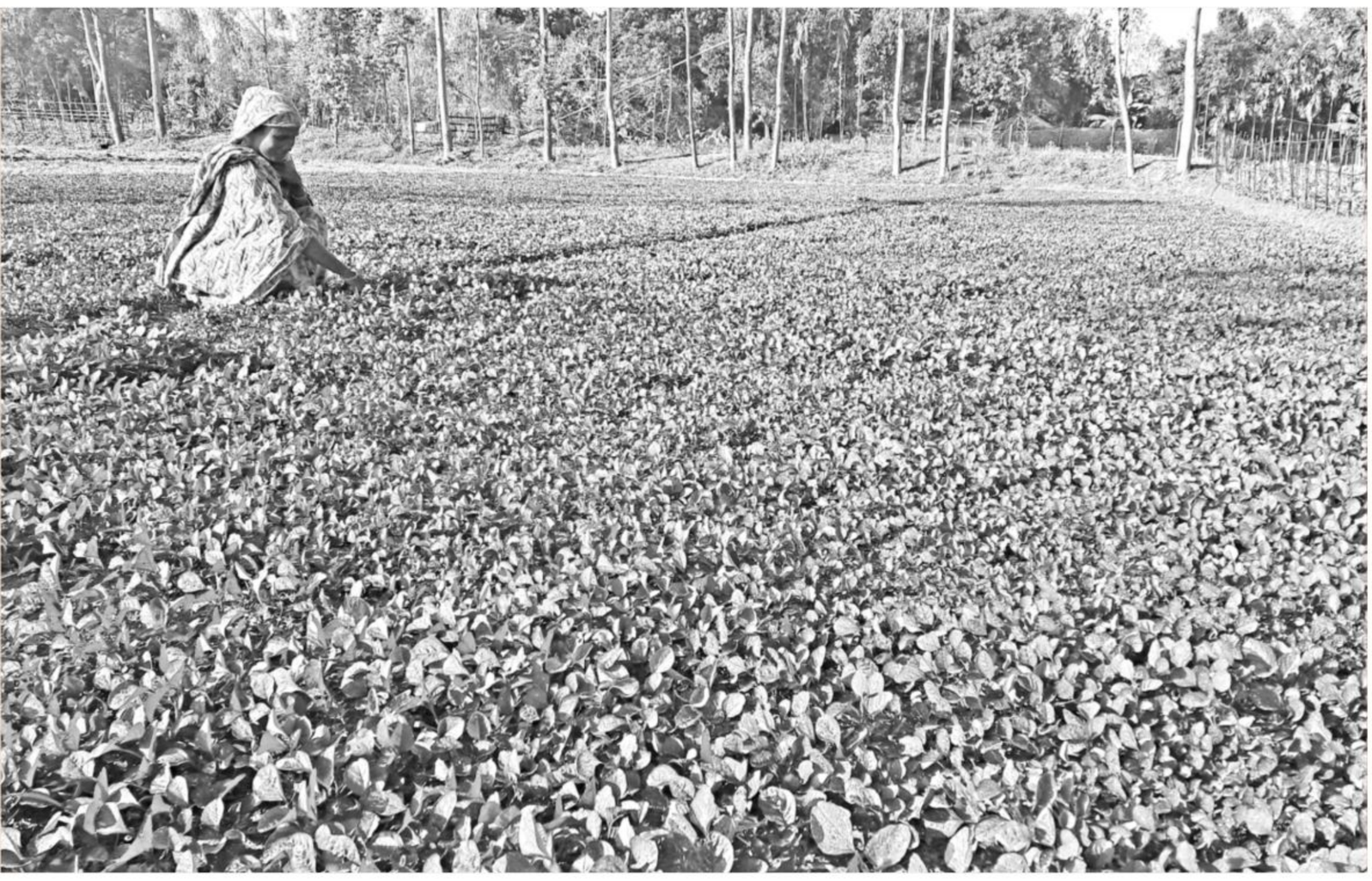

A woman works at a red spinach field in Durgapur village of Lalmonirhat's Aditmari upazila. PHOTO: **S DILIP ROY**

Post-flood spinach brightens farmers

Vegetable prices double than last year's

S DILIP ROY *with* ANDREW EAGLE

Lalmonirhat farmers are riding high this winter on the back of healthy market rates for spinach. Spinach varieties including lal shak, palang shak, lau shak, mula shak and pata shak, along with coriander and cabbage are fetching prices up to double what they sold for last year. Customers meanwhile are less impressed at having to pay more for their favourite winter vegetables.

