaka and B Virus was found in his wife's body.

"Sometimes, my body sweats, I

feel tired and my hands and feet convulse," said Nasima.

"I also tested the blood of my one and a half year old son Musa early June this year and B virus was found in his body. Now I am helpless as the doctor has said that a few lakh taka would be needed for my son and wife's treatment," said Shah Alam.

Shah Alam needs help from the solvent people to save his son, said Jakir Hossain, a local.

Md Idris Ali, Pirojpur Sadar upazila health and family planning officer, said, "When Shah Alam's son first became sick I told him to take him to Barisal for better treatment. Then I came to know that the boy was attacked by B virus that is responsible for damaging liver."

Two college students drown

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

Two college students drowned in the Atrai River in Dinajpur Sadar upazila yesterday.

The deceased, Saud Mustakim, 17, son of Saidur Rahman of Khetripara village, and Shakib Ahmed, 17, son of Momtaj Uddin of Munshipara area of the district town, were Class XII students at Dinajpur Holy Land School and College.

Locals said the duo slipped into the river while they were standing on the river embankment and taking photos around 11:00am and went missing.

After two hours of frantic efforts, divers recovered the bodies, said police.

Missing man found dead

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Thakurgaon

Police recovered the body of a man from beside a pond at Fakdanpur village in Sadar upazila of the district yesterday, three days after he went missing.

The deceased, Abu Taleb, 40, son of Afsar Ali, was a resident of Shibganj village in the upazila.

Police said Taleb went out of his house on Friday and did not return home.

After hectic searching in different places including relatives' houses his trace was not revealed.

Locals spotted his body lying beside the pond around 6:00am.

SNIPPETS

Jamaat leader arrested

A CORRESPONDENT, Jessore

Police arrested a leader of Jamaat-e-Islami from Dakuria Bazar area in Jessore Sadar upazila yesterday. The arrestee is Arifur Rahman Kall, ameer of Deyara union unit of Jamaat, said Illias Hossain, officer-in-charge of Jessore Sadar Police Station.

Boy 'commits suicide'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

A madrasa boy allegedly committed suicide at Sayedpara village in Muktagacha upazila yesterday. The deceased was Asadul Islam, 13, son of Khosh Mahmud of the village. Police and locals said family members found Asadul's body hanging from the ceiling of his room in the morning and informed police. The law enforcers later recovered the body from the spot. The boy might have committed suicide over a feud with his parents, said police.

58 held on sabotage charges

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Benapole

Police arrested 58 people on sabotage charges from different areas in Jessore yesterday. The law enforcers conducted a special drive in nine upazilas of the district and arrested them, said Jessore police control room.

2 die in trawler capsized

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

Law enforcers recovered the bodies of two fishermen from Gongamoti area in Kuakata on Saturday. The deceased were Siddik Majhee, 50, and Belayet Hossain, 35, of Dakkhin Koralia village in Bhola Sadar upazila. On August 3, the two went missing as a fishing trawler capsized in the Bay due to rough weather, said police.

Seven detained on border

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Benapole

Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) arrested seven people while they were entering Bangladesh illegally from India through Gatipara border under Benapole Port Police Station on Sunday night. The arrestees are Mohammad Nayan, 24, Abu Hanif, 32, Harun ur Rashid, 29, Prodig Kumar, 28, Protiva Rani, 27, Pushpo Rani, 24, and Asha, 7. They hail from different areas in Khulna and Gopalganj districts, said Abdullah Wafi, company commander of BGB-26 Battalion.

Two girls drown in pond

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Thakurgaon

Two minor girls drowned in a pond at Kamat-Kajoldighi Chobarvita village in Panchagarh Sadar upazila yesterday. The deceased were Tuli Rani, 10, daughter of Joy Kumar, and Rahima Begum, 10, daughter of Hasibul Islam of the village. Locals said the two went to take a bath in a pond near their houses around 12:30pm and drowned.

47 rickshaws seized

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

Police seized 47 battery-run rickshaws in Mirzapur municipal area in Tangail yesterday to save electricity. The owners of the seized rickshaws, however, claimed that although the municipality authorities gave license at Tk 500 for each, the law enforcers seized their vehicles. Mohammad Main Uddin, officer-in-charge of Mirzapur Police Station, said

Illegal parking allowed!

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

Illegal parking of private ambulances removed from the premises of Mymensingh Medical College Hospital (MMCH) about three months ago, has returned to its place once again.

The recent return is causing troubles for the patients and their attendants as well.

Sources said although the hospital authorities evicted the ambulances from the MMCH premises in April and May this year, a portion of hospital building is occupied by the private ambulances once again.

The ambulance drivers started keeping the vehicles on MMCH premises after the construction work of Charpara Road began earlier this year.

During a visit to the hospital yesterday, this correspondent found about 50 ambulances parked on its premises.



Within three months of eviction, parking of private ambulances on the premises of Mymensingh Medical College Hospital has started once again.

PHOTO: STAR