

# Boro fields flooded as haor embankment collapses

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

Boro paddy on hundreds of acres of land has been flooded in Borokhapon union of Netrakona's Kalmakanda upazila following collapse of an embankment on Guraduba Haor, a water body in adjacent Madhyanagar union of Darmapasha upazila in Sunamganj.

This year 21,300 acres of land, including 4780 acres in haor areas of the upazila, were brought under Boro cultivation, the official said. Md Anik Rahman, fisheries officer of Kalmakanda, said, "The flooding has not posed any threat to fish cultivation yet. But the situation may worsen and so, the fish farmers are suggested to arrange netting around their ponds as a protection measure."



This embankment on the Guraduba haor in Dharmapasha upazila of Sunamganj collapsed early yesterday, inundating nearly ripe Boro paddy on hundreds of acres of land in adjacent Borokhapon union under Kalmakanda upazila of Netrakona.

PHOTO: STAR

## Man gets life term

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chapainawabganj

A court here yesterday sentenced a man to life term imprisonment in a drug case. The lifer is Fatik Ali, 31, son of Mohammad Ehiya of Goladubi village in Sadar upazila. Additional District and Sessions Judge Shawkat Ali also fined him Tk 1 lakh, in default, he is to suffer another one year in jail.

## Man gets 14-year imprisonment for abducting woman

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pirojpur

A court here yesterday sentenced a man to 14 years' imprisonment for abducting a woman in 2015. The convict is Al Amin, 40, son of Shaheed Hawlader of Nayakhali Matibhanga village in Bhandaria upazila. Md Mizanur Rahman, judge of Women and Children Repression Prevention Tribunal, also fined Al Amin Tk 30,000. In default, he is to suffer another three months in jail. According to the prosecution, Al Amin abducted a neighbouring woman, 28, on March 1 in 2015. The woman's husband filed a case with Bhandaria Police Station on April 8, accusing six people including Al Amin. Police later rescued the woman from the area. Following investigation, police submitted charge sheet accusing Al Amin. After examining the witnesses' testimonies and otehr pieces of evidence, the judge pronounce the verdict. Convict Al Amin was present in the court during pronouncemeht of the verdict.

## FAILURE IN SSC, DAKHIL EXAMS

# Two examinees kill selves, four others make attempt

STAR COUNTRY DESK

Family members took him to Thakurgaon Sadar Hospital where he died around 9:30pm, said the OC. In Mymensingh, a boy, who failed in this year's Secondary School Certificate (SSC) examinations, committed suicide jumping under the wheels of a running train in Gafargaon upazila in the afternoon, reports our correspondent. The deceased was Rakibul Hasan, 16, son of Bulbul Mia of Bir Kamotkhali village in Nandail upazila. Sub-inspector (SI) Shahidul Islam, in-charge of Gafargaon Government Railway Police Outpost, said Rakibul took part in the SSC examinations from Bir Kamotkhali JB High School. Upon hearing that he failed to pass in the examinations, Rakibul went out of his house. Later, he jumped under the wheels of a Mymensingh-bound train in Basutia Bridge area of Gafargaon. He died on the spot. On information, police recovered

the body and sent it to Mymensingh Medical College Hospital for autopsy. A case was filed in this connection, said the SI. Away in Habiganj, four female examinees tried to take own lives as they failed to pass in this year's SSC and equivalent examinations in three upazilas of the district, reports our Moulvibazar correspondent. They are now undergoing treatment at Habiganj Sadar Hospital, said Dr Mithun Roy of the hospital. They are Sharmin Akter, 16, daughter of Abdul Awal of Baliary village in Chunarughat upazila, Jui Rani Das, 15, daughter of Subodh Das of Sikandarpur village and Beauty Akter, 17, daughter of Kamruzzaman of Wazirpur village in Baniachang upazila and Swapna Das, 16, daughter of Gouranga Das of Pashchimbag village in Azmeriganj upazila. In the afternoon, the four tried to kill themselves by taking poison, said family members.

## Rab seizes explosives, arrests two

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gaibandha

Rapid Action Battalion (Rab-13) seized smuggled explosive items worth Tk 5 lakh from a three-wheeler bound for Bogura on Monday night. The law enforcers arrested Selim Sarker, 28, son of Chand Mia of Sultangarh village, and Shafiqul Islam, 30, of Kaigari village in Bogura district. "The Rab team challenged the three-wheeler at Shialgara on Gobindaganj-Ghoraghat road and recovered 268 kilograms of explosive items worth about Tk five lakh. They arrested the two men and seized the three-wheeler carrying them with the item smuggled from India," said ASP Habibur Rahman, commander Rab-13 in Gaibandha.



