



A mobile court yesterday conducted a drive at a brick kiln in Tangail's Mirzapur upazila and fined its owners Tk 1 lakh for running its operation without any approval from the authorities concerned.

PHOTO: STAR

DAMAGE OF CROPLANDS

Brick kiln owners fined, ordered to shift within 3 months

Affected farmers in Lalmonirhat yet to get compensation

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

A mobile court in Tangail yesterday fined the owners of a brick kiln in Mirzapur upazila Tk 1 lakh for causing damages to vast tracts of nearby Boro paddy fields recently.

The court, led by Executive Magistrate Mainul Islam, also ordered the owners of NNB-2 Bricks in Bahuria Purbopara area to shift the brick kiln to other place within the next three months.

The owners of NNB-2 Bricks were fined Tk 1 lakh for constructing the brickfield in residential area and without any legal approval of the authorities concerned, said Mainul, also Mirzapur assistant commissioner (land).

They were also directed to shift their brick kiln to other place within three months, he said.

A team of Tangail Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) and another team of Department of Environment in Tangail also accompanied the mobile court.

Mentionable, Abdur Rahim of Sohagpara village in the upazila and one of his relatives Rezaul Karim, a resident of Kodda area in Gazipur, started the brick kiln along vast tracts of cropland about a year ago.

Earlier, standing Boro paddies on at least 16 acres of land were completely damaged due to emission of excessive heat and hot air from the brick kiln on April 28.

After the incident, affected farmers protested the damage and eventually it came to the knowledge of the local administration.

Later, the brick kiln owners, through mediation of local agriculture officials and union parishad chairman concerned paid Tk 3, 32, 950 to 51 affected farmers as compensation for the damage.

Meanwhile, in Lalmonirhat, although an illegal brick kiln along agricultural land in Aditmari upazila was fined on Saturday, the affected farmers are yet to get the compensation for the damage even after 10 days of the incident,

reports out Lalmonirhat correspondent.

Earlier, a mobile court, led by Executive Magistrate Mohammad Asaduzzaman, also Aditmari Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) fined the owners of AFH Bricks at Dewdona village Tk 1 lakh for not having any legal approval of running the brick kiln.

The court also ordered its owners to pay adequate compensation to the affected 20 farmers.

Toxic gas emitted from AFH Bricks damaged Boro paddy and other crops on about 20 acres of land about 10 days ago.

Aditmari Upazila Agriculture Officer Ali Noor said the damage occurred due to emission of excessive heat and hot air from the bumer of the brick kiln.

Solaiman Ali, 62, an affected farmer of the village, said although the brick kiln was fined, we are yet to get our compensation for the damage.

Ashrafal Islam, one of the three owners of the brick kiln, said the affected farmers will be given compensation soon.

Firearms seized

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chapainawabganj

Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) seized four shutter guns, magazines and bullets from bordering Pirojpur village under Shibganj upazila of the district on Saturday night.

A team of BGB, acting on a tip-off, tried to intercept a country boat, carrying a group of smugglers, in the Pagla river around 11:50pm. Meanwhile, sensing the presence of the bordering troops, the gang jumped into the river and entered the Indian territory, leaving their boat behind, Commanding Officer (CO) of BGB 59 Battalion Lt Col SM Salahuddin said.

Later, the BGB members searched the boat and seized four shutter guns, two magazines, one bullet and 300 bottles of contraband Phensidyl from the abandoned boat, the CO said.

Farmer commits suicide in Pabna

As the ailing man failed to run his family and bear the cost for treatment of his kidney disease, he took his own life by hanging himself

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

A farmer took his life by hanging himself at Patharghata village in Bhangura upazila of the district yesterday.

Per-Bhangura Union Parishad Chairman Md Hedaetul Haque confirmed the incident.

The deceased was identified as Selim Hossain, 45, son of Dabir Uddin of the village.

Locals and family members said Selim had been suffering from kidney disease for the last few months.

As the destitute farmer was unable to run his family and bear the treatment cost, he took his life by hanging himself from the ceiling of his room.

On information, police rushed to the spot and recovered the body and sent it to Pabna Medical College Hospital for autopsy, said Officer in Charge of Bhangura Police Station Md Masud Rana.

The farmer killed himself to avoid family tension, said the police official.

Selim was often insulted by his family members as he was jobless, said the chairman.

Headmaster gets life term for raping colleague

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

The Women and Children Repression Prevention Tribunal of Kushtia awarded a school headmaster of Meherpur to life term imprisonment for raping his colleague in a Kushtia hotel in 2016.

Judge of the court Munshi Moshir Rahman pronounced the verdict in presence of the convict.

According to prosecution, the victim, a part-time teacher at Mujibnagar Amrakanan High School in Meherpur, came to Kushtia on May 12, 2016 to take part in Teachers' Registration Examination scheduled to be held the next day.

The female teacher was accompanied by headmaster of the school Shariful Islam whom she looked upon as her guardian.

They rented two separate rooms of Al Amin Hotel at Barabazar of Kushtia town.

Shariful knocked at the door of the female teacher's room early morning of May 13 and told her that he would give her some tips on the examination.

As she opened the door, Shariful

entered the room, closed the door and raped her.

At one stage the woman lost her consciousness and the rapist called his acquaintance Zahidul Islam, a medical representative, over phone and asked him to go there.

Zahidul took the victim to the Kushtia General Hospital and fled.

After primary treatment, the hospital staff persuaded the woman to go home in Meherpur on the same day.

