

15 injured in Jhenidah AL infighting

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jhenidah

At least 15 people were injured, one of them bullet-hit, in a clash between two factions of Awami League at Paranpur village in Sadar upazila yesterday over establishing supremacy in the area.

The injured were admitted to Jhenidah Sadar Hospital and different clinics in the town.

One faction is led by former union parishad chairman Khandakar Farukuzzaman Farid, also an activist of AL, and another by incumbent UP chairman Abdullah-Al-Masum, also a Jubo League activist.

As a sequel to the conflict, the men of the two rivals attacked each other with firearms and lethal weapons, leaving at least 15 people from both sides injured, said police and locals.

Of them, Pintu Sheikh, who sustained bullet injuries, is a supporter of Masum.

Contacted, Farid and Masum blamed each other for the attack.

Harendranath Sarkar, officer-in-charge of Sadar Police Station, said the situation is now under control.

Air pollution from fumes

Construction firm burns discarded shoes to melt pitch

EAM ASADUZZAMAN, Nilphamari

Burning of discarded shoes made of synthetic materials to melt pitch is causing severe air pollution in Dakkhin Motukpur village of Domar upazila.

Messrs SM Shafiqul Alam, a construction firm in the district, is using the discarded shoes for melting pitch instead of coal or wood. This causes air pollution from dense smoke and fumes.

The firm is repairing and carpeting Boragari-Teen Bot segment of Domar-Dimla road after getting the work order last month.

This correspondent visited the site a few days ago and saw tar in drums being melted in big earthen furnaces. Synthetic materials were used to make the fire.

The smoke and fumes emitted by the furnaces covered the entire area, causing severe air pollution and creating a public health hazard. The area is densely populated and two educational institutions are situated nearby.

Day labourer Poritosh Roy, who was engaged in the work, said the firm purchased the rejected sandals and shoes from waste material wholesalers as those are cheaper compared to coal or wood. It has been burning them for long, he added.

Panga Motukpur Union Parishad Member Saidur Rahman said the company is causing serious air pollution, leading to health hazard in the area. He said he requested them not to use such materials in melting pitch that went unheeded.

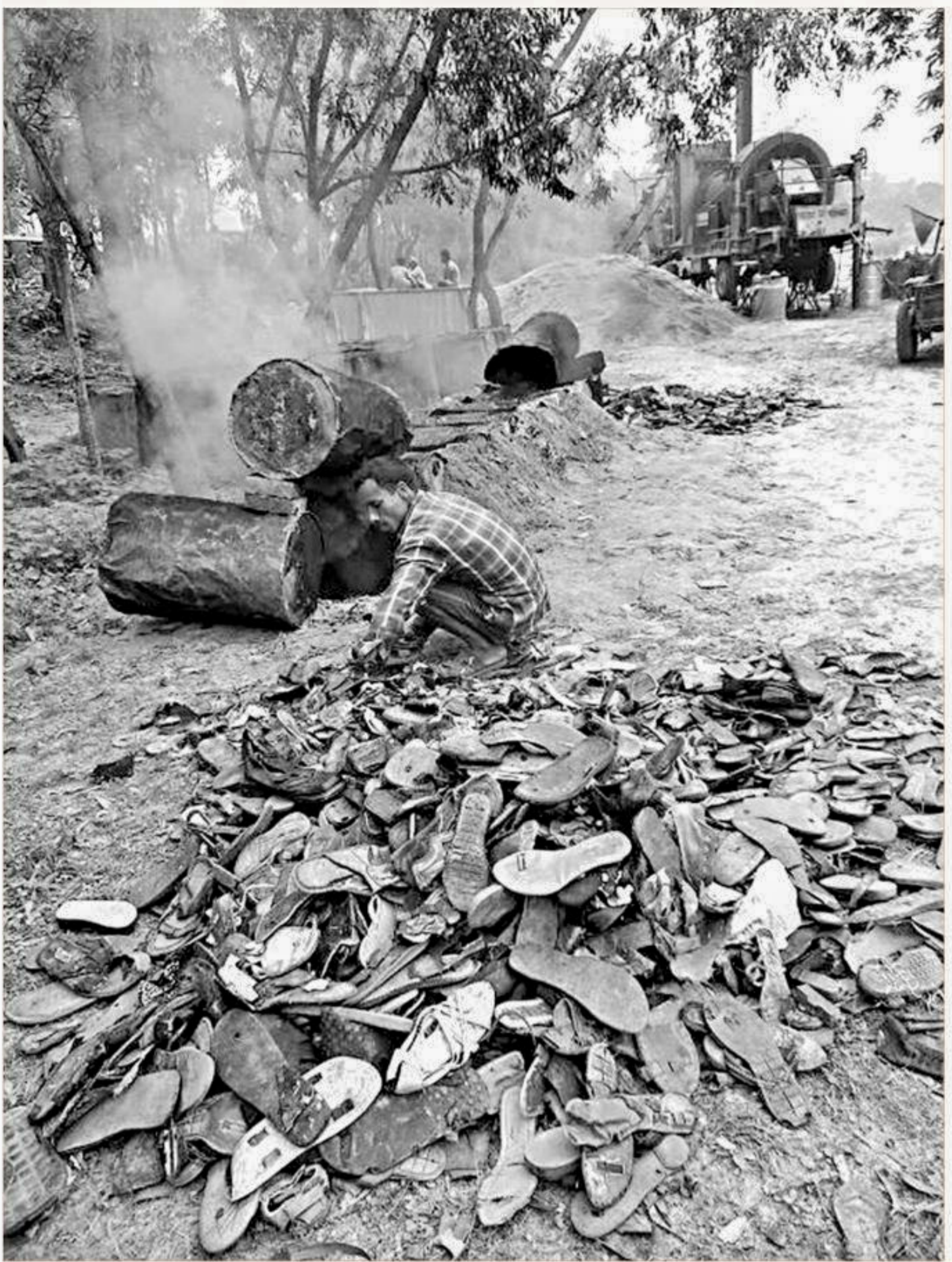
Locals said there are two educational institutions with several hundred students situated nearby. The students are suffering due to the smoke and fumes, which is harming the academic atmosphere, they added.

