

UP CHAIRMAN MURDER
Mother cries
for justice

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Dinaipur

Sahara Begum, mother of Union Parishad (UP) chairman AK Azad, who was killed in an attack by rivals, yesterday demanded exemplary punishment to the culprits responsible for the death of her son.

While speaking at a press conference at Joypurhat Press Club, Sahara said of the five accused in the murder case, Sohel Rana, 25, and Munir Hossain, 28, of Joypurhat Sadar upazila have been killed in crossfire.

Sahara alleged that although members of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) arrested another accused Md Munna from Dhaka on November 9, but police are reluctant to arrest Hatem Ali, the mastermind behind the murder.

On June 5, criminals stabbed and shot Azad, newly elected chairman of Bhadsha UP in Sadar upazila, while he was returning home around 10:30pm. He succumbed to his injuries while undergoing treatment at a private hospital in the capital on June 12.

Azad won the election as AL rebel candidate by defeating AL nominated candidate Hatem Ali.

War heroine Biva struggles for survival with challenged son

SUSHANTA GHOSH, Barisal

"The brutal Pakistani army snatched away all the charm and happiness from my life 45 years ago," said Biva Rani, struggling for survival with her physically and mentally challenged son in Gournadi upazila under the district.

She lives in a shabby tin-shed house of her brother Upendranath Mandal near Torki Bandar in Gournadi and works as a weaver and occasional midwife to make a living as her husband left her in 1988, after knowing her identity as a Birangana (war heroine), Biva said.

During the 1971 Liberation War, Biva, then reading in Class VIII, lived with five siblings at the house of her father Umesh Chanda Mandal, a small trader at Torkir Char.

"In the month of Jaistha (mid-May to mid-June), Pakistani army aided by local Razakars attacked Torki. While trying to flee, our family members got scattered and I with some other women took shelter inside a sugarcane field," she said.

"Razakar Ayub Ali and his associates nabbed us from there and handed us over to the army. We became victim of their brutalities and I became senseless at one stage," said a weeping Biva.

"Later local freedom fighter Sagir Mia rescued me and brought me home. I was married with Anukul Majumdar of the area the next month. Then I with several members of the two families went to West Bengal in India as refugee," Biva said.



PHOTO: STAR

War heroine Biva Rani helps her physically and mentally challenged son to take food at her house in Gournadi upazila under Barisal recently.

"After the independence, we returned home. My only son Sagor was born in 1988. That year my husband came to know of my victimisation in 1971. Afterwards, he left me and went to India.

Later Sagor became physically and mentally disabled as nerves and muscles of his legs dried due to alleged wrong treatment for head injury at Barisal Sher E Bangla Medical College Hospital.

"I do tailoring, sewing and handloom weaving, and also work as a midwife, on the basis of my earlier

experience as a health worker. Zamal Mia, Esahaq chairman and a few other locals helped on different occasions.

"Unlike many other women victims of the Liberation War, I did not get any help from the government. I appealed to the Ministry of Liberation War to include my name as a freedom fighter but to no response yet.

"At this old age, I want recognition as a freedom fighter and necessary support from the government," Biva said.

Half-century not a good score for a bamboo bridge!

AMINUL ISLAM with ANDREW EAGLE

A half-century might be a noteworthy cricket tally but it's a long time for people to live without a vital transport link. Yet in Mymensingh's Ishwarganj upazila the inhabitants of seven villages have suffered from such a situation, with the locally-made bamboo bridge at Sankurghat the only nearby option for crossing the Kanchamatia River, a Brahmaputra tributary.

"It's really difficult to reach upazila headquarters," says Alal Uddin from affected Bishnupur village. "It's a twenty-kilometre journey away from the river due to the lack of a good transport link, and in rainy season the scale of the suffering is even worse."

"Villages in our area are famous for quality vegetables, year-round," says Aklima Khatun, a farmer of nearby Bhatirchar. "But due to the transport difficulties we are left at the mercy of middlemen."

"If there was a concrete bridge over the

river," agrees another farmer, Jasim Uddin from Machuadanga, "we could reach upazila headquarters, the district town and even Dhaka with ease. Then we could achieve a reasonable profit for our produce."

In the meantime villagers have themselves constructed the bamboo bridge at Sankurghat, which many school children must negotiate on every school day to reach class. The bamboo bridge needs repair work and some reconstruction each year.

More painful still, several villagers commented, is when critical patients who need to reach Ishwarganj upazila's health complex or Mymensingh town hospitals as a matter of urgency cannot.

