

## Man killed by cousin over land dispute

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bogra

A man was shot dead allegedly by his cousin over a land dispute in Nandigram upazila of the district yesterday.

The deceased, Saddam Hossain, 35, was son of Montu Mia of Shekherbaria village in the upazila.

Quoting villagers, police said victim Saddam and his maternal cousin Ripon Mia, 36, were gossiping in Saddam's room when other members of the family were at their maternal grandfather's house at a neighbouring village.

After hearing a gun shot from the room, locals went to the spot and found Saddam lying in a pool of blood around 11:00am.

Deceased's family members' said Ripon, son of Tota Mia of Khandakarbaria village in Singra upazila of Natore, came to visit his aunt's house in the morning and might have killed Saddam over a longstanding land dispute.

Police said they sent the body to Shaheed Ziaur Rahman Medical College Hospital for autopsy.

## 305 houses burnt, 6000 homeless

Says PCJSS report on Longadu attacks

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangamati

At least 305 houses and 19 shops were burnt, rendering about 6,000 people homeless and affecting their livelihoods in the arson attacks in three villages in Longadu upazila of Rangamati on June 2, says a statement published by Parbatya Chattagram Jana Samhati Samity (PCJSS) on Saturday.

The report says the extent of damage in the attack is worth around Tk 33.55 crore.

Besides, about 256 students of different educational institutions also became victims of the attack as they could not save their clothes and books from burning during the incident, the report says.

However, a previous report submitted by the local administration said about 213 houses were burnt during the incident.

According to the PCJSS report at least 21 identified people, including 11 ruling Awami League men and three from BNP, played leading roles in looting, attacking the houses of the indigenous villages and setting those on fire.

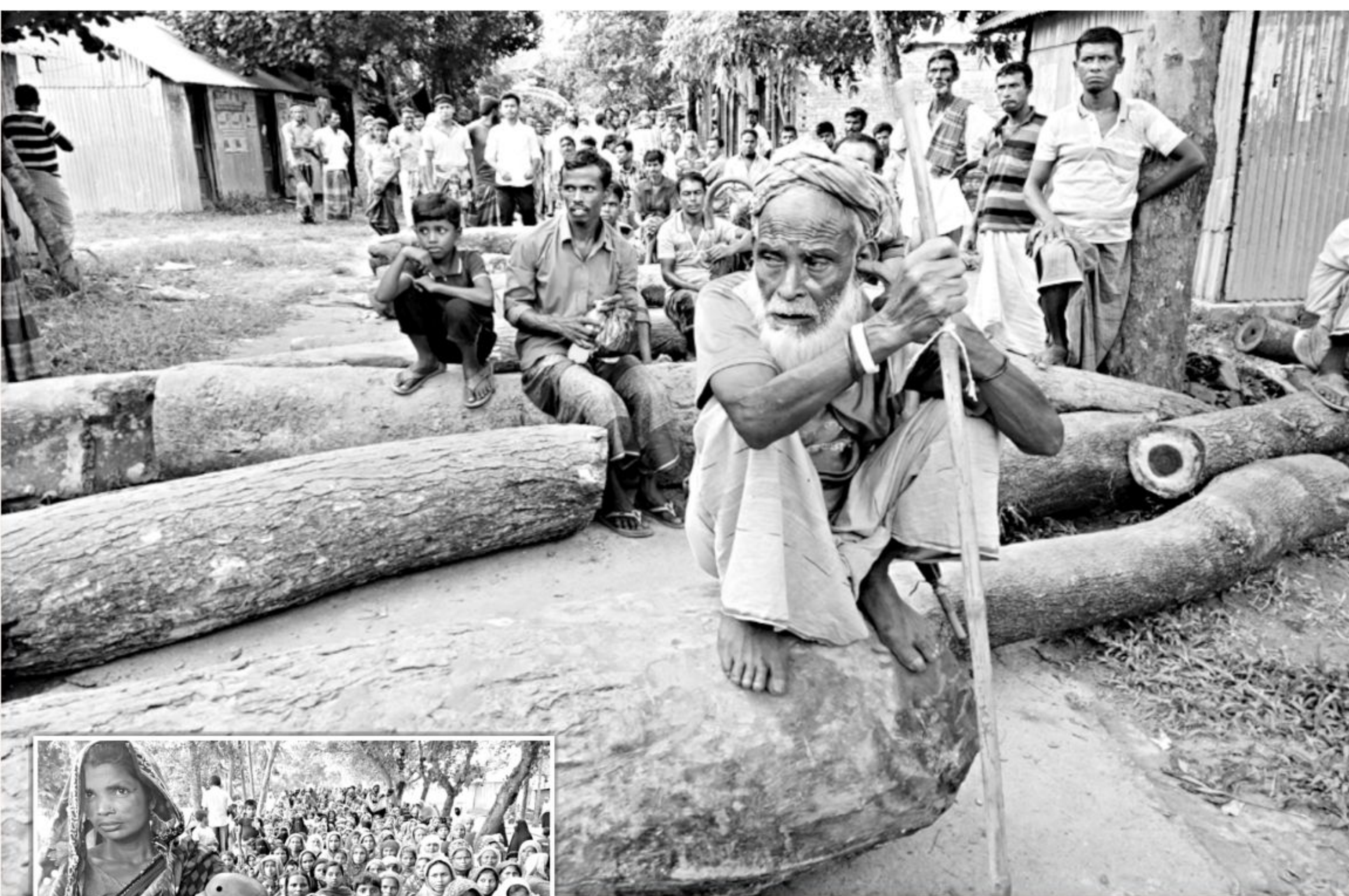
Moni Shankar Chakma, general secretary of PCJSS's Longadu unit, said as the local administration didn't go to all the affected houses and talk with the victims, they submitted the report irresponsibly.

