

Groom found dead in Faridpur sugarcane field

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Faridpur

A groom was found dead, hours after his wedding, in a sugarcane field in Faridpur's Saltha upazila yesterday morning.

The deceased was identified as Md. Jamal Fakir, 28, son of Md. Rozab Fakir of Pisonail village in Ballabhdhi union.

Jamal married Rokeya Akter, 23, daughter of Md. Liton Bhuiya of Ghonapara in Nagarkanda upazila, at a family ceremony on Thursday afternoon.

After the wedding, Jamal and his bride returned to his home in Pisonail village, said family members and neighbours.

Around 7:00am yesterday, some locals found Jamal's body with a towel tied around his neck, hanging from a bamboo fence in a sugarcane field -- about half a kilometre from his house. They then informed his family.

Speaking to reporters, the bride said she learned about her husband's death when the body was brought home.

Jamal's elder brother, Jamal Fakir, termed the death "shocking and mysterious," saying, "He had no enemies, and we cannot understand why this happened."

Md. Ataur Rahman, officer-in-charge of Saltha Police Station, said police recovered the body and sent it to Faridpur Medical College Hospital for autopsy.

"Legal proceedings are underway," added the police official.

Man killed in Pabna clash

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Pabna

A man was killed and 19 others were injured in a clash between two rival groups of villagers at the Modho Pungoli village in Faridpur upazila. Police have so far arrested two people, one from each faction.

The victim Md. Gazzali Munshi, 50, of the village was killed early on Friday on the way to Enayetur Khwaja Eunus Ali Medical College Hospital.

Faridpur Police Station Officer-in-Charge Md. Shakil Azam said the two groups, Hazi Gong and Badsha Gong, from the village had a long-standing rivalry over money-related disputes.

Both groups locked in a clash on Thursday, which left 20 people injured. The injured were then admitted to Faridpur Upazila Health Complex and Rajshahi Medical College Hospital.

After Munshi's state turned critical, he was being taken from Faridpur Upazila Health Complex to Enayetur Khwaja Eunus Ali Medical College Hospital early on Friday. However, he died on the way to the hospital, the OC said.

Police recovered Munshi's body and sent it to Pabna General Hospital morgue for autopsy on Friday.

"A tense situation prevails in the area. However, we have arrested two people, one from each faction. Two separate cases have been filed regarding the clash," the OC added.

ব্যবহৃত ফ্ল্যাট বিভাগ
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১৭৫০ ব.সু. এর ১টি ব্যবহৃত ফ্ল্যাট
ও পর্যায়, গ্রাম বিপুল সংযোগ
সহকারে বিভাগ করা হবে।
যোগাযোগ: ০১৭২০২১০২

Bangladesh Earthquake Society (BES) এর Life
Member দের জ্যাতীয়ের
আগামী নির্বাচিত নির্বাচন উপরেক্ষা আপনার ক্ষেত্রে হাস্পাতাল করার জন্য আপনার নাম, ছবি, বর্তমান ঠিকানা, ছান্নী ঠিকানা, জ্যাতীয় পরিচয়ের মূল, সমস্ত মূল, ইয়েইল এক্সেস এবং মোবাইল নম্বর নিচের ইমেইল এবং মোবাইল ২০২৫ এর মধ্যে প্রাপ্তোনের অনুমতি করা হচ্ছে।
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Labourers in the process to produce cocopeat from coconut coir at Rahimabad village in Bagerhat, Khulna, yesterday. Local entrepreneurs collect, dry, and refine coconut husks to make cocopeat, a popular soil substitute in agriculture, nurseries, and rooftop gardens for its excellent water-retention properties.

PHOTO: HABIBUR RAHMAN

54 health centres without essential medicine supply

SOHRAB HOSSAIN, Patuakhali

For the past 14 months, 54 union-level health and Family Welfare Centres (FWCs) across Patuakhali district have been operating without any supply of essential medicines.

Most of these facilities are also struggling with acute manpower shortages, leaving thousands of marginalised people deprived of basic healthcare.

According to the Family Planning Department, each union is supposed to have one such centre to provide healthcare for rural communities. However, 54 out of 77 unions in the district currently have functional FWCs.