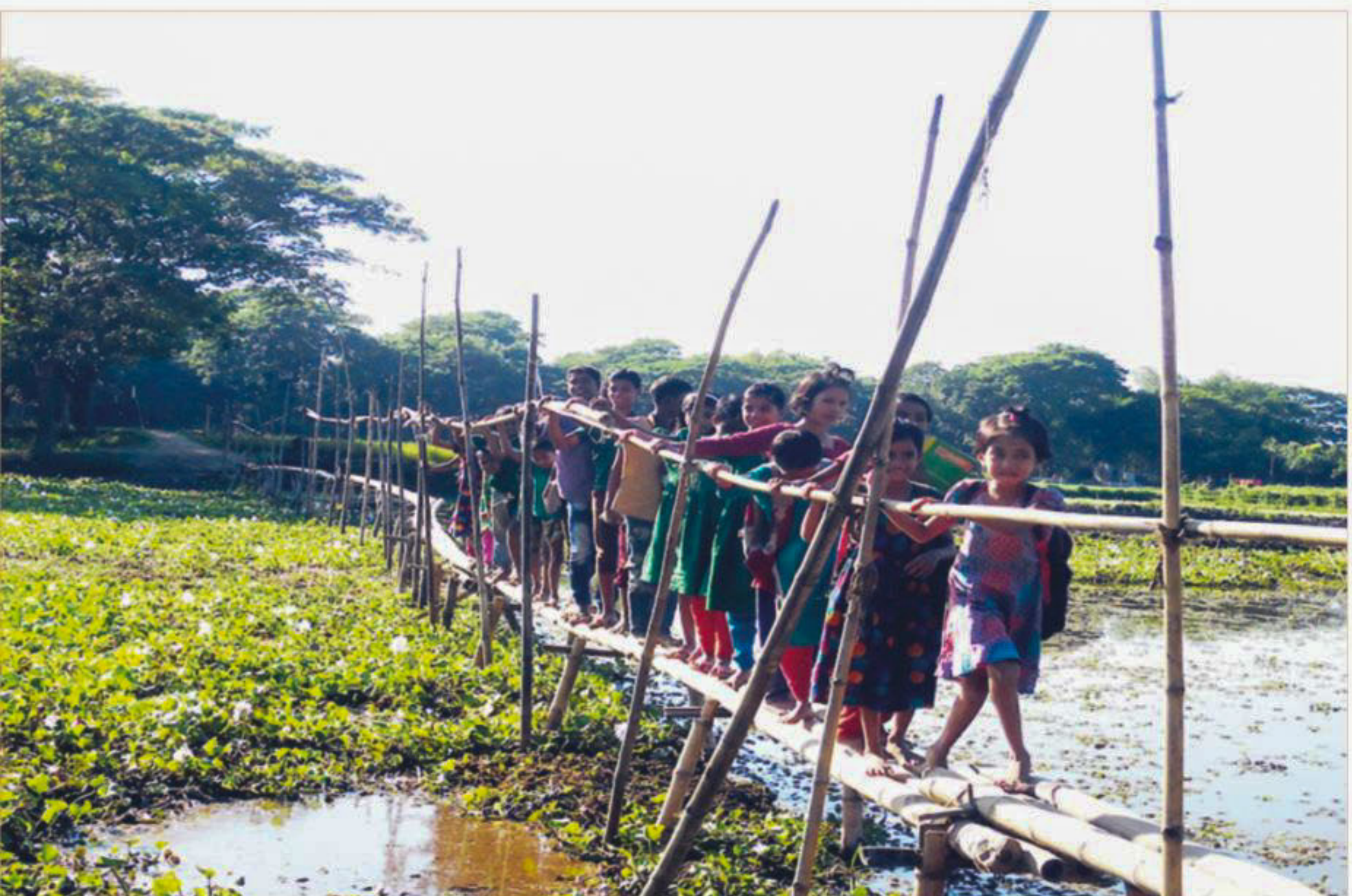
In all seven villages a concrete bridge is a long-cherished dream. Despite this, no initiative for its construction has ever been taken.

"For our students and our farmers who cannot get fair prices for their produce,"

says Modabbirul Islam, the chairman of affected Razibpur union, "the construction of a concrete bridge is a must. Without it our locality will not develop."

"Before many national elections candidates of different political parties have made colourful pledges to build the bridge; they happily take the votes of our villagers but don't keep their promises," Modabbirul said.

The upazila nirbahi officer of Ishwarganj, Rajib Kumar Sarker, says along with other upazila officials he visited the area recently and has asked the upazila engineer to prepare a proposal for a concrete bridge. "We will send the proposal to the concerned authority soon, and make it a priority job for us," he says. "In the meantime, we will construct a wide and strong bamboo bridge funded by the administration within a week, to facilitate easier passage of villagers and students across the river."



A few kids cross a bamboo bridge over the Kanchamatia river at Sankurghat in Ishwarganj upazila of Mymensingh to reach school.

PHOTO: STAR

Call to stop harassing indigenous people

A CORRESPONDENT, Khagrachhari


United People's Democratic Front (UPDF) organised a 30-kilometre-long human chain from Khagrachhari Sadar to Dudukchara in Panchari upazila of the hill district yesterday demanding end to what they said unwarranted arrest and harassment of UPDF leaders and indigenous people.

Speakers at the programme demanded immediate release of UPDF central committee member Ujjal Smriti Chakma and Pahari Chhatra Parishad central committee secretary Bipul Chakma.