Besides, they didn't even take any necessary and timely initiatives to rehabilitate the affected people, Shankar added.

The PCJSS statement said Bengali settlers led by local ruling party men launched the arson attack in Tintila and adjacent Manikjorchhara and Batya Para with the help of members of law enforcement agencies on June 2.

Seventy-five-year-old Guna Mala Chakma was burnt to death as she failed to escape from her burning house during the arson attack, says the report.

Longadu Upazila Nirbahi Officer Mosaddeq Imam Mehedi said he has already urged the higher authorities to rehabilitate the victims but is yet to receive any response.



An elderly man joins a road blockade at Konapara Bazar in Mymensingh Sadar upazila, and *inset*, a large number of women with their children also join the programme in the area yesterday as residents of seven villages in the upazila have continued movement for the last ten months demanding sparing of their land from acquisition.

PHOTO: MD AMINUL ISLAM

## Foot-and-mouth disease

100 cows die, 1500 affected in Joypurhat

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

Over 100 cows died of foot-and-mouth disease and more 1,500 have been affected in Joypurhat's Kalai upazila during the last seven days, much to the worry of cattle farmers.

The disease is spreading fast this season, Mehedul Islam of Hajipara village in the upazila said, adding that two of his cows have already died after getting infected with the deadly disease within a span of four days.

With the fast rise of the infection, most farmers in the area are facing immense problem to prepare their lands for the Aman season, said Jobayer Ali of Himail village. He lost six of his ten cows to the disease.

The dairy farm owners are also worried due to the fast spread of the disease.

Dairy farmer Safat Ali of Bhaujharpata village said he lost his three cows in the last seven days. Besides, three more have been infected.

Symptom of the disease first

appears in the form of fever, said farm owners, farmers and doctors. After two or three days, the animal is affected by foot-and-mouth disease and refrains from taking food. It dies within 10 to 15 days.

Doctors said vaccination is the only treatment.

Monaim Hossain of Kazipara village said two of his five cows have already died while two others are infected with the disease. "Ploughing of my land is being hampered badly," said the farmer.

Local livestock officials don't cooperate when the farmers and dairy farmers contact with the officials, alleged farmers.

Meherul Islam of Hazipara said a total of 19 cows of their village died of the disease in the last seven days.

Dr Md Jahurul Islam, livestock officer in Kalai upazila, said his office has already started working to prevent the disease from breaking out in epidemic form. The allegation of non-cooperation against them is not true, he said.

## LAND ACQUISITION FOR MYMENSINGH DIVISION

# Thousands block road, foil land survey

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

The people of seven villages, agitating to press for the demand to spare their lands from acquisition, blocked several roads leading to Mymensingh town through Joy Bangla Bazar in Mymensingh Sadar upazila yesterday, foiling the administration's move to conduct a survey in the area.

