

**OUR CORRESPONDENT,  
Nilphamari**

A woman had a tragic abortion, being victim of a clash at Madhya Kakra village of Dimla upazila yesterday.

She is Saleha Begum, 28, wife of Anisur Rahman, 34, of the village.

Anisur cultivated a 34-decimal land as its owner for long but recently Zafaruddin, 50, of the village claimed its ownership, said locals and police.

Zafaruddin with his men attacked Anisur and his men around 9:00am yesterday, triggering a clash that left injured nine people including Saleha.

They were rushed to the upazila health complex.

Five including Saleha were shifted to Rangpur Medical College Hospital where abortion happened to her.

Alleging that Zafaruddin and his men beat and kicked his wife on the belly during the clash, Anisur filed a case against 10 people.

**OUR CORRESPONDENT,  
Dinajpur**

Unidentified criminals killed a housewife in Akkelpur upazila of Joypurhat on Saturday night, two hours into her abduction.

The deceased, Arati Rani Mohanto, 35, was wife of Uzzal Mohanto of Dewra Ashrayan area.

Quoting locals, police said a gang forcibly picked up Arati from in front of her house around 8:30pm.

At one stage, villagers found her lying unconscious at a paddy field around 10:30pm and took her to Akkelpur Upazila Health Complex, where the doctors declared her dead.



A ward of Pabna Mental Hospital, the country's lone specialised hospital for the mentally challenged people.

PHOTO: STAR

WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY TODAY

**8 doctors run 500-bed Pabna Mental Hospital!**

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

When the world will be observing the 24th World Mental Health Day today, the lone specialised hospital for mental diseases in the country, is limping amid serious shortage of doctors and other staff.

The World Mental Health Day, a day dedicated for global mental health education, advocacy and awareness, will be observed in Bangladesh as elsewhere across the world, aiming to raise public awareness regarding mental health issues. The day was first observed in 1992.

Surprisingly, only eight doctors against 30 posts, including three top hospital executives, are working at the 500-bed Pabna Mental Hospital (PMH) for the last one year. Hospital sources said there are 350 working

staff against 492 posts.

With only five working doctors, the hospital is facing immense difficulties for treating nearly 400 admitted patients and about 100 to 120 outdoor patients.

PMH Director Dr Tonmoy Prakash Bishwas said despite repeated pleas to the ministry concerned for appointing doctors to the vacant posts, no step has been taken yet.

The hospital authority could not provide specialised treatment to its all patient as there is no clinical psychiatrist, dental surgeon, anaesthetist, resident psychiatrist in the hospital for long, he added.

As it is not possible for only five doctors to provide treatment to both admitted and outdoor patients, the hospital authorities sometimes have

to hire doctors from Pabna Medical College Hospital.

Besides, shortage of specialised nurses and other staff also hampers proper medical services.

Established in 1957, the hospital first started functioning with 200-bed facilities. Later another 50-bed was added in the early 80's.

In the year 2000, the 250-bed hospital was upgraded to 500-bed. But proportionately the posts for specialised doctors and other employees were not added for over a decade, Dr Bishwas further said.

Despite increasing the seat capacity, the allotted posts for the doctors and staff, which was 30 and 492 respectively for the 250-bed hospital, remained the same, he added.

**Mother-in-law's brutality lands her in hospital**

*Giving birth to girl was victim's crime!*  
OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bogra

A housewife landed in hospital as she was burnt with the hot water allegedly poured by her mother-in-law at Bilkajuli village in Dhunat upazila under the district yesterday.

The victim is Chameli Begum, 25, wife of Abu Hossain Bitu, and daughter of Hafizur Rahman of Bilkajuli village under Sadar union of Dhunat.

The victim's relatives said she was married with Bitu, 34, son of Jalal Uddin of the same village, 11 years ago and their conjugal life was peaceful.

But after giving birth to a girl child four years ago, she faced discontent from her in-laws and they used to torture on her physically and mentally, even tried to remove her from the house.

During an altercation over the issue, her mother-in-law Jayeda Khatun, 55, threw hot water on her body around 8:00am yesterday, relatives said, adding that they rushed her to Dhunat Upazila Health Complex as lower part of her body was burnt.

Confirming the incident, Lal Mia, chairman of Dhunat Sadar union parishad, said, "I earlier tried to persuade the family not to do excesses over the unreasonable matter but failed."

Mizanur Rahman, officer-in-charge of Dhunat Police Station, said he was informed the matter but none lodged any complaint regarding it.

**TONNY MURDER Main accused arrested**

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

Police arrested Ranu Roy, prime accused in the Tunny murder case, from Vadugarh bus stand in Brahmanbaria town on Saturday, said SP in Habiganj Joydeb Kumar Vadra.

OC of Detective Branch of Police in Habiganj Amiruzzaman said they sent Ranu to a Habiganj court, where Senior Magistrate Nishat Sultana recorded his confessional statement.

The SP said Tunny and Ranu, of Shibpasa under Nabiganj upazila of Habiganj, had an affair for long.