Boro plants at a field of Lontola village in Gaibandha's Gobindaganj upazila get damaged due to attack by blast disease that affected the area prior to harvest of the crop.

PHOTO: KM REZAUL HOQUE

## 4 illegal sand lifters arrested

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Faridpur

Police arrested four people and seized a dredger while they were lifting sand illegally from the Padma river at Mozlispur village in Goalanda upazila of Rajbari on Monday afternoon. The arrestees are Lutfor Mridha, 41, son of Md Ohab Mridha of Shibayala bazar area in Shibayala upazila, Md Khokon Biswas, 29, son of Md Sofique Biswas of Baherchar village, Md Samsul Biswas, 60, son of late Joynuluddin of Baliakandi village in Harirampur upazila of Manikganj and Md Rayhan, 19, son of Md Abul Kalam of Doshani village in Chandpur's Matlab Uttar upazila. Ezaz Shafi, officer in charge (OC) of Goalanda Police Station, said on secret information, they conducted a drive at Mozlispur village and arrested the four while they were lifting sand from the river with a dredger around 5:45pm.

## OVERCHARGING CUSTOMERS Manikganj drugstore owner jailed for 1 month

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Manikganj

A mobile court yesterday handed down one month's imprisonment to a drugstore owner in Manikganj town for selling medicines over their posted retail price. The mobile court was jointly led by Sheikh Alaul Islam, executive magistrate of Manikganj district administration, and Asaduzzaman Rumel, assistant director of Directorate of National Consumer Rights Protection, said Manikganj Additional District Magistrate Moshir Rahman Khan. During the drive at Modern Drug Store near 250-bed district hospital, the mobile court found that its owner, Rajib Hossain, was selling Pathedrine for Tk 250 instead of its suggested retail price Tk 6, while Ephedrine for Tk 400 against Tk 25. Deputy Commissioner Sheikh Alaul Islam, the executive magistrate and judge of the mobile court, delivered the verdict of one month's imprisonment against store owner Rajib Hossain under Section 40 of the Consumer Rights Protection Act, 2009, as he was found selling products above their posted maximum retail prices, added Moshir Rahman Khan. The court later sent the convict to Manikganj jail following delivery of the verdict.

## 3 drown as overloaded boat capsizes

Six other passengers still missing

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gaibandha

Three people drowned and six others went missing when a country boat capsized in the Brahmaputra river at Dhutichora in Gaibandha Sadar upazila yesterday morning. The dead were identified as Rokeya Begum, 45, of Dhutichora village, Feroza Bewya, 50, and Santona Khatun, 10, of Dakkhin Gideri village. The missing persons are yet to be recovered. A country boat carrying over 40 passengers, sailed from Nayagram of Gideri union, was proceeding towards Dhutichora char land, eyewitnesses said. Most of the passengers were farm labourers who were going for harvesting

maize in the char area. As the boat reached mid-river around 11:00am, it suddenly capsized due to strong current. Nine people fell into the river and went missing while the other passengers swam to the bank. Local people recovered the bodies of the three females, but six others could not be traced as of filing this report yesterday afternoon. Fire-fighters from Gaibandha rushed to the spot and tried to trace the missing people. The boat was carrying passengers beyond its capacity, said Bakhtiar Uddin, leader of fire-fighters' team. "We have informed Rangpur fire station for sending divers to help in the recovery attempt," he said.

## ADITMARI UZ POLLS Independent chairman candidate wins

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

Independent chairman candidate (AL rebel) Imrul Kayes Farooque won the polls in Aditmari upazila parishad. He bagged 46,870 votes while his nearest Awami League candidate Rafiqul Alam got 34,098 votes. Jatiya Party candidate Nigar Sultana got 1,124 votes in the election held on Sunday. Chitta Ranjan Roy was elected as vice chairman and Jesmin Akhter was elected as woman vice chairman. Total 83,997 out of 1,63,612 voters in the upazila exercised their franchise during the election that started around 8:00am and ended around 4:00pm, said District Election Officer Manjurul Hasan. No unexpected incident occurred during the polls, he said. Fifteen candidates -- three for chairman, six for vice chairman and six for women vice chairmen -- contested in the polls. The Election Commission earlier on March 8 suspended the polls for Aditmari upazila parishad scheduled for March 10, following violation of election rules by the assistant private secretary to Social Welfare Minister Nuruzzaman Ahmed.



Family members of Bangladesh Railway employees under the banner of Railway Poshya Society form a human chain in Lalmonirhat Railway Station area yesterday protesting what they said provocative comment of transport leader lawmaker Shajahan Khan.

PHOTO: STAR