

## Man dies in Habiganj land dispute

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

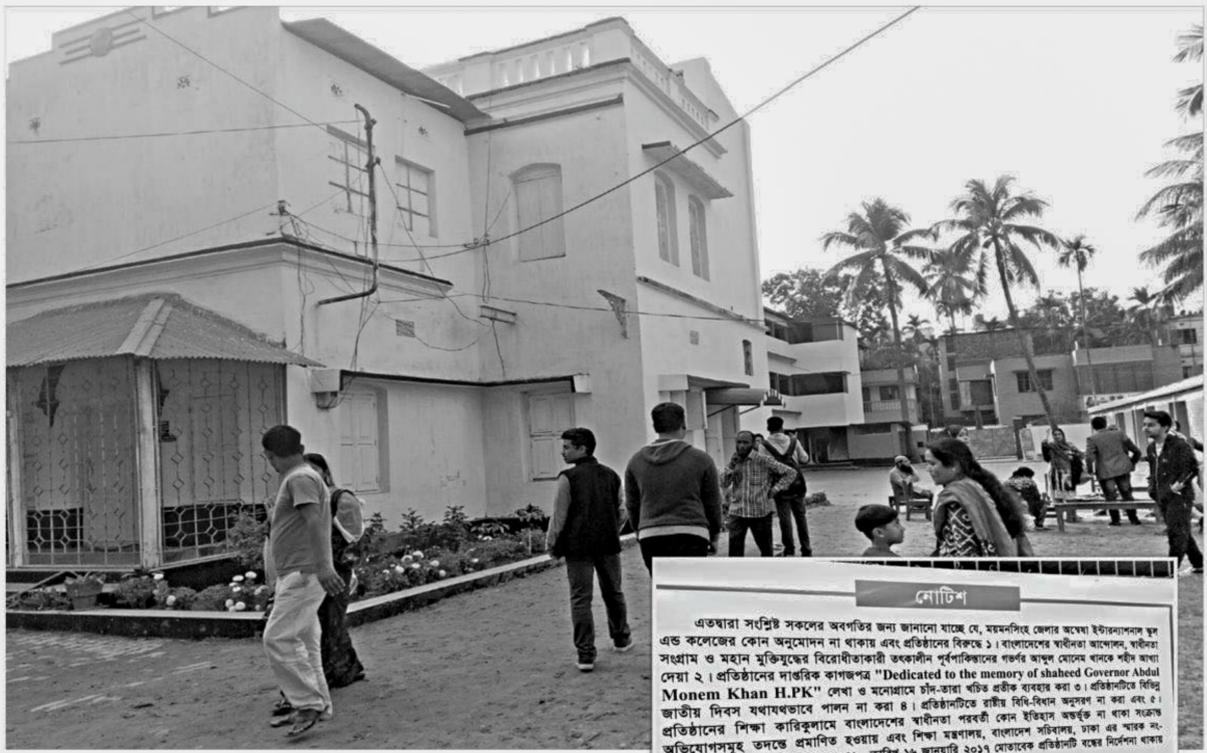
A man was killed and 20 others were injured in a clash between two rival groups over land dispute at Bongaon village in Chunarughat upazila of Habiganj on Saturday.

The deceased was Sahed Miah, 32, a resident of the village.

Police and locals said an altercation took place between the supporters of Suruj Ali and Mannan Miah of the village over the land.

At one stage, the rival groups attacked each other with lethal weapons around 7:00pm, leaving a man dead on the spot and 20 others from both sides injured.

On information, police rushed to the spot and fired rubber bullets and tear gas shells to bring the situation under control, said Nirmallendu Chakrabarty, officer-in-charge of Chunarughat Police Station.



The district administration closes Onnesha International School and College at Natun Bazar in Mymensingh town yesterday. Inset, the closure notice, signed by the deputy commissioner.

PHOTO: STAR

## AL men beat up headmaster

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Natore

A school headmaster in Singra upazila of the district was mercilessly beaten allegedly by a few local leaders of Awami League (AL) on Saturday noon.

The victim, Rafiqul Islam, headmaster of Khidrbaria High School, said five to six people led by Jahedul Islam Bhola, 50, chairman of Chaugram union parishad (UP), and joint secretary of Singra upazila unit of AL, committed the crime.

"They entered the office room of the school with bamboo sticks and made the other teachers leave the room around 12:30pm. Then they beat me up mercilessly without any provocation.