Mitu and Nayan of Soto Rauta Kali Mandir Government Primary School said they cannot pay attention to their studies and the teachers feel uneasy due to the smoke during the class hour.

Nilphamari Civil Surgeon Dr Abdur Rashid said people might suffer from heart disease, eye problem, respiratory disorder and even cancer if exposed to the smoke.

Representative of the construction firm Hamidul Islam said, "We are cleaning the environment by burning discarded shoes or sandals that are scattered everywhere."

Executive Engineer of Roads and Highways Department in Nilphamari AKM Hamidur Rahman said his department will introduce environment friendly base plants to melt pitch, adding that such unwanted activities would not be tolerated.



Smoke emitted by burning discarded shoes pollutes the air at Dakkhin Motukpur village in Domar upazila of Nilphamari. The photo was taken a few days ago.

Mymensingh farmer killed over land

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

A farmer was killed over a land dispute at Chang Palasia village in Phulpur upazila of the district yesterday.

The victim was identified as Abdur Razzaq, 50, son of late Jonab Ali of the village.

Quoting local people and family members, Officer-in-Charge of Phulpur Police Station Ali Ahmed Mollah said Razzaq had a long-standing dispute over a piece of land with his neighbour Jalal Uddin.

The land was under the possession of Razzaq and he had been cultivating it for around five years, the OC said.

When Razzaq went to the disputed land to harvest the paddy yesterday, Jalal along with his men went to the land and asked him to stop, which led to a heated altercation between Razzaq and Jalal.

At one stage, Jalal and his men allegedly beat up Razzaq with sticks, leaving him dead on the spot, the OC said.

On information, police rushed to the spot, recovered the body and sent it to Mymensingh Medical College Hospital morgue for autopsy.

Soon after the incident, police detained Jalal's son Delwar Hossain and cousin Mokku Mia for their alleged involvement in the killing.

DAIRY FARM SET UP BLOCKING CANAL Boro rots in stagnant water

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

Boro paddy on about 1500 acres of land is rotting due to water-logging as a local influential person dug a pond and set up a dairy farm by blocking an important canal, restricting drainage from vast low lying areas in Gopalpur and Dhanbari upazilas.