Tunny and Ranu had an altercation on September 19 and at one stage Ranu strangled Tunny. Later, he put the body in a sack and threw it into the river.

**Bamboos connect collapsed concrete bridge**

*Villagers demand immediate repair*

AZIBOR RAHMAN, Jhenidah

At last, villagers have erected a bamboo bridge on their own as a replacement for the middle section of the concrete bridge that collapsed suddenly on June 6 this year.

Locals said the bridge, built in 1994, over the Sanchai river on Narikelbaria-Tikari Bazar road, broke down in June. They said they informed the authorities concerned about the matter, but to no effect.

People of Jitore, Miakundo, Kushobaria, Dhananjoypur, Muktarampur, Marninda, Narikelbaria, Tikari, Dahkhola, Dighirpar, Laxmipur, Malanchi, Bangsha, Beruel and other villages use the bridge. Besides, the road runs to Magura via Narikelbaria-Tikari bazar

from Jhenidah town.

Villagers said they had to walk 10/12 km to cross the river, and some risked their lives by getting across on a donga.

Finding no way, the villagers voluntarily made a bamboo bridge to fill up the vacant part with 550 bamboos along the 63-foot bridge at a cost of Tk 4.5 lakh, which was borne by the Local Government Engineering Department (LGED).

Farmer Zinnat Ali of Miakundo village said the bridge developed cracks seven or eight months ago, and they informed the matter to the authorities concerned. The authorities hung a signboard prohibiting heavy vehicles from crossing the bridge. The bridge collapsed suddenly on June, 6, injuring two people of Tikari village,

locals said.

Farmer Alamgir Hossain said they can now transport their produce to the markets.

Swapn Biswas, a student of Narikelbaria Secondary School, said they now go to school without any fear.

Toll collector Palash Biswas said the makeshift bridge would get rotten soon and collapse, so there is no alternative to repairing the concrete bridge immediately.

Palash said he charges taka one to two from the users and the drivers of human haulers to meet the cost of the maintenance of the bridge.

Jhenidah LGED Executive Engineer Abdul Malek hoped that the work would start after getting design of the bridge and allotment.



Local people erect a bamboo bridge on their own as a replacement for the middle section of the concrete bridge on the Sanchai river in Jhenidah that collapsed suddenly on June 6 this year.

PHOTO: STAR



This land at Goalpara village in Mahishkhocha union of Aditmari upazila under Lalmonirhat district goes back to its owner Premchand Robidas yesterday, thanks to the administrative action following a report published in The Daily Star on September 26.

PHOTO: STAR

**Robidas gets back his land, finally**

*The Daily Star report prompts action*

S DILIP ROY, Lalmonirhat

At last Premchand Robidas of Goalpara village in Aditmari upazila under the district has got back his 35 decimals of arable land from a local fraud.

Shah Alam, 38, known as a drug peddler at the village, got 35 decimals of arable land of the Hindu family registered through forgery on February 5 in 2015 and recently made an attempt to occupy their rest 81 decimals of land in the same way.

Regarding the matter, The Daily Star on September 26 ran a report headlined "Hindu family under threat", and land registry officials, deed writers and locals created pressure on Shah Alam to return back the land to its owner Premchand.

Finally Shah Alam returned the land to its owner through registration today [Sunday], said Kamrul Hossain, sub-registrar of Aditmari sub-registry office.

"If the Daily Star didn't publish a report about my plight and stand beside me, it would not be possible to get back my land from the

village tout," said a thankful Premchand, 55, after getting back his land at Goalpara village of Mahishkhocha union in Aditmari.

"Now we want to see action against the culprits who were involved with the forgery," said Rafiqul Islam, a villager.

Shah Alam said, "A few locals instigated me to occupy the Hindu family's land through forged registration. I spent Tk three lakh for the purpose, as I had to manage the deed writer, fake witnesses, and land registry officials."

Land deed writer at Aditmari upazila sub-registry office Rokon Uzzaman, who was involved in the forgery, said, "The Daily Star report brought sense to me and I started working to return the land to Premchand from Shah Alam."

District Registrar Sarker Lutful Kabir said, "As per our instruction, Lalmonirhat Sadar Upazila Sub-Registrar Yousuf Ali Miah is investigating the matter. After getting the probe report, legal step will be taken against those who were involved in the forgery."



Premchand Robidas

**Four 'Neo JMB' men sent to jail**

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gaibandha

The Judicial Magistrate's Court, Gaibandha sent four 'Neo JMB' activists to jail when they were produced before it yesterday.

Earlier, police arrested the four Neo Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) activists on charge of vandalising Kali idol and setting fire to temples in different areas in Sundarganj upazila of the district.

Police arrested the four at Mondolerhat village of the upazila, said Superintendent of Police Ashraf Islam at a briefing at his conference room.

The arrestees are Faisal Khan Fagun, 17, son of Yousuf Khan, Nazrul Islam Khan, 35, son of Abdul Wahed, Ashiqul Islam, 16, son of Abdul Hamid Mia and Shaheed Mia, 11, son of Adab Ali of village Paschim Chhaporhati in the upazila.