

## Man lands in jail for damaging Bangabandhu mural

OUR CORRESPONDENT,  
Thakurgaon

A man was sent to jail yesterday, a day after his detention, for his alleged involvement in partially damaging a mural of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman in Thakurgaon's Pirganj upazila on Friday.

Police detained Noor Alam, 55, of Raghunathpur village, on Friday afternoon.

Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate Ramesh Kumar Daga sent Noor to jail, rejecting his bail prayer around 3:00pm.

OC of Pirganj Police Station Pradip Kumar Roy filed a case against Noor on Friday night.

The accused damaged the right side of the mural at Purba Chourasta area with a brick.

# Won in the war, lost in the battle for living

MIRZA SHAKIL, Tangail

Eighty-year-old valiant freedom fighter Dilip Kumar Dey has been earning a living by performing popular Bangla songs like Eto sur ar eto gaan jodi konodin theme jai in markets, schools, colleges and bus stands for the last few decades.

Dilip, a resident of Uttar Baghulia village in Bangra union of Tangail's Kalihati upazila, receives allowance as a freedom fighter and lives in Bir Nibas provided by the government.

But there is nothing left after paying the installment of loan taken to meet the various needs of the family. By singing the songs, the elderly freedom fighter earns money to meet the basic needs.

"I was born in Mymensingh. I was the eldest among six children of my poor father. I couldn't receive formal education due to extreme poverty. I love to listen to songs and sing them from young age. I used to sing in the theatre and play the flute," said Dilip.

During the Liberation War in 1971, the Pakistanis started torturing the people of the country. Many innocent people have been killed, houses were set on fire, women abducted away and

Mahmud sent Today at 8:46 PM  
One of his two sons works at a barber shop, while another earns his livelihood by driving locally-made three-wheeler.

tortured. Fearing the situation, many people were fleeing from their houses.

Hearing this, Dilip became very sad and got angry and left home on April 17 to take part in the Liberation War. He went to Meghalaya in India to receive training.

Dilip was in Sector 11. He fought in Baksiganj of Jamalpur and Kamalpur border. His sector commander was Colonel Abu Taher. The sub-sector commander was Major Afshar and his company commander was Col Abu Taher's younger brother Waresul Hasan Bellal.

"At that time, no fear worked in our minds. Our determination was to destroy the occupational forces by any means", he added.

Shortly after the country became independent, Dilip came to Tangail's Kalihati with some fellow freedom fighters and started living there.

He then got married in Baghulia village and since then, he has been living here permanently.

"But the poverty never left him. I had to run the family by singing. I along with my wife and children used to live without food," said Dilip.

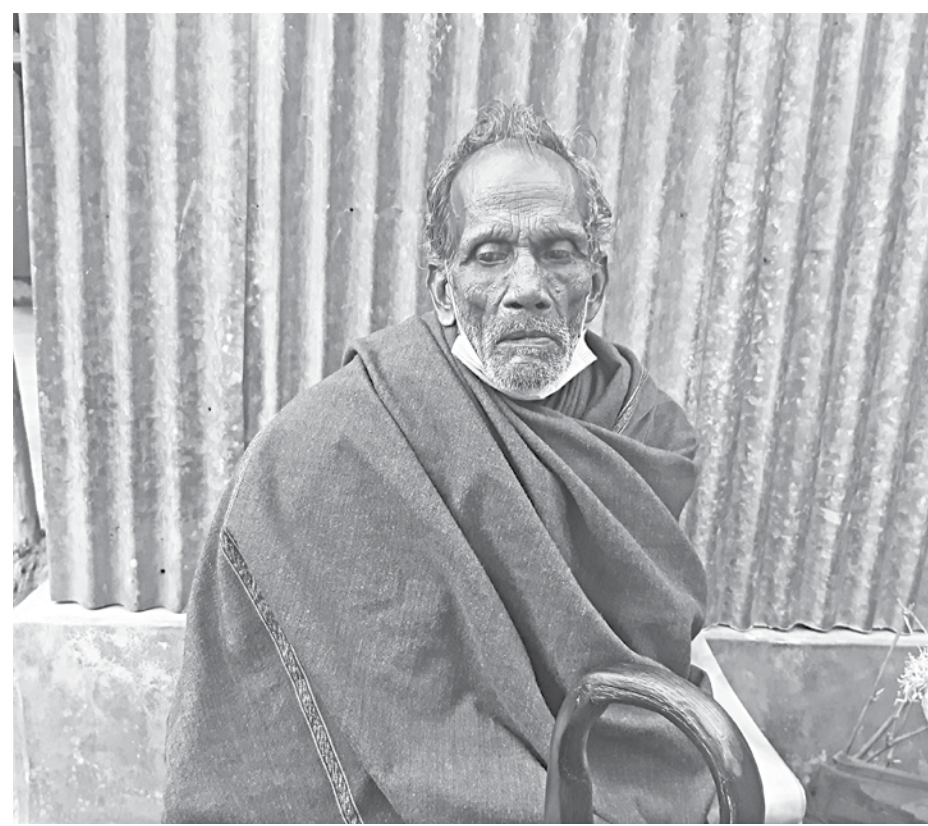
Despite of living in great difficulty, Dilip later got his sister and two daughters married off. However, he could not educate his two sons due to poverty. The duo got married.