The canal plays a vital role in disposal of flood water from Bolibhadra, Alipur, Pankata and Khilpara villages in Dhanbari upazila and Niamatpur and Bagber villages in Gopalpur upazila.

Locals said one Asaduzzaman Sohel, son of Ayub Ali of Niamatpur village in Gopalpur upazila, dug a pond for fish farming and set up another structure for a dairy farm by blocking the canal near his house.

As a result, Boro fields of several adjacent villages remain inundated for long as water cannot pass through the canal that falls into the Bairan river.

Farmer Abdul Mazid of Bagber village in Gopalpur upazila said about seven months ago Sohel blocked the canal for his personal

purpose, using his political influence.

Due to blocking of the flow of water Boro seedbeds of about 250 acres of land in the upazila were damaged in November last year, Mazid said.

Besides, nearly 100 acres of land in the area remained unutilised during the current Boro season due to the water logging.

When asked Sohel, however, declined to say anything about this issue.

In 2007, the government dug the canal spending Tk five lakh under the food for work programme.

Abul Kalam of Pankata village in Dhanbari upazila said Gopalpur Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) directed the upazila agriculture officer to investigate the matter after local people submitted a written complaint to the UNO in December last year in this regard.

After investigation, the officer concerned found the complaint to be true and submitted a report in January this year, he said.

The upazila administration, however, did not take any steps in this regard yet.

Call to save Kaptai Lake from pollution

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangamati

Dumping of garbage, polythene bags and human excreta is polluting Kaptai lake, threatening production of fish.

State Minister for Fisheries and Livestock Narayan Chandra Chanda said this at the Rangamati Bangladesh Fisheries Development Corporation (BFDC) office premises while speaking as the chief guest at a programme for releasing fish fry in Kaptai lake.

Kaptai lake is one of the biggest lakes in the country so everybody has to protect it, otherwise production of fish will decrease, the state minister said.

BFDC officials said about 10 tonnes of fish fry were released in the lake, adding that the government has imposed a three-month ban on fishing in Kaptai lake.

Former state minister for Chittagong Hill Tract Affairs Dipankar Talukdar, BFDC Chairman Dildar Ahmed, Rangamati Hill District Council Chairman Brhiso Ketu Chakma, and additional DIG of River Police, Rangamati unit Mahbubur Rahman were present, while Rangamati Deputy Commissioner Md Manzarul Mannan presided over the programme.

Manager of BFDC Md Asaduzzaman gave the welcome address at the programme.



An inundated Boro field at Niamatpur village in Tangail's Gopalpur upazila. Inset, structure of a dairy farm on the bank of a canal blocked by a local influential person of the village, causing blockage of the area's drainage.

Schoolboy electrocuted in Jessore

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Benapole

A 10-year-old schoolboy died after being electrocuted at Chaulia village in Sadar upazila of the district on Wednesday night.

The deceased was identified Mehedi Hasan, son of Matiar Rahman of the village, also a Class III student at Chaulia Government Primary School.

Victim's father Matiar said his son sustain critical injuries when he came in contact with a live electric wire while he was switching on a television at his house around 11:00pm.

Family members rescued the boy and took to Jessore Medical College Hospital, but he died on way to the hospital.

GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH
Establishment of 20 Child Daycare Centre Project
Department of Women Affairs
Ministry of Women and Children Affairs
37/3, Eskaton Garden Road, Dhaka-1000

নং-৩২.০১.০০০০.০২৭.২৬.০৫৩.১৭-১১৩ তারিখ: ৪/৫/২০১৭

Invitation for Tender : Microbus.