After going home, she told her family of the incident.

They took her to a hospital as her bleeding did not stop.

The news spread in the area and mainstream media covered the issue.

Later, the then Kushtia Deputy Commissioner Syed Belal Hossain brought the woman to Kushtia and admitted her to Kushtia General Hospital on May 15.

The victim filed a case with Kushtia Model Police Station that day accusing headmaster Shariful.

Kushtia Model Police arrested the headmaster with the help of Meherpur police on September 12, 2017.

Man killed in Gaibandha clash

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gaibandha

A man was killed and 10 others were injured in a clash between two rival groups over a piece of disputed land in Palashbari upazila of the district on Monday.

The dead was Abdul Hye Prodhon, 45, son of late Hazarat Ali of Gausia village.

Police and locals said there was a longstanding conflict between Hye and Shahjahan Ali of the same village over the land.

As a sequel to the conflict, the family members of both the rivals attacked each other with lethal weapons on Monday morning, leaving at least 11 people from both sides injured.

Of them, Hye was admitted to the upazila health complex and then referred to Rangpur Medical College Hospital as his condition deteriorated. He later died on way to the hospital.

Of the injured, four were admitted to the health complex while the rest given first aid.

The victim's wife Anjuara Begum filed a murder case, accusing 16 people, said Masudur Rahman, officer in charge of Palashbari Police Station.

The body was sent to Gaibandha Sadar Hospital for autopsy, said the OC, adding that they are raiding different areas to arrest the accused.

Capital punishment of Tania's killers demanded

Transport workers condemn the gruesome killing and demand death penalty for the culprits involved in the crime

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

Transport workers in Tangail yesterday formed a human chain in the town, demanding capital punishment of the driver, assistant and others involved in killing of Nurse Shahinoor Akter after gang rape on May 6.

Several hundred transport workers and their leaders joined the rally, under the banner of Tangail District Bus-Coach-Minibus Workers Union, held in New Bus Terminal area.

Among others, Ahsanul Islam Pitu, president of District Bus-Coach-Minibus Workers Union, its General Secretary Chittaranjan Sarkar, Executive Committee President Golam Mawla, Vice Presidents Rupchan Miah and Selim Miah and Joint Secretaries Mominul Islam and Illias Hossain, spoke on the occasion.

Speakers at the rally said although thousands of transport workers have been providing services to the passengers, only few of them committing crimes like killing Tania after gang rape.

Transport workers condemned the gruesome killing and demand death penalty for the culprits involved in the crime, they said.

Nurse Tania, who used to work at Ibn Sina Hospital in the capital's Kalyanpur branch, was killed after rape on a running bus on her way home in Kishoreganj's Katiadi upazila.



Transport workers form a human chain in New Bus terminal area of Tangail town yesterday demanding punishment of the alleged driver and his aides who killed nurse Shahinoor Akter Tania after rape on a bus in Katiadi upazila of Kishoreganj on the night of May 6.

PHOTO: STAR



Natore Deputy Commissioner Mohammad Shariatz buys rice for the government fixed price Tk 1040 per maund from farmers at Kafuria Thandarpara village in Sadar upazila yesterday. Inset, a farmer at Dinajpur's Nimpara village sells rice directly to a trader.

PHOTO: STAR

ATTEMPT TO RAPE CHARGE

Madaripur cop lands in jail

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Faridpur

A Madaripur court yesterday sent a policeman to jail in connection with a case for attempting to rape a teenage girl in Madaripur town on Sunday.

Following a case filed by the victim's maternal uncle under Women and children Repression Prevention Act on Monday night, law enforcers detained accused Constable Moktar Hossain from Madaripur Police Lines early yesterday.

The victim, who failed to pass her SSC exams this year, is now undergoing treatment at Madaripur General Hospital with fractured right leg.

According to the case statement, Moktar, one of the neighbours of the victim, called the girl to his rented house in TB Clinic area in Madaripur town around 9:00pm on Sunday when Moktar's pregnant wife, who went to her village home, was not present at home.

As soon the girl entered Mokter's house, he locked the door and tried to violate the girl. But, failing to do so, he started torturing her.

Hearing her cry for help, locals went to the spot and locked the door from outside.

Sensing trouble, Mokter then pushed off the girl through the ventilator of his bed room in a bid to save himself from the public rage, leaving her severely injured.

Locals rescued the injured victim and admitted her to Madaripur General Hospital.

Victim's uncle Farhad Bepary said, "Since her father died in a road accident about five years ago, my niece has been living with my mother as my sister is suffering from a mental disorder."

Madaripur Additional Superintendent of Police Uttam Prasad Pathak said after hearing the matter locally, a two-member probe committee was formed to investigate the incident.

During primary investigation, the probe body found the allegation brought against him was true, he said, adding that Moktar was produced before a Madaripur court around 11:00am yesterday that sent him to jail.

Man jailed for possessing pistol, bullets

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

A court here yesterday sentenced a man to 17 years' imprisonment for possessing an illegal firearm and six bullets in Ghoraghat upazila.

The convict is Abdul Hakim, 48, son of late Abdul Latif of Chawkshal Pashchimpa village in the upazila.

Additional District and Sessions Judge Anwarul Haque delivered the verdict in a crowded courtroom.

According to the prosecution, Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) in a drive arrested Hakim with a pistol and six bullets in the area on September 3 in 2016.

Later, a case was filed in connection with the incident.

After examining witnesses and evidence, the judge found Hakim guilty and pronounced the verdict.