"They also snatched two mobile phones from me and took my sign in two blank checks.

"Al Azad Chana, member of Natore district council and publication secretary of Singra upazila unit AL, former UP member Jayed Ali, and AL activist Babu Hossain, were also among the attackers, he said.

"Earlier a physical education teacher named Shahin Reza joined the school with fake certificates but the education board later dismissed him. Later, Jahedul Islam Bhola demanded from me Tk 5 lakh, saying that I was responsible for Reza's dismissal," the headmaster added.

Later, teachers and students of the school rescued him and took him to Singra Upazila Health Complex from where he was shifted to Shaheed Ziaur Rahman Medical College Hospital in Bogra yesterday morning.

Contacted, UP chairman Jahedul Islam Bhola said, "According to the school register, headmaster Rafiqul Islam was absent at the school on Saturday. So there is not scope to assault him there. Even I was not there on the day."

Mir Asaduzzaman, assistant superintendent of police (Singra Circle), said, "No case was filed with Singra Police Station in this regard. Police will take necessary step only after getting complaint."

Asked whether they are taking any action against the attackers on the headmaster, Nasir Uddin, officer in charge of Singra Police Station, suggested this correspondent to file a case regarding the matter.



## Univ girl molested in night coach

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Thakurgaon

A female university student was allegedly sexually harassed by the driver and the supervisor of a night coach while going to Dhaka from Thakurgaon on Saturday.

The victim's mother submitted a complaint to the counter of Hanif Enterprise on Naresh Chowhan Road in the town on Sunday morning.

She said her daughter, a student of a private university, started for Dhaka from Thakurgaon on a night coach of Hanif Enterprise at 8:30pm on Saturday. As the seat next to the girl was vacant, the supervisor sat beside her. At one stage he harassed her sexually and also wanted her cellphone number.

When the bus reached Gabtoli bus stand on Sunday morning, the supervisor and driver tried to drag her into a CNG-run auto-rickshaw but failed.

Later, the girl's relatives rescued her from Gabtoli. Manager of Hanif counter Narayan Das said they had received a complaint against the supervisor and the driver of a night coach of sexually harassing a girl passenger and informed the head office about the matter.

Additional Superintendent of Police Dewan Lalon Ahmed said he heard about the complaint by the guardian and will take steps against the accused.

## Monem Khan a martyr!

Govt closes school run by Monem's daughter in Mymensingh

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

The district administration yesterday shut down Onnesha International School and College in the town on grounds of specific allegations, including terming as shaheed (martyr) former East Pakistan governor Abdul Monem Khan, who was shot dead by freedom fighters for betraying the Liberation War in 1971.

"Following an Education Ministry order dated January 16, we have closed the institution today [Sunday] as the allegations were proved," said Md Khalilur Rahman, deputy commissioner of Mymensingh.

The other allegations include using a flag adorned with star and the moon in the institution's monogram; not observing different national days with due respect; not following state rules; and not introducing the history of Bangladesh after its independence in the curriculum.

Visiting the institution at noon, this correspondent found only a few students,

teachers and guardians on the campus.

Asked about the allegations, Nilufar Sultana, vice principal of Onnesha International School and College, said, "The dedication and logo of the institution can be corrected. And the other allegations are not totally true.

"We follow the government rules and pay VAT and taxes. All the national days and Pahela Baishakh are observed at the institution.

"The school is registered under the University of Cambridge. The country's history up to the Liberation War is included in our Bangladesh Studies subject and the same course is followed by many English Medium Schools of the country.

"We have complied with the administration's decision but earnestly want the reopening of the institution as early as possible considering the future of over 300 students in the institution from play group to A-Level," the vice principal said.

Now the institution has a staff of 37 people including 27 teachers, sources said.

Meanwhile, the management of the institution yesterday issued a notice, saying, "Due to some unavoidable reasons, classes will remain suspended for a month, till February 28, 2017. You are earnestly requested not to lose hope and keep trust upon us. Our children are our asset and we will protect their interest with all strength."

Several students preferring not to be named said they want early steps for smooth running of their education.

"My son is scheduled to sit for his A-Level examinations from the institution this year. Who will take the responsibility of my son now?" said Dalia Islam, a guardian.

The institution was established at the house of Monem Khan on a 66-decimal of land at Natun Bazar in Mymensingh town in 1996. Nasreen Monem Khan, daughter of Monem, is its principal.

The principal could not be reached as her mobile was found busy after repeated attempts.



