

2 cops closed for 'rape bid' in Dinajpur

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

Two policemen of Government Railway Police (GRP) in Parbatipur upazila of the district have been closed on charge of trying to rape a 17-year-old girl.

They are Sub-Inspector Bishnu Chandra Barman, 32, and constable Ferazul Islam, 30, of Parbatipur GRP police.

The two were closed to Saidpur GRP Police Lines yesterday after the allegation was brought against them, said OC Abdus Salam of Parbatipur GRP Police Station.

Locals caught the duo red-handed when they tried to violate the girl at a quarter of Parbatipur Railway Hospital.

Spoiled youth arrested

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Barisal police arrested a youth on charge of raping at least 12 female college students from Dhaka's Mogbazar area on Monday.

Barisal Metropolitan Police Commissioner HM Ruhul Amin at a press briefing yesterday said arrestee Sayem Alam, 18, developed relationship with the college girls by using facebook and later raped them.

On August 10, he took a 17-year-old college girl to a hotel near Durasagar lake with the help of one of his female friends.

He later took away a mobile set, gold ornaments and cash after raping the girl and fled the scene. After the incident, the victim allegedly committed suicide in the hotel room.

During primary interrogation, Sayem confessed to raping the college girls, said the police commissioner.



A good number of locally reared bulky cows arrive at Ullapara cattle market in Sirajganj last Friday, a few days ahead of Eid-ul-Azha.

PHOTO: STAR

Prices of home-reared cattle on rise as India bans export

STAR COUNTRY DESK

Cattle farmers in different areas are now busy taking care of the animals ahead the Eid-ul-Azha while the prices of local cattle see sharp rise mainly due to ban on export of cattle to Bangladesh from neighbouring India.

Our Pabna correspondent reports: The prices of cattle meant for sacrifice has increased by 15 to 20 percent ahead of the Eid-ul-Azha in the local markets, compared to last year.

"Most of the cattle farmers want to sell their animals quite a few days before the Eid to get money. Taking the opportunity, the traders and middlemen buy cattle from the farmers for relatively low prices and go for sale before Eid-ul-Azha with bumper profit," Md Yeakub Ali, lease holder of Ullapara cattle market of Sirajganj told this correspondent last Friday.

The cattle from Ullapara go to different big cattle markets in Dhaka and Chittagong, he said.

"I have bought around 20 sacrificial animals from the farmers and local markets for Tk 60 thousand to one lakh last couple of weeks, targeting to sell in the capital for Tk 80 thousand to 1.20 lakh this year," said Md Abul Hossain at Ultodab village of Shahzadpur upazila.

A total of 19.54 lakh sacrificial animals are ready for sale in the Eid markets this year in Rajshahi division, the biggest cattle producing zone in the country, while it was 17 lakh during last year, said Md Mohir Uddin, deputy director of Rajshahi divisional livestock office. "Cattle rearing has increased in last couple of years. At least 20 percent local cattle have been added this year and so, there is nothing to be worried about shortage of animals ahead of Eid," he said.

Our Nilphamari Correspondent reports: Thousands of people in remote Teesta chars of district's Dimla and Jaldhaka upazila are now

busy taking care of their reared cattle to make them more attractive for selling as sacrificial animals before the upcoming Eid-ul-Azha.

However, following a ban by neighbouring India on exporting cows to Bangladesh, price of cattle has increased by 40-50 percent in local markets recently, much to the worry of people willing to sacrifice animals.

Rearing of bullocks, cows, oxen, buffaloes, sheep, and goats sees rapid progress under the government's Comprehensive Chars Livelihoods Programme aided by several NGOs, said District Livestock Officer Shahjahan Khondakar.

The animals are fattened by feeding wheat, maize and pulses powder, green grass, straw and vitamins after de-worming them.

During a recent visit to different Teesta chars like Purbo Kharibari, Uttor Kharibari, Kismoter Char, Tapur Char, Kismat Satnai, Satunama, Sati Ghat and Chhoto Khata, this

correspondent saw thousands of cattle are grazing in vast lands covered with green grass.

Our Patuakhali correspondent adds: Cattle rearing sees rise in the district as the business brings good profit, especially ahead of Eid-ul-Azha.

"I bought 55 cattle from different markets in February this year for Tk 30,000 to Tk 60,000 each. I feed them grass, straw, oil-cake, bran, grass, wheat, maize and molasses. I hope to sell those for Tk 50,000 to 1.50 lakh each before the Eid," said Shamsul Haque Fakir of Bahalgachia village under Patuakhali Sadar upazila.

The number of cow farms has increased to 756 from 401 last year, the district livestock office sources said.

Patuakhali District Livestock Officer Md Abdur Rahman said around 29,000 cattle and 5,000 goats have been fattened in 756 farms in the district ahead of Eid this year.

Fake notes a menace for Sylhet cattle traders

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

Gangs dealing with counterfeit banknotes have become active in the cattle markets of Sylhet city ahead of Eid-ul-Azha, much to the worry of stakeholders.

"On Tuesday, I sold a cow for Tk 35,000 and counted the money in a hurry. Later I found one 500-taka note and two 100-taka notes to be fake," Mati Mia, a cow trader from Pachhatik village in Guainghat upazila of Sylhet, said yesterday.

Several cattle traders at Kazirbazar cattle market in Sylhet city alleged that along with fake Bangladeshi currency notes, counterfeit pound, dollar and riyal notes are also being circulated, especially targeting expatriates who come to observe the Eid with their relatives.