As news earlier spread that several survey teams will visit the area, thousands of people of the listed seven villages started taking positions at six points around 10:00pm on Saturday night.

They also put huge logs, bamboo bars and trees to block the roads leading to Mymensingh town.

Some 30,000 people including women and children joined the programme, locals said, adding that half-yearly examinations in two high schools and classes at five primary schools were not held as the students did not attend.

No workers joined their work in Mymensingh town and vegetables were not supplied to the town from the seven villages yesterday, locals said.

The road blockade continued as of

filing of this report around 5:00pm.

Protesting the 'unfair' and 'motivated' land acquisition for development works for proposed Mymensingh division, people of seven villages in Mymensingh Sadar upazila have been continuing their movement for last 10 months under the banner of 'Basatbhita Rokkha Committee'.

Committee convener Syed Mosharraf Hossain at a rally at Joy Bangla Bazar urged the administration to accept the alternative list given by the villagers for new the divisional town.

"We will go for tougher movement if the administration remains stuck to their decision and fail to give us reply within a month," he said.

The administration is trying to make the said villagers victims in the name of development but we want a balanced development involving four unions along the Brahmaputra river, speakers said at the programme.

The administration first prepared a list to acquire 1220 acres of land for the development work but the list was later changed, proposing a list covering 4366-acre of land.

It was done on lame excuses like 'earthquake risk, serious waterlogging and traffic congestion' but it was actually motivated by the urge to save the land of several influential persons, speakers alleged.

The eviction of some 60,000 people for benefiting a few influential people will not be accepted, they said, adding that they will save their homesteads and farmlands at any cost.

Rumela Khatun of Joy Bangla Bazar area said she joined the programme with her five children in the morning to resist the administration's move for survey.

"I joined the protest programme with my three children including a one and half-year-old child at 6:00am today," said Shima Akhter of Char Bhawanipur village.

Ninety-year-old Hashu Mia of Konapara village said he never saw such a tension in the char area in his long life.

Md Khalilur Rahman, deputy commissioner of Mymensingh, said they had a decision to survey a small place in char areas yesterday but it was cancelled due to various reasons.

## Hundreds say goodbye to child marriage

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

Hundreds of people yesterday showed red cards to early marriage, declaring Madhabpur upazila in Habiganj free from child marriage.

People from all walks of life, mostly students of the district, held up red cards for five minutes. Lal Sobuj Unnyon Sangha in the upazila organised the programme.

They also took an oath that they will keep the district free from child marriage and will raise awareness about the demerits of the tradition of child marriage.

The grand event was held at Dharmaghar College Hall where Sajedul Islam Palash, officer-in-charge of Madhabpur Police Station, declared the upazila free from child marriage.

Madhabpur is the latest upazila freed from child marriage.

Kawsar Alam Sohel, president of Lal Sobuj Unnyon Sangha, said they worked hard for last couple of years to keep the district free from child marriage.



Schoolboy Mostafizur Rahman sets a current net on a paddy field to catch indigenous fish in Nalchhity upazila of Jhalakathi recently.

PHOTO: STAR

## Current nets a threat to native fish

Many indigenous fish species come to monsoon water bodies to breed

M JAHIRUL ISLAM JEWEL with ANDREW EAGLE

Each monsoon season, when the paddy fields and lowlands of Jhalakathi transform into a veritable inland sea, many indigenous fish species are rewarded with the perfect habitat in which to breed and thrive. From May to August local fishers traditionally anticipate an abundance of fish as ponds and canals overflow with water. But nowadays, due to the indiscriminate use of current nets, native fish stocks are in serious decline.

"Only a decade ago the fish catch from temporary water bodies during the rainy season was bountiful," says Nurulam, a fisherman from Rajapur upazila. "Now there are hardly fish to find."

"The style of fishing has changed," he continues. "Previously we used traditional nets with current nets only deployed for short periods of time. Now people are more desperate to achieve a good catch. They set up current nets on a semi-permanent basis."

Indeed thousands of fine-mesh current nets which can trap even the

smallest fish are these days affixed in water bodies across the district.

