

# Youth hacked to death by in-law

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

A youth was killed allegedly by his brother-in-law (younger sister's husband) over a family feud in Jhaugara area of Nandail municipality on Saturday.

The deceased was poultry farm owner Sohel Mia, 28, son of Abdul Kashem of Uttar Charani area in the municipality.

Quoting locals, Kamrul Islam Mia, officer-in-charge of Nandail Police Station, said Shahab Uddin, 30, a rickshaw-puller in Jhaugara area, married Sohel's younger sister Tamanna four years ago. Tamanna left for Malaysia two months ago for job purposes where she has been staying now.

After going to Malaysia, Tamanna denied the marriage with Shahab and used to send money to Sohel that created a feud between Shahab and Sohel, said the OC. Shahab tactfully took Sohel to his house around 5:00pm on Saturday and entertained him with tea and biscuits.

When Sohel was having the tea and biscuits, Shahab allegedly started hacking him with a sharp weapon, leaving him critically injured, said the police official.

Hearing screams, neighbours rushed to the spot, rescued the victim and sent him to Nandail Upazila Health Complex where doctors declared him dead.

Soon after the incident, Shahab fled the scene. But within an hour, he surrendered to Nandail Police Station.

Police recovered the body and sent it to Mymensingh Medical College Hospital for autopsy.

During primary interrogation, Shahab confessed to killing Sohel, said Ruhul Quddus Khan, OC (investigation) of Nandail Police Station.

He was produced before a court, which sent him to jail yesterday afternoon.

The victim's father lodged a case with the police station accusing Shahab, said OC Ruhul.

## PRE-POLLS VIOLENCE

# 8 BCL men injured in Jashore

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Benapole

At least eight activists of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) were injured in an attack by miscreants in Jashore's Jhikorgachha upazila on Saturday.

The incident took place in Naira Bazar area when the BCL men were distributing leaflets in favour of independent chairman candidate Monirul Islam (contesting with pineapple symbol) in the upazila ahead of the upazila parishad election to be held on March 31.

The injured are Ehsanul Habib Shiplu and Kamal Hossain, president and general secretary of the upazila unit BCL, and its activists Hannan Hossain, Shanta Islam, Toufiq, Arif Hossain and Runa, said party sources.

They were given first aid treatment at a local hospital.

"Some rowdy youths attacked the BCL men when they were distributing leaflets with pineapple symbol of the independent candidate at night. The attackers also vandalised the microbus carrying the victims," said Mezbah Uddin Ahmed, officer-in-charge of Bankra Police Outpost.

A case was filed in connection with the incident, said the police official.

Officials sort through palm imprints and brief biographical information of local freedom fighters at Kurigram Sadar upazila auditorium on March 19 as part of the preparations to accord a reception to the Liberation War heroes on the Independence Day tomorrow. Inset, palm imprints and information of freedom fighter Shirajul Islam Tuku.



PHOTO: ABDUL WAHED

# A unique way to honour war heroes

Kurigram dist administration archives freedom fighters' info with palm imprints

ABDUL WAHED, Kurigram

Kurigram is set to recognise its Liberation War heroes in a different way when the country celebrates its 48th anniversary of Independence Day tomorrow.

The district administration, as part of its plan to preserve the memories of the freedom fighters who actively took part in the Liberation War in 1971, have already initiated a move to collect hand imprints of each living freedom fighter.

Apart from the palm imprints, to be painted in red on white papers, the district administration authorities have also decided to tag photographs of the freedom fighters with brief information of the role they played in the Liberation War.

The idea of preserving palm imprints is something new and aimed at keeping the war heroes etched in our memories forever.

Kurigram Deputy Commissioner (DC) Sultana Pervin launched the initiative at the Sadar Upazila Parishad auditorium on March 7. Kurigram Superintendent of Police Mehedul Karim, Civil Surgeon Dr Aminul Islam and Sadar Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) Al-Amin Parvez also attended the programme along with a few hundred freedom fighters of the district.

While detailing the unique initiative, UNO Al-Amin Parvez said that they were collecting palm imprints on six sets of hard-paper copies from each living freedom fighter.

Each of the six copies will contain a photograph, identity and brief information of the freedom fighter's role in the Liberation War," said Parvez, adding that they wanted to preserve those at six different places including the UNO and DC

offices concerned and the Ministry of Liberation War Affairs.

He also said the palm imprinting and other works for archiving the information of 367 living freedom fighters of Sadar upazila would be completed before March 26.

"We are arranging a special programme in recognition of those 367 freedom fighters on March 26," said Parvez, adding that the archiving of the brief biographical information of freedom fighters of the other eight upazilas in Kurigram would be hopefully completed by the end of this month.

The official list of freedom fighters in Kurigram Sadar upazila includes names of 614 persons entitled to get allowance.

Asked about the administration's plan regarding the deceased freedom fighters, the UNO said, "Biographical information of the rest 247 freedom fighters [who are not alive] will also be added with that of the

living ones as those will be preserved in the form of a book."

Appreciating the initiative, freedom fighter Shirajul Islam Tuku said, "Many of our fellow freedom fighters are no more. We are happy that the administration is doing something to preserve the memories of the freedom fighters."

"It would be better if copies of the papers containing information with palm imprints of freedom fighters are displayed in primary schools of the union where the freedom fighters concerned were born," said Abdul Hai Sarker, who received gallantry award Bir Protik for his valiant role in the Liberation War.