They alleged that law enforcement agencies during their joint operations in different areas of the hill district arrest UPDF leaders and supporters without any justifiable cause and harass innocent indigenous people.

Democratic environment in the Chaittagong Hill Tracts is a must for a lasting peace in the region, they said.

In Loving Memory of Yousuf Saaduddin Ahmed



...Perhaps my time seemed all too brief. Don't lengthen it now with undue grief. Lift up your heart and share with me. God wanted me now. He set me free. (from I am free by unknown author)

Yousuf Saaduddin Ahmed was suffering from prolonged illness since 2014. He breathed last on 30.11.16 at 10:00pm at the Apollo Hospitals. He was laid to rest on 01.12.16 in his mother's grave at Banani graveyard.

We request your prayers for his departed soul.

~ From his bereaved family members



The canal locally known as Barukhali Khal flowing through the Mirzapur municipality area in Tangail is nearly dead due to mindless filling and encroachment.

PHOTO: MIRZA SHAKIL

<div><div></div><div>Bangladesh Fisheries Research Institute (BFRI) Mymensingh-2001</div></div>				
Memo No. 33.04.0000.136.05.007.16-228			Date: 06-12-2016	
INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT)				
1	Ministry/Division	:	Ministry of Fisheries & Livestock (MoFL)	
2	Agency	:	Bangladesh Fisheries Research Institute (BFRI)	
3	Procuring Entity Name	:	Project Director	
4	Procuring Entity Code	:	N/A	
5	Invitation for	:	Procurement of Laboratory Equipment	
6	Procuring Entity District	:	Mymensingh	
7	Invitation Ref. No. and Date	:	Memo No. 33.04.0000.136.05.007.16-228	Date: 06-12-2016
8	Procurement Method	:	Open Tendering Method (OTM)	
9	Budget and Source of Fund	:	GoB Funded, Development Project	
10	Project/ Programme Code	:	5018	
11	Project Name	:	Culture of Cuchia (Mud eel) and Crab in the Selected Areas of Bangladesh and Research Project (Component-B, BFRI Part)	
12	Tender Package No.	:	Package No. G-7	
13	Tender Package Name	:	Procurement of Laboratory Equipment	
14	Tender Last Selling Date	:	Date: 28-12-2016, (Up to 17:00 pm)	
15	Tender Closing Date and Time	:	Date: 29-12-2016, Time- 12:00 pm	
16	Tender Opening Date and Time	:	Date: 29-12-2016, Time- 12:30 pm	
17	Name & Address of the Office (s)	:		
	- Selling Tender Document (Principal)	:	Accounts Section, Bangladesh Fisheries Research Institute (BFRI), Mymensingh-2201	
	- Selling Tender Document (Others)	:	i) Member-Director (Fish.), Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC), Farmgate, Dhaka- 1215	
	- Receiving Tender Document	:	ii) Bangladesh Fisheries Research Institute (BFRI), Mymensingh- 2201	
	- Opening Tender Document	:	Bangladesh Fisheries Research Institute (BFRI), Mymensingh- 2201	
18	Place/Date/Time of Pre-Tender Meeting	:	N/A	
19	Eligibility of Tender	:	Tenderer should provide: i) Valid & updated trade license, Vat Registration Certificate, Income TAX clearance certificate with TIN and Bank Solvency Certificate with Bank Statement. ii) All evidence regarding the above documents must have to submit with the tenderer. The tenderer shall have minimum 05 (Five) years experience in supply of similar goods and related services. Similar work experience in a single work order not less than 25,00000/- (Twenty five lac taka only) during last three years. iii) Tenders have to fulfill the requirements of Tender Data Sheet (TDS) & Particular Conditions of Contract (PCC).	
20	Brief Description of Laboratory Equipment & Related Services (As per schedule)			
	Package No.	Description of goods & services	Price of tender documents (TK)	Amount Tender Security (TK)
	Package G-7	Laboratory Equipment	1,000/- (One thousand taka only)	1,92,000/-
21	Name of Official Inviting Tender		Dr. DurinAkhterJahan	
22	Designation of Official Inviting Tender		Project Director	
23	Address of Official Inviting Tender		Project Director, Culture of Cuchia (Mud eel) and Crab in the Selected Areas of Bangladesh and Research Project (Component-B, BFRI Part), Bangladesh Fisheries Research Institute (BFRI), Mymensingh-2201	
24	Contact Details of Official Inviting Tender		Phone No.: 01712-611185	
25	Special instructions i) The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject tender without assigning any reason whatsoever ii) If the bid can not be received/opened due to unavoidable circumstances or holiday on scheduled date and time bid shall be received/opened at the same venue and time on the subsequent working day iii) In case of failing on providing supporting paper(s)/document(s) the tender shall be out right rejected. iv) The authority is not bound to accept the lowest priced tender, if the specifications of goods and other terms and conditions mentioned in the schedule are not fulfilled by the Tenderer v) The Tender may be hand delivery or posted by registered mail or Courier Service. vi) Other terms and conditions to be followed as per schedule vii) The work order will be given subject to the availability of fund.			