Of them, one works in a barber shop and another son drives locally-made motorised three-wheeler.

Dilip gets the allowance as freedom fighter from the beginning. It started from Tk 300 and now the amount is Tk 12,000. Of the allowance money, he left a major amount to repay the loan he took to meet the needs of the family. The government has also given him a house.

Dilip expressed his gratitude to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina for these.

"My sons have been taking care of me since my wife died several months ago, but their income is not enough to run the family," said Dilip, adding that due to this, he still sings songs in the markets, bus stands and many other places to earn some money.



Dilip Kumar Dey



Winter clothes and accessories vendor Selim Islam has a lot of time to kill these days as sales took a nosedive with an unusually warm winter in the region. The photo was taken near bus stand area in Birampur town of Dinajpur.

PHOTO: KONGKON KARMAKER

## Winter clothes sales slump in the north

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

Small-scale sellers and street vendors of winter clothes in Dinajpur and Rangpur are witnessing poor sales compared to that in the same month in previous years.

Unseasonably warm temperatures in the day coupled with economic downturns due to the novel coronavirus pandemic might be behind the fall in demands for warm clothes in the region, said many vendors and locals.

Selim Islam has been vending warm clothes on the street near bus stand area in Birampur upazila town of Dinajpur for the last 4 years. He said lately his daily sales slumped to as low as Tk 200 to Tk 300. "High temperatures this winter might have caused the sales to drop at least by 70 percent."

In Dinajpur, it usually starts to

feel like winter around the end of October, when the mercury starts to dip. It continues to fall sharply from November till mid-January, when the temperature starts to rise. By the end of March, winter can no longer be felt.

Over the last seven days in Dinajpur, the lowest temperature hovered below 10 degrees Celsius, but the highest reached up to 25 degree Celsius, according to data provided by the meteorological office in Dinajpur.

People usually tend to feel colder when the sky remains overcast and foggy conditions obstruct the sighting of the sun. But most of parts of the days this December remained sunny, officials at the Met office also said.

Winter clothes vendors said their sales usually pick up by the end of November and all sorts of warm clothes and accessories -- including socks, woollen

Unseasonably warm temperatures in the day coupled with economic downturns due to the novel coronavirus pandemic might be behind the fall in demands for warm clothes.

gloves, scarves or mufflers and specialised winter caps -- sell well till December.

Though December is already over, they are yet to see their sales take flight like in other years, they lamented.

Rangpur city winter clothes seller Rafiqul Islam said the sale falls to almost zero in the daytime

and it climbs up a bit after the evening. "It isn't possible to feed my family of four with this poor income."

Subhash Chandra, another street vendor in Phulbari upazila, said he sold at least 30 winter jackets every day last year, but this year's sale so far is not even close to that.

Unusually higher temperatures during the day and fall in people's buying capacity due to the pandemic might be a reason for the drop in demands of winter clothes this time, he also said.

Tofazzal Hossain, the Dinajpur Met office in-charge, said there is a big difference between temperatures in the day and at night because it remained sunny almost throughout the entire day.

Besides, there has been no fog over the region either. "People feel more comfortable in such weather," he explained.