"I grew lal shak on forty decimals, spending around Tk 4,000," says Soleman Miah, 48, a farmer from Durgapur village in Aditmari upazila. "In the last week I sold Tk 12,000 of the vegetable and I'm hopeful of a return of up to Tk 45,000 in total. The rate is about double last year's; such a good profit is quite a surprise!"

"I have a coriander crop on twenty decimals that cost around Tk 6,000 to grow," says another farmer, Bimol Chandra Barmon, 56, from Karnopur village in Sadar upazila. "In a week I made Tk 12,000 in sales. I hope for Tk 25,000 from coriander this season."

"High prices for spinach are really helpful," says Abdar Hossain, 62, a farmer from Kurul village, also in Sadar upazila. "Our vegetable seedbeds were seriously affected by floodwaters earlier in the year and we're trying to recoup our losses."

"Last year spinach prices were reasonable," complains a customer at Goshala Bazar vegetable market in the town, Hasem Ali, 52. "This year prices are more than double."

In the market, vegetable trader Ataur Rahman notes that extensive flooding over past months is the driving force behind the higher prices.

According to agriculture extension department officials, varieties of spinach have been cultivated on 2,100 acres across the district this season. "The weather is favourable now," says the department's deputy director Bidhubhushon Roy. "Farmers are really pleased with a good harvest and solid prices."

Man kills brother over land dispute

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Nilphamari*

A man allegedly killed his younger brother yesterday over sharing paternal land in Sadar upazila.

The deceased was Abdul Hamid Khan, 50, son of late Abdul Gafur Khan of the village.

Gorgram Union Parishad Chairman Reazul Islam said several arbitrations were held in this regard at his initiative, but failed to resolve the problem.

Hamid and his men went to take possession of 30 decimals of land near their house, which he alleged had been occupied by his brother Wazed Ali Khan, 55, for long.

At this, the elder brother and his men resisted them with lethal weapons, triggering a fierce clash.

Hamid and his two sons, Mahbub Khan, 25, and Gullah Khan, 20, were critically injured.

Hamid died at Rangpur Medical College Hospital.

39 arches to greet chief guest!

Chandura union AL council today

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Brahmanbaria*

Thirty-nine arches have been erected to welcome the chief guest on the occasion of the council of Chandura union Awami League (AL) in Bijoynagar upazila of the district to be held today.

During a visit to the area, this correspondent saw that the arches on a 4.5 km stretch of road have been erected from Rampur village adjacent to Dhaka-Sylhet highway to the council venue on Daudpur High School premises.

Bijoynagar upazila Awami League Vice-President and Chandura Union Parishad Chairman Shamiul Haque Chowdhury Shamim said the candidates, their supporters and other leaders of different levels erected the arches.

The council is scheduled to be held at 3:00pm today (Tuesday). Brahmanbaria district Awami League President, also the local lawmaker, RAM Obaidul Muktadir Chowdhury will be the chief guest.

Shamim said there are two candidates for the post of president and five candidates for the post of general secretary.

The candidates for the post of president are Tajul Islam Moti and Hebzul Bari Sarker. The candidates for general secretary are Shamsuzzaman, Kripa Shankar Chowdhury, Loton Roy Chowdhury, advocate Nazrul Islam and Kazi Siddiqur Rahman.

Man to die for killing sister-in-law

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Mymensingh*

A Netrakona court yesterday sentenced a man to death for killing his sister-in-law in 2014.

District and Sessions Judge KM Rasheduzzaman Raja delivered the verdict.

The convict is Hannan Mia, 32, son of late Abul Hashem Fakir of Kandapara village in Kalmakanda upazila of Netrakona.

The court also fined the convict Tk 20, 000, court sources said.

According to the prosecution, Hannan had an altercation with his elder brother's wife Nasima Khatun over plucking jackfruit from her tree at noon on June 8 in 2014.

At one stage of altercation, Hannan started stabbing Nasima with a knife indiscriminately, leaving her injured critically.

Nasima, wife of Billal Mia, died on way to Mymensingh Medical College Hospital.

Include children's issues in election manifesto

Speakers urge political parties

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Tangail*

Speakers at a roundtable meeting here yesterday urged the political parties to include children's issues in their election manifestoes for ensuring the rights of children.

Private development organisation Democracywatch organised the meeting at the auditorium of Tangail Municipality.

