

Man arrested over rape in Moulvibazar

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

A Moulvibazar court yesterday sent a man to jail after he was shown arrested and produced before the court in a case filed over rape of a child.

The arrestee, Sudhir Kar, 28, is a resident of Moulvibazar Sadar upazila.

According to the case statement, Sudhir lured the child to an empty house by giving her chocolate when she was returning home from private tuition on Monday evening, and raped her.

Later, when the matter came to light, local people apprehended Sudhir and informed police. Police later went to the spot and detained him, and a case was filed in this connection on Monday night.

He was produced before court shown arrested in the case yesterday morning. The court ordered to send him to jail, said Gazi Md Mahbubur Rahman, officer-in-charge of Moulvibazar Sadar Police Station.

E-waste a growing concern in Khulna

DIPANKAR ROY, Khulna

Electronic waste, or e-waste, is rapidly becoming a menace for Khulna city dwellers due to Khulna City Corporation's lack of facilities to manage this type of waste.

These discarded electronic items, including worn-off TVs, fridges, computers, mobile phones, and cables, among others, often contain non-biodegradable and hazardous components that pose severe environmental and health concerns.

According to KCC data, around 1,200-1,400 tonnes of waste are produced in the city daily. Of this, 800-900 tonnes are collected and dumped at designated sites, while the remaining 400-500 tonnes often end up being abandoned in the open, clogging drains and polluting waterbodies.

Of the total waste produced in the city daily, around 5-8 tonnes are e-waste, including expired batteries from around 25,000 battery-run rickshaws and 42,000 easy-bikes that run in the city.

Experts opined that city authorities must adapt and



develop robust, effective systems to manage e-waste and safeguard the environment and public health, as these are bound to proliferate in quantity over time due to technological advancement.

Around 400 small and large shops in the city are engaged in trading scrap materials, including discarded electronic items.

Iqbal Jahid, who has been running such a shop in Sheikhpara area for past 25 years, said they sort and sell all types of

electronic scrap, ranging from mobile phones to electric motors. "No one in this market uses any protective gear for sorting these items," he added.

Shirajul Mia, a vendor who buys e-waste from door-to-door in the city and sells those to different scrap shops, said they recycle the collected waste as much as possible.

"Firstly, we separate and clean the valuable components for sale. The rest are sold as scraps and do not fetch much value," he said.

"I burn the cables to remove the copper and throw the rest. I've developed rashes in my hands while doing this work," he added.

Workers in scrap material businesses often face health issues such as rashes and other complications due to the harmful substances they have to encounter.

Professor Dr Abdullah Harun Chowdhury, head of the Department of Environmental Sciences at Khulna University, said e-waste contains various toxic compounds, including lead, cadmium, and mercury, which are harmful to people, animals, and the environment.

"The toxic compounds, like mercury, can pollute the environment and waterbodies in numerous ways, affecting soil and water quality, and consequently the flora and fauna that are dependent on these resources," he added.

Dr SM Farid Uz Zaman, former head of psychiatry department of Khulna Medical College Hospital, said the toxic elements found in e-waste can pose risks of devastating health hazards.

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One killed, 2 hurt in road accident

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinaipur

An easy-bike driver died and two of his passengers sustained injuries in a road accident in Dinaipur town yesterday.

The deceased was identified as Md Fakhru Islam, 55, of Nishchintapur village under Dinaipur Sadar upazila, while the injured were Saidur Rahman, 30, and Md Belal Hossain, 30.

The accident happened in Kashipur when a speeding Dinaipur-bound bus from Dhaka hit the easybike, killing Fakhru on the spot, said Dinaipur Sadar Police Station OC Farid Hossain.

Locals took them to M Abdur Rahim Medical College Hospital, he added.

Five return after 2yrs in Indian jail

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Benapole

Five Bangladeshis returned home on Monday night through the Benapole check post after serving two years in an Indian prison.

The returnees, all hailing from Narail district, were handed over by India's Petrapole Immigration Police to their Bangladesh counterparts at 8:30pm for travel permit processing.

Upon their return, Rights Jessore, an NGO, took them to a shelter yesterday morning, where they will stay before being reunited with their families.

Benapole Immigration Police Officer-in-Charge Intiaj Bhuiyan said the group had been trafficked to Kerala, India, by brokers who had promised them lucrative jobs.

THE SECURITY PRINTING CORPORATION (BANGLADESH) LTD. Local e-Tender for supply of 1,000 Reams Green Proof Sheet. Includes tender details and contact information.

Chattogram set to celebrate Durga Puja

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Chattogram is all set to celebrate Sharadiya Durga Puja, the largest festival of Bangalee Hindus, with preparations complete across the city and upazilas.

Shopping malls remain crowded as families purchase new clothes, a tradition for the occasion. Rajasree Dutta, seen shopping at Teri Bazar, shared that she buys clothes for her entire family every year.

Selim Jahangir, proprietor of Naofa Fashion Boutiques at Apollo Shopping Centre, said sales in his shop were gaining a momentum ahead of Durga Puja.

Nitai Prasad Ghosh, president of Chattogram District Pura Ujapan Parishad, said the Durga Puja will be celebrated at 2,122 mandaps this year, down from 2,190 last year due to financial constraints.



Artisans are giving final touches to the idols. They usually work in their workshops that are traditionally known as Pratimaloys.

Paresh Paul is the chief artisan of Shib Durga Mrit Shilpaloy, a Pratimaloy located in Chatteshwari Road area. Visiting his workshop yesterday, it was seen that idols of Durga and other deities were being made.

Paresh said it takes eight to 10 days to complete the work of making a set of idols for Durga Puja. "I lead a team of six members and we complete 12 sets of idols on average during the festival season," he said.

Chattogram's Deputy Commissioner, Farida Khanam, assured that the district administration has taken all necessary steps to ensure a peaceful and harmonious celebration.

"Like every year, Sharoodya Durga Puja will be celebrated in the district with communal harmony, religious solemnity, festive and peaceful atmosphere," she said. "The interim government is giving utmost importance to this matter."

Request for Expressions of Interest. Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, Department of Environment, Paribesh Bhaban, E-16, Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207. Includes detailed application requirements.

স্ট্যাটিক সিগন্যাল কোম্পানী চট্টগ্রাম চট্টগ্রাম সেনানিবাস দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি. Includes details about the static signal company and tender information.

জাতীয় গৃহায়ন কর্তৃপক্ষ গৃহায়ন ভবন. Includes information about the National Housing Authority and related services.

বাংলাদেশ কৃষি ব্যাংক বিজ্ঞপ্তি. Includes information about Bangladesh Krishi Bank and related services.