"We hope the city corporation authorities will set banknote checking machines at every cattle market in Sylhet," said Abdul Kadir, a cattle trader in Tilaghar area of Sylhet city.

"Counterfeit money dealing is nothing new, especially ahead of Eid. We are arranging drives by uniformed and plainclothes law enforcers to check the crime," said Rahamatullah, additional police commissioner of Sylhet Metropolitan Police.

Family of boy with rare genetic disorder faces financial crisis

A CORRESPONDENT, Magura

Lablu Shikder, the Magura father of 4-year-old boy Bayezid who is suffering from an extremely rare genetic disorder, is finding it almost impossible to cover living costs in Dhaka while his son undergoes treatment.

Bayezid suffers from progeria, which has symptoms resembling premature aging and offers sufferers an optimal life expectancy of around 20 years. He was earlier referred to Dhaka for specialist treatment by Magura Sadar hospital.

Although, since 5 August 2016 Dhaka Medical College Hospital has been treating Bayezid free of cost, Lablu and his family are finding it extremely difficult to manage financially. As the family's sole breadwinner, Lablu's caring for his son in Dhaka means the family has little daily income for the moment. Lablu, who himself has no cash in hand, wonders how long he will



be needed at Bayezid's bedside, along with Lablu's wife Tripti Khatun.

When they first arrived in Dhaka a journalist collected Tk 5,000 for them and one medicine consultant from Magura Sadar Hospital, Dr Debashish Biswas, donated another Tk 2,000. But with the general costs of Dhaka living these amounts have already been spent.

For meals, the three family mem-

bers currently share the two plates of hospital-supplied food, with one plate meant for the patient and the second for a single carer. But Lablu must cover the living costs of five people in total, including his elderly parents; a responsibility that has never been easy to discharge on his meagre income earned as a mason's assistant.

The doctors have been very sincere in their efforts in treating his son, according to Lablu, who notes some seven tests have been conducted for Bayezid in the last few days, with up to 20 further tests ahead. Doctors have told him that his son's treatment may last for two months more.

Lablu is worried about his elderly parents in Magura. He says he may have to leave his son in order to provide for them. He has appealed for public assistance to help cover the family's living costs while Bayezid is admitted in Dhaka.

14 injured in gunfight

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

At least 14 people, including seven policemen, were injured in a gunfight between police and a gang of robbers in Tilabari area under Barlekha upazila of the district yesterday.

The injured policemen are OC Md Moniruzzaman, OC (investigation) Md Akbar Hossain, ASIs Amitav Das, Anwar Ullah and Bivash Sutrodhar, and constables Akbar Ali and Aaur Rahman of Barlekha Police Station. They were given primary treatment.

Md Moniruzzaman said, being informed by locals that 14/15 miscreants were preparing for a robbery in Tilabari area of the

upazila, a patrolling team raided the area at around 3:00am.

Sensing the police presence, the robbers opened fire. In retaliation, police also fired back, triggering the gunfight, the OC added. Seven policemen, including the OC, were injured in the gunfight. Seven robbers were also injured. Police arrested them from the spot.

The injured robbers were admitted to Barlekha Health Complex.

They are Jitu Miah, Abdul Khalek, Kholilur Rahman, Jahangir Mia, Nur Mia, Kamal Hosain and Masud of different upazilas of Habiganj.

HEQEP **University Grants Commission of Bangladesh**
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No.UGC/HEQEP/AIF/FabLab/2016- ৪২৪ Date: 30 August 2016

Time extension for submission of Fab Lab proposal

The Higher Education Quality Enhancement Project (HEQEP) has published an advertisement in two newspapers - The Daily Star and Kaler Kahtha on 09 August 2016 inviting proposals on Fab Lab (Fabrication Laboratory) under Window 4-Innovation Fund.

Considering time constraint for preparation of proposal on such a new concept as well as to arrange workshop for the prospective proposal submitting universities, HEQEP has extended the date of submission for Fab Lab proposal to the office of Vice-chancellor of the respective university up to **25 September, 2016**. The other important dates are rescheduled as follows:

- Last date to forward the CP to UAIFS/AIFMU of the respective university : **26 September 2016**
- Last date to reach CPs to HEQEP Office : **29 September 2016**
- Tentative time for publication of Award : **4th week of October 2016**
- Tentative time for signing contract : **1st week of November 2016**
- Completion date of Fab Lab subprojects : **On or before 30 November 2018**

All other information will remain unchanged.

30.08.2016
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গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
শিল্প মন্ত্রণালয়
বাংলাদেশ ইনস্টিটিউট অব ম্যানেজমেন্ট
৪, সোবহানবাগ মিরপুর রোড, ঢাকা-১২০৭
☎ ৮১১৭৪০৫-০৭, ৯১০৩১৭১-৩, ৯১০৩১৭৮ (পিএবিএস)
প্রশিক্ষণ কর্মসূচী, সেপ্টেম্বর ২০১৬

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PCJSS protests eco-tourism project

A CORRESPONDENT, Rangamati

Speakers at a rally in Rangamati town yesterday protested the government move to launch an eco-tourism project in two upazilas of Khagrachhari.

Parbatya Chattagram Jana Samhati Samiti's (PCJSS) Khagrachhari and Rangamati units jointly organised the programme.

The government has recently announced acquisition of 700 acres of land in the name of eco-tourism in Sadar and Matidanga upazilas.

The speakers also threatened to go for tougher movement if the decision is not cancelled immediately.

Previously, thousands of people became homeless near the Kaptai Lake due to construction of Kaptai dam, they said.