"I used to live on catching indigenous fish," says Paritosh, a fisherman from Jhalakathi Sadar upazila. "Now I have to sell other fish too as indigenous species aren't plentiful."

"The monsoon months are the breeding season for many fish species," said Pritish Kumar Mallik, deputy director of fisheries in Jhalakathi. "These fish rely on small canals and temporary water bodies to complete the breeding cycle. When mother fish and fries are trapped in the fine-mesh cur-

rent nets the cycle is disrupted, with the number of fish drastically reduced."

"We operate mobile courts to prevent the use of current nets; and we try to increase awareness of the negative impacts of fishing with current nets," Pritish adds.

Many local fishers understand the issue. Several fishers commented to The Daily Star that in order to save indigenous species that have all but disappeared from some areas, the use of current nets should be brought in check.

## BSF picks up one from Joypurhat

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

Border Security Force (BSF) of India picked up a Bangladesh national from Atapara border under Panchbibi upazila of Joypurhat yesterday.

The victim is Al Amin, 32, son of Fakhrul Islam of Raninagar village in Bhola.

Police, quoting locals, said Fakhrul was roaming suspiciously at Atapara since morning. A BSF team picked him up from Dakkhinkhan village soon after he entered Indian territory.

Members of Joypurhat Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) 20- Battalion urged the BSF to return the man. BSF did not contact their counterparts as of filing of this report at 5:00pm.



## Public Notice for Auction

### Chittagong Port Authority

#### Office of the Director (Traffic)

#### Bandar Bhaban, Bandar

#### Chittagong-4100, Bangladesh

Ref No. IMAC/CONT./HANJIN SHIPPING/2016,

Date: 02/07/2017

- This public notice for auction (the notice) is hereby published in compliance with the order dated 31.01.2017 passed by the Honourable High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh in Admiralty Suit No. 89/2016, directing the Chittagong Port Authority to invoke its power under the provision of Section 24 of the Chittagong Port Ordinance, 1976 read with Regulation 122 of Regulations for working of the Chittagong Port (Cargo and Container), 2001.
- In accordance with the above direction passed by the Honourable High Court Division on Admiralty Suit No. 89 of 2016 and for securing the national interest and clearing huge occupied premises. Chittagong Port Authority is hereby taking necessary steps as per the Chittagong Port Authority Ordinance, 1976 and Regulations for Working of Chittagong Port (Cargo and Container), 2001 to sell through public auction a total number of 968 (nine hundred sixty-eight) empty containers of Twenty Foot Equivalent Units (TEUs) equivalent to 484 boxes (Types 40 Dry/Flat Rack/Open top. 40' Reefer) belonging to the Hanjin Shipping Bangladesh Limited which are now lying within the port premises.
- The main features of the auction procedure are as follows:
  - Time, date and place of auction: 18<sup>th</sup> July 2017 at 12 noon Office of the Director Traffic, Chittagong Port Authority, Bandar, Chittagong-4100, Bangladesh.
  - Specification of items/containers: Name of the product: Empty Containers, Quantity-484 Boxes. Type-40 Dry/Reefer/Flat Rack/Open top, 45 Dry Total Numbers of Lot 10 (ten).
  - Eligibility and required documents: Any individual, company or firm, including foreign entity, can apply. For more details please refer to the schedule of auction documents available from the office of the undersigned.
  - Last date for collection of auction schedule/catalogue and fees: 17/07/2017 (During office hours). Price of Schedule: Taka 1000 (one thousand) for each lot.
  - Place for collection of auction schedule/catalogue: Office of the Director (Traffic), Chittagong Port Authority, Bandar Bhaban, Chittagong-4100, Bangladesh.
  - Last date for submitting tender bid: 18<sup>th</sup> July 2017 at 11.30am.
  - Security amount: 10% of the total quoted price of each lot as Bank Draft or Pay Order in favour of "Chittagong Port Authority" from any schedule bank of Bangladesh.
- This notice is hereby put simultaneously in the notice board of the Chittagong Port Authority and other conspicuous places of the Chittagong Port Authority Bandar. Further, this notice shall also be published in widely circulated national newspaper(s). This notice is hereby published for all concerned.

CPA/Ad No-270/17  
Date: 03.07.17  
GD-1395

Director (Traffic)  
Chittagong Port Authority  
Phone: 031-2510878