## Fire guts 6 houses

OUR CORRESPONDENT,  
Lalmonirhat

At least six houses were gutted when a devastating fire broke out at bordering Dharmapur village in Kurigram's Phulbari upazila yesterday.

Meanwhile, two people sustained injuries while trying to douse the fire.

Of them, Huzur Ali was admitted to Phulbari Upazila Health Complex, while Jabbar Mia took primary treatment from the same hospital.

Locals said the fire originated from the house of farmer Sabur Ali of the village yesterday noon and soon engulfed five more adjacent houses.

Victims claimed that the extent of loss caused by the fire could go up to Tk 12 lakh.



A traditional horse race was held in Tangail's Nagarpur upazila yesterday amid festive mood. Several thousand locals and people of different neighbouring villages came to enjoy the event, organised at Dakkhinpara ground in Chechujani village of the upazila.

PHOTO: STAR

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## Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh



College Education Development Project (CEDP)

Sherpur Govt. Mohila College, Sherpur

New Market, Sherpur Town, Sherpur

Invitation for Tenders

1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Education.
2	Agency	University Grants Commission/National University.
3	Procuring entity name	Professor Afia Ferdous, Principal (Acting), Sherpur Govt. Mohila College, Sherpur.
4	Procuring entity code	N/A.
5	Procuring entity district	Sherpur.
6	Invitation for	Works.
7	Invitation Ref No.	SGMC/CEDP/048/2020.
8	Date	03/01/2021.

<b>KEY INFORMATION</b>		
9	Procurement method	Open Tendering Method (National).

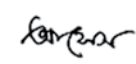
<b>FUNDING INFORMATION</b>		
10	Budget and source of funds	Development Budget (Government & IDA Credit).
11	Development partners	International Development Association (IDA), World Bank.

<b>PARTICULAR INFORMATION</b>		
12	Project code	224017200.
13	Project name	College Education Development Project (CEDP).
14	Tender package No.	W-2.
15	Tender package name	Renovation and refurbishment of central library, seminar library, ICT lab, classrooms, auditorium & Dept. office rooms.
16	Tender publication date	03/01/2021
17	Tender last selling date	20-01-2021
18	Tender closing date and time	21-01-2021, 1:00pm
19	Tender opening date and time	21-01-2021, 4:00pm
20	Name & address of the office	(1) Office of the Principal, Sherpur Govt. Mohila College, Sherpur.
	Selling tender document	(2) Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Sherpur.
	Receiving tender document	(3) Office of the Superintendent of Police, Sherpur.
	Opening tender document	Office of the Principal, Sherpur Govt. Mohila College, Sherpur.
21	Pre-tender meeting	Shall not be held.

<b>INFORMATION FOR TENDERER</b>		
22	Eligibility of tenderer	(1) The tenderer shall have a minimum number 03 years general experience in construction/renovation/ refurbishment/extension and physical services. (2) The tenderer shall have satisfactory completion of refurbishment activities of minimum BDT 20 lac only under maximum 01 contract in the last 05 years. (3) The required average annual construction turnover shall be greater than BDT 30 lac only over the last 03 years. (4) The minimum amount of liquid assets i.e. working capital or credit line(s) of the tenderers shall be Tk 20 lac. (5) Other requirement mentioned in Tender Document.

23	Brief description of works	The works consist of Brick work, Plaster, Floor & wall tiles, Plastic paint, Door window repair, Sealing works, Sanitary work & Electrification works etc.
24	Brief description of related services	Related service shall be in accordance with Section 4: Particular Conditions of Contract, and Section 6: Bill of Quantities.
25	Tender document price	BDT 1,500.00 (one thousand and five hundred Tk only).

26	Tender name	Location	Tender security amount (Tk)	Completion time in months
	Renovation and refurbishment of central library, seminar library, ICT lab, classrooms, auditorium & Dept. office rooms.	Sherpur Govt. Mohila College, Sherpur.	50,000/- (fifty thousand)	04 months
27	Name of official inviting tender	Professor Afia Ferdous.		
28	Designation of official inviting tender	Principal (Acting).		
29	Address of official inviting tender	Sherpur Govt. Mohila College, Sherpur.		
30	Contact details of official inviting tender	Tel: 0931-61460.		
31	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.			

  
Professor Afia Ferdous  
Principal (Acting)  
Sherpur Govt. Mohila College, Sherpur

GD-11