The tea workers warm themselves by the fire, burning tea leaves at Kurma tea garden in Kamalganj upazila of Moulvibazar.

PHOTO: STAR

## 5 Indian 'cattle smugglers' sent to jail

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

A Kushtia court yesterday sent five Indian nationals allegedly involved in cattle smuggling to jail.

The Chief Judicial Magistrate's Court, Kushtia gave the order after the police produced them before it.

Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) on Saturday detained them from Daulatpur border in the district as they entered Bangladesh.

BGB sources said the arrestees were involved in cattle smuggling.

They are Hajimuddin, 25, Mujibul Sheikh, 22, Jhantu Sheikh, 20, Mizanur Rahman, 18, and Rintu Sheikh, 20, of Shibrampur under Jalangi Police Station of Murshidabad in West Bengal.

BGB Chilmay Camp Commander Subedar Rafiqul Islam said a team of border guards arrested them when they entered the Bangladesh territory illegally through Challishpara border point in Daulatpur upazila in the district at about 6:30pm.

## Tea workers shiver with cold

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

Bitter cold in Srimangal of the district makes the life of tea workers, especially the elderly people and the children, miserable.

The sun remains invisible till noon in the area due to fog while the people, including the tea workers, try to keep warm, burning straw. The tea workers stay in the house due to hostile weather and lack of warm clothes.

"We are shivering with the bitter cold even inside the house," said Koloti Ghatuar, an elderly woman at Kurma tea garden beside the Dhalai river.

The temperature was recorded 8.3 degrees Celsius yesterday, said Harun-ur Rashid, senior adviser of Srimangal Meteorological Centre.

The number of patients of cold-related diseases has increased during the last few days, said Dr Zakir Hosain, resident medical officer of Kulaura Upazila Health Complex.

Children have been afflicted with cold-related and water-borne diseases like cough, pneumonia, vomiting and diarrhoea, he said.

The workers of Harincherra tea garden went to the local union parishad office for warm cloths but returned without any help, said Swapan Nayek in Srimangal upazila.

The poor people of the tea garden areas are the worst sufferers as they can hardly afford warm clothes, said Rajghat Union Parishad Chairman Bijoy Benarjee.

A total of four lakh people of 92 tea gardens in Moulvibazar suffered a lot due to shivering cold, said Makhon Lal Karmakar, president of Bangladesh Tea Workers Union. Makhon Lal said they did not get any help from the garden owners so far.

Bangladesh Cha Sangsad Vice-Chairman Shafwan Chowdhury said they supported the tea workers during this winter in a limited scale.

District Relief and Rehabilitation Officer Narayan Chandra Saha said they received only 27,988 blankets so far for seven upazilas in the district.

## TORTURE IN CUSTODY

### Court orders judicial probe against 2 cops

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

A court here yesterday ordered judicial inquiry against two policemen and two civilians for allegedly torturing a man after putting handcuffs on him on January 15.

Abdul Salam Howlader filed a case with Patuakhali Senior Judicial Magistrate's Court yesterday, accusing the four people.

Senior Judicial Magistrate Md Amirul Islam delivered the order, asking for the report to be submitted by February 14, said Salam's lawyer Md Jahangir Hossain.

The accused policemen are Sub-Inspector Jasim Uddin Khan, also in-charge of Boga police probe centre under Baufal upazila, and Constable Al Mamun. The civilians are Md Billal Hossain Ujjal and Nasir Uddin.

According to the case statement, Ujjal and his men started setting up a shop on January 15 on Salam's land. Ujjal called Jasim and Mamun over cellphone as Salam tried to prevent them from erecting the shop.

The policemen took Salam to Boga probe centre at about 1.30pm and tortured him for his refusal to pay the money that the accused demanded.

Police sent Salam to the court on January 16, threatening to kill him in crossfire if he told the court about being tortured. Salam, however, got bail on January 17.

Superintendent of Police (SP) Syed Mosfiqur Rahman did not receive the reporter's phone calls despite repeated attempts.

Acting Additional SP (ASP) Shahed Ali Pathan said the SP formed a probe body headed by ASP Md Saiful Islam on January 18, asking him to submit a report in three days.

The report is being delayed as Saiful is now in Dhaka on official purpose, Shahed said.

**ELECTRICITY GENERATION COMPANY OF BANGLADESH LIMITED**  
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No. 27.27.2666.101.05.321.16.192 Dated: 22/01/2017

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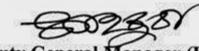
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