1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Women and Children Affairs			
2	Agency	Department of Women Affairs.			
3	Procuring Entity Name	Establishment of 20 Child Daycare Center Project			
4	Procuring Entity District	Dhaka, Bangladesh.			
5	Invitation for	Tender for Procurement of Govt. Vehicles-Microbus,			
6	Invitation Ref No	32.01.0000.027.26.053.17-113			
7	Date	04/5/2017			
8	Procurement Method	Open Tendering Method			
9	Budget and Source of Funds	Development Budget of 2016-2017; GOB.			
10	Tender Package No.	GD-01, LOT-01			
11	Tender Package Name	Purchase of Government Vehicles-Microbus,			
12	Tender Schedule Last Selling Date	24.5.2014 up to 5.00 pm			
13	Tender Closing Date and Time	25.5.2017 at 12.30 pm			
14	Tender Opening Date and Time	25.5.2017 at 13.30 pm			
15	Name & Address of the office(s)	Project Director's Office, Establishment of 20 Child Daycare Center Project, Room No-603 (5 th Floor), 37/3 Eskaton Garden Road, Dhaka-1000 Email: pddcdwa@gmail.com, Web: www.dwa.gov.bd.com.			
	(i) Selling and Opening Tender Documents.	(a) Project Director's Office, Establishment of 20 Child Daycare Center Project, Room No-603 (5 th Floor), 37/3 Eskaton Garden Road Dhaka-1000 Email: pddcdwa@gmail.com, Web: www.dwa.gov.bd.com.			
	(ii) Receiving Tender Documents	(b) Ministry of Women and Children Affairs, Room No. 8, Transport Pool Bhaban, Secretariat Link Road, Dhaka.			
		(c) Divisional Commissioner's Office, 1 st 12 Storey Govt Building (1 st Floor), Segunbagicha, Dhaka.			
16	Eligibility of Tenderer	Well reputed and financially solvent Tenderers (authorized agents/distributors) having office establishment, repairing workshop, manpower, logistic support, stock position, good performance, qualification and past experience of supplying new and good quality vehicles in Government sectors within assigned time.			
17	Brief Description of Goods or Works	Lot-1 Microbus is to be latest, modern, international standard, good quality, brand new, fitted with modern amenities including Registration, CNG cylinder, high efficiency engine (EFI), CBU by the country of origin with detail specifications (supported by original catalogue/ brochure).			
18	Lot No.	Identification of Lot	Location	Price of Tender Document (Tk)	Tender Security Amount (Tk)
	1.	01 No. Microbus 9-12 Seats	Dhaka	1000.00	1,00,000.00
					Completion Time in days/ months
					From ready stock or within 60 days from the date of work order.
19	Name of Official Inviting Tender	Md. Abu Taleb			
20	Designation of Official Inviting Tender	Project Director			
21	Address of Official Inviting Tender Contact details of Official Inviting Tender	Project Director, Project Director's Office, Establishment of 20 Child Daycare Center Project, Room No-603 (5 th Floor), 37/3 Eskaton Garden Road, Dhaka-1000 Email: pddcdwa@gmail.com, Web: www.dwa.gov.bd.com.			
**	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all or any tender.				

(Md. Abu Taleb) Project Director

GD-937

Shitol pati makes weavers smile

M JAHIRUL ISLAM JEWEL, Jhalakathi

The ongoing hot weather has brought blessings for the cool mat weavers at Napiterhat village in Rajapur upazila as the demand increases during this time.

The children, girls and women are passing busy time in the upazila as summer is the peak season for selling the mats, locally called shitol pati.

Shitol pati is weaved from stalks of the murta, a reed-like plant locally known as paitra, and is spread on the bed to keep the bed naturally cool.

Five to ten days are needed to make a medium size pati, which costs around Tk 1,000 to Tk 2,500, said weaver Mala Rani Patigar.

In the community, women are the main bread earners and the men assist them in making the mats, said Swapan Patigar, secretary of the Patigar Association of the area.

About hundred families are involved in weaving shitol pati and their survival depends on



Two women weave shitol pati at their home at Napiterhat village in Rajapur upazila of Jhalakathi. The photo was taken recently.

fair price during that time," said weaver Sangeeta Patigar.

The patis are mainly sold in fairs at different places as there is good demand in fairs.

A medium size pati is sold at Tk 1,000 to Tk 2,500 to the wholesaler while it costs Tk 1,500 to Tk 3,000 in the markets, depending on its quality, said Swapan, adding that they sell 7,000 to 10,000 patis every summer.

This mat is very soft, cool and beautiful which people like to use in summer, said some customers who came to buy patis from the weavers.

This pati keeps the bed naturally cool and the body feels natural comfort, they added.

"We have to compete with artificial mat (made of plastic) for our survival," said the weavers, adding that they could work better if they got loan on easy terms from banks.