The objectives of the roundtable were to raise awareness about children's rights and good governance as children learn how to make decisions through practising political rights, highlight welfare of the children through changing thought and practice of the policy makers and ensure a violence-free environment where policymakers help children enjoy their civic and political rights.

They also requested the main political parties to hold discussions with governmental and non-governmental organisations, networks and forums that are working for children's rights so as to include children's matters in their election manifestoes.

Democracywatch coordinator in the district Shamim Al Mamun presented the keynote paper at the meeting.

> *The objectives of the Democracywatch roundtable were to raise awareness about children's rights and good governance through practising political rights.*

District Social Welfare Department Deputy Director Mohammad Abdul Hamid, district unit of Federation of NGOs of Bangladesh General Secretary Abul Kalam Mostofa Labu, district Children's Affairs Officer Mohammad Shafiqul Islam, Tangail Press Club Vice-President Shamsadul Akter Shamim and National Children's Task Force District Organiser Shahriar Rahim spoke at the meeting.

'50 raped in Thakurgaon in ten months'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Thakurgaon*

Violence against women and children continues to rise in the district due to lack of speedy trial and punishment, said women rights leaders at a press conference here yesterday.

Over 200 women and children in the district became victims of violence in last ten months, of them 50 were raped.

As many as 1,455 cases are under trial with Women and Children Repression Prevention Tribunal in the district, speakers said at the conference marking 'International Women Repression Prevention Fortnight and International Human Rights Day' at the office of Bangladesh Mahila Parishad.

Its district unit General Secretary Suchorita Dev read out a written statement at the programme presided over by acting President Airin Pervin Luna.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Department of Telecommunications
Office of the Project Director
Cyber Threat Detection and Response Project
423-428, Tejgaon Industrial Area, Dhaka-1208, Bangladesh
www.telecomdept.gov.bd

DOT DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Invitation for International Tender

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh					
1	Ministry/division	Ministry of Posts, Telecommunications and Information Technology/Post s and Telecommunications Division.			
2	Agency	Department of Telecommunications.			
3	Procuring entity	Project Director, Cyber Threat Detection and Response Project.			
4	Procuring entity code	5451			
5	District of procuring entity	Dhaka			
6	Invitation for	Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Equipment and Software Sevices for Cyber Threat Detection and Response on Turn-key Basis.			
7	Invitation Ref. No.	14.30.0000.501.17.018.17/5			
8	Date	26/11/2017			
KEY INFORMATION					
9	Procurement method	ICT Open Tendering Method (OTM) (One Stage Two Envelope).			
FUNDING INFORMATION					
10	Budget and source of funds	Government Development Budget (GoB).			
11	Development partners	Not applicable.			
PARTICULAR INFORMATION					
12	Project code	5000			
13	Project name	Cyber Threat Detection and Response Project.			
14	Tender Package No.	CTDRP/2017-2018/GD1			
15	Tender package name	Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Equipment and Software Sevices for Cyber Threat Detection and Response on Turn-key Basis.			
16	Tender publication date	26/11/2017			
17	Tender last selling date	08/01/2018 up to 17:00 hours (BST).			
18	Tender closing date and time	09/01/2018 at 12:00 hours (BST)			
19	Tender opening date and time	09/01/2018 at 12:30 hours (BST)			
20	Name & address of the office(s)				
	-Selling tender document	Office of The Project Director, Cyber Threat Detection and Response Project, Department of Telecommunications, 423-428, Tejgaon Industrial Area, Dhaka-1208, Bangladesh.			
	-Receiving tender document	Office of The Project Director, Cyber Threat Detection and Response Project, Department of Telecommunications, 423-428, Tejgaon Industrial Area, Dhaka-1208, Bangladesh.			
	-Opening tender document	Office of The Project Director, Cyber Threat Detection and Response Project, Department of Telecommunications, 423-428, Tejgaon Industrial Area, Dhaka-1208, Bangladesh.			
21	Place/date/time of pre-tender meeting (Optional)	Date: 1 2/12/2017, Time: 10:30am (BST), Venue: Seminar Room, Department of Telecommunications, 3rd Floor, 423-428, Tejgaon Industrial Area, Dhaka-1208, Bangladesh.			
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER					
22	Eligibility of tenderer	All elligible bidders.			
23	Brief description of goods	Equipment and Software for Cyber Threat Detection and Response as per Tender Document.			
24	Brief description of related services	Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Equipment and Software Sevices for Cyber Threat Detection and Response as per Tender Document.			
25	Price of tender document	BDT 6,000/- (Taka Six Thousand) only per set (non-refundable)			
26	Lot No.	Identification of lot	Location	Tender security amount	Completion time in weeks/ months
	1	Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Equipment and Software Sevices for Cyber Threat Detection and Response on Turn-key Basis	Project Office, 423-428, Tejgaon I/A, Dhaka-1208, Bangladesh	BDT 2.5 crore (Two crore fifty lac) or USD 0.30 Million	Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Equipment and Software Sevices for Cyber Threat Detection and Response shall be completed within 26 weeks from the date of signing of contract
PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS					
27	Name of official inviting tender	Md. Rafiqul Matin.			
28	Designation of official inviting tender	Project Director, Cyber Threat Detection and Response Project.			
29	Address of official inviting tender	Project Director, Cyber Threat Detection and Response Project, Department of Telecommunications, 423-428, Tejgaon Industrial Area, Dhaka-1208, Bangladesh.			
30	Contact details of official inviting tender	Tel: +880-2-9830700, Fax: +880-2-9830800, Email: rafiqul.matin@telecomdept.gov.bd			
31	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders.				
32	This tender notice is available at website http://www.telecomdept.gov.bd & http://www.cptu.gov.bd				