DC Sultana Pervin said freedom fighters are passing away one after another and the initiative taken will hopefully be helpful in preserving their memories in future.

## Man held with arms

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bogura

Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) yesterday arrested a man in Bogura's Sariakandi upazila and seized arms from his possession.

The arrestee is Md Jamal Sheikh, 48, son of Md Shajahan of Shimul Taur village of Sariakandi.

"Tipped off, a Rab team arrested him from his house around 2:30am and seized a pipe-gun, a modified firearm, five bullets and some sharp weapons from there," said Major SM Morshed Hasan, company commander of Rab-12.

"Rab handed over Jamal to this police station at 3:00pm today [Sunday] after filing an arms case. He is accused in four cases including one for possessing firearm, which were filed there earlier," said Sariakandi Police Station OC AL Amin.

# 'Arrest the ones who attacked us'

Kora community demands at rally in Biral UZ

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

Members of Kora community, an indigenous community facing extinction in the country, at a rally in Dinajpur's Biral upazila yesterday demanded security and exemplary punishment for the people who attacked them on March 6.

A number of Kora people were hurt, while many houses of the community members were damaged in the attack. But the attackers are still at large, they said at the rally in front of Biral upazila Press Club.

In the morning that day, nearly 50 people equipped with local weapons and led by Abdullah Al Kafi, Kamruzzaman Kibria and Abdul Mannan attacked them in a bid to drive them out of their ancestral land in Jhinaikuri village in the upazila, where 18 families of Kora community reside, the speakers alleged.

Five of the injured -- Sator Kora, Kedu Kora, Kola Kora, Miron Kora and Malon

Kora -- received treatment at Biral Upazila Health Complex.

Janasangathan Oikya Parishad and Jatiya Adivasi Parishad (JAP) jointly organised the rally, presided over by JAP President Rabindranath Soren.

The organisers later handed over a memorandum to the upazila nirbahi officer of Biral, for it to be forwarded to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The memorandum contained seven demands made by the Kora community.

The speakers also said they would launch a tougher movement unless the perpetrators are arrested immediately.

Among others, Shah-e-Mobin Jinnah, executive director of Community Development Association; Kairat Hossain, executive director of Ganakolyan Procheta; Rubel Tudu, organising secretary of Adivasi Chhatra Parishad; Harun Akka, president of Biral Upazila Adivasi Samity; Shibani Orao and Krishna Kora also spoke.



A section of the rally in front of Biral Upazila Press Club where members of Kora community gathered yesterday to demand punishment for attackers.

PHOTO: COLLECTED



Liberation War memorial Swadhinatar Sapan, the first such memorial in Pabna's Santhia upazila, awaits inauguration on the Independence Day tomorrow.

PHOTO: STAR

# Teachers, staffers of Barguna school on strike for 15 months' arrears

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

All teachers and employees, totalling 24, of Amtali Mofij Uddin Girls' High School in Barguna have started boycotting classes since Wednesday last week.

They said they were forced to take the decision as their salaries had gone unpaid for 15 months -- starting from December 2017 till February 2019.

Delwar Hossain, acting headteacher of the school that has 773 enrolled students, said the situation arose after the High Court (HC), in a judgment of a writ petition delivered on October 24, 2017, declared that Shah Alam Kabir -- the petitioner who was suspended by the school management committee as the headteacher of the school on November 26, 2012 on corruption charges -- was the lawful headteacher of the school.

Delwar said although he has been the acting headteacher of the school since Shah Alam's suspension, according to the HC judgement in 2017, he could no longer be the official signatory of the school's employee salary sheets.

Rezaul Karim Badol, an assistant teacher

of English, said it had been extremely difficult for them to live without any salary over the last 15 months. During this time, they did not even receive any Eid bonus.

The acting headmaster told this correspondent that efforts are on to resolve the situation and a petition was submitted recently with Barishal Education Board, seeking constituting of a fresh management committee for the school as the tenure of the incumbent committee expired on February 14.

Hopefully, when a new committee is formed, it will be able to resume payment of salaries to the school's employees, he said.

Contacted, Sarwar Hossain, upazila nirbahi officer of Amtali, said he was aware of the non-payment of salaries issue at the school and he would inform the higher authorities of the matter for immediate resolution to the issue.

Established in 1965, Amtali Mofij Uddin Girls' High School currently has 20 teachers and 4 staff members. The school earned a good reputation in the area with its improving results in public examinations including the Secondary School Certificate examinations.

## PRE-POLLS VIOLENCE

# 10 AL men hurt in attack

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

Ten men of the Awami League (AL) nominated chairman candidate were injured in an attack allegedly by the supporters of a 'rebel' candidate in Tangail's Basail upazila on Saturday.

Of the injured, Abu Hanif Miah, joint secretary of upazila unit of AL, and its activists Banijur Rahman, Chan Mamud Miah, Robin Ahmed and Roni Miah, were admitted to the upazila health complex while the rest given first aid.

The injured said supporters of rebel chairman candidate Kazi Alid Islam attacked them when they were returning home after joining a meeting of AL nominated chairman candidate Haji Motiar Rahman Gaus ahead of the upazila parishad polls to be held on March 31.

SM Tuhin Ali, OC of Basail Police Station, said necessary steps will be taken if a complaint is lodged.