GD-2587

Md. Rafiqul Matin
Project Director
Tel: +880-2-9830700

Two siblings get life

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Mymensingh*

A Mymensingh court yesterday sentenced two siblings to life-term for killing a farmer in Gafargaon upazila in 2004.

The court also fined them Tk 5000 each, in default, to suffer two months more in prison.

The convicts are Tofazzol Hossain and his brother Ferdous, sons of Shahabuddin of Charmoslanda village.

According to the prosecution, Hafiz Uddin, 55, son of late Sayed Ali of Charmoslanda was killed by his rivals over previous enmity on November 5 in 2004.

Mohammad Johirul Kabir, judge of Second Additional Sessions Judge's Court, handed down the verdict.

Seven other accused in the case were acquitted.

With the winter already set in, Chapainawabganj sees boost in the sale of warm clothes. People throng makeshift shops in front of Shaheed Shatu Hall Market in the district town to buy warm clothes on Sunday. PHOTO: **STAR**

TOWEL IN WOMAN'S BELLY

Probe starts on 'doc's negligence'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Moulvibazar*

Habiganj district administration yesterday formed a committee to investigate the incident of leaving a towel inside a woman's belly after her caesarean section three months ago.

The one-member committee comprising Additional District Magistrate Tareq Md Zakaria has already started investigation regarding the serious allegation, said Habiganj Deputy Commissioner Manish Chakma.

Mollika Das, 38, wife of Sanjeeb Sarkar of Kakailseo village in Azmeriganj upazila of Habiganj, carried a towel inside her abdomen for three months after her caesarean section at Chander Hasi Hospital in Habiganj town on August 23.

She was saved from a life threatening situation as the towel was brought out after an operation on Saturday.

"We were surprised to find a whole towel inside the patient's belly," said Dr Kalam, who conducted the surgery to bring out the towel from the women's belly.

The Daily Star yesterday published a report on the matter under the title 'Towel in woman's belly'.

mastercard

Roman holiday with Mastercard

- Campaign duration is from November 16, 2017 to January 15, 2018.
- During the campaign period, the Cardholder issued with a Mastercard-branded Card by any of the issuing Banks in Bangladesh must use it at least four (4) times for a minimum transaction value of BDT 1,000 (for Domestic Transactions) or USD 20 (for Overseas Transactions) on each occasion.
- The campaign is on maximum points scored through frequency of transaction with the Mastercard-branded Card.
- Each retail transaction will qualify for points under this campaign as follow:
  - 3 Points for an Overseas Retail Transaction of USD 20 on any Card
  - 2 Points for a Domestic Retail Transaction of BDT 1,000 on any Card
- Split or multiple transactions at the same merchant location within the same day will not be eligible; and only one transaction will be counted.
- In cases where 2 or more Mastercard Cardholders score the same number of points, the winner will be decided on the basis of the transaction value. In the event the transaction value is also identical for 2 or more Mastercard Cardholders, the winner will be decided on the basis of who made the transaction earlier.
- Only retail transactions will be eligible for this contest and Mastercard holds all rights to disallow any transaction performed for commercial purposes.
- Any temporary or permanent employee of Mastercard or the participating Issuers, Advertising Agency or any concerned vendors are not allowed to participate in this contest.
- Mastercard reserves the rights to make any amendment, extension or addition to the Terms & Conditions of this contest.