Each FWC is meant to provide 26 types of essential medicines for common ailments such as fever, cough and skin diseases, as well as for maternal and child healthcare. But supply of essential drugs to these 54 centres has been suspended since August 2024.

Lamia Begum, 23, of Bakulbariya village, who brought her 18-month-old child to Bakulbariya Union Health and Family Welfare Centre in Galachipa upazila with fever and cold, said she received no medicine.

"The doctor prescribed some medicines but said none is available here. We are poor; we come here because treatment and medicine are supposed to be free. Now I'll have to buy

medicine from outside," she said.

Another patient, Sumi Akter, 21, who brought her two-year-old son with fever, echoed the same.

"The nearest upazila-level hospital is 15 kilometres away, and going to the district town costs even more. My husband is a day labourer -- we can't afford frequent trips for treatment," she said.



The Bakulbariya FWC, established in 2018, is also facing a severe manpower crisis. Of its six sanctioned posts, only two are currently occupied.

Family welfare assistant Ranjita, who manages patients at the FWC besides additional duty in a neighbouring union, said, "We haven't received any medicines for 14

months. The number of patients has dropped considerably."

A similar situation was found at Auliapur Union Health and Family Welfare Centre under Patuakhali Sadar upazila, which is running without essential drugs while five of its seven sanctioned posts remain vacant.

Nasima Begum, a family welfare assistant at the centre, said, "We used to get around 23 types of medicines, but for over a year, there has been no supply. Earlier, we treated about 50 patients a day; now only around 10 come. Without medicine, we can only give prescriptions."

According to official data, out of 54 FWCs in Patuakhali, only 33 have sub-assistant community medical officers appointed. Of 21 pharmacist posts, 11 are vacant; so are 24 of the 78 family welfare visitor posts, and 88 of the 317 family welfare assistant posts.

Contacted, Dr Md. Shamsuzzaman, assistant director of the District Family Planning Office, said, "Previous 5-year plan ended in June 2024, but the next 5-year plan was not approved timely. So there has been a halt in medicine supply and services have been disrupted to some extent. However, the problem will be resolved soon. We expect to resume medicine supply to all union-level centres within the next week."

NCP won't be a 'pet'

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November 15," he said.

"By December 30, NCP must have convening committee in every ward -- from district and upazila to union, thana, and city levels. If we can do this, NCP will contest the next national election as one of the two strongest political parties in Bangladesh."

The convener of each committee must be over 40, and the member secretary must not be younger than 35.

"Anyone who held positions in the Awami League or its affiliated bodies before the July uprising cannot join NCP convening committees," he said.

He also instructed that inactive or controversial individuals must be excluded.

Hasnat Abdullah, the chief organiser of the NCP for the southern region, alleged that the country is heading toward another engineered election.

Accusing political parties of colluding over the allocation of deputy commissioners at the Secretariat, Hasnat said, "We want to tell the interim government: you are here to ensure fairness, but we see you bowing to certain political parties and assisting them in DC appointments."

Criticising the Election

Commission, Hasnat remarked, "Our Election Commission is a spineless body. Political parties have treated it as spoils and divided it among themselves. They go to the advisers and dictate who can stay and who cannot. Every institution in Bangladesh has been divided between these two parties."

UN must

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landscape," he said in a message marking the United Nations Day that falls on October 24.

On this occasion, Prof Yunus said they pledge that Bangladesh will continue to do its part to ensure a stable and peaceful world, as envisioned in the UN Charter.

On this day, on behalf of the people of Bangladesh, Prof Yunus wished all Member States, Partners in the UN System, and other stakeholders a happy United Nations Day.

"This is an occasion for the international community to renew its pledge to build a world free from fear and want, and rejuvenate the spirit of multilateralism and consensus building that the UN embodies," said Prof Yunus.

Accusing political



A farmer tends to seedlings of various winter flowers at a nursery in Alankarkathi village of Nesarabad (Swarupkathi) upazila in Pirojpur. These seedlings are supplied from various nurseries, at both retail and wholesale prices, to different parts of the country. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: TITU DAS

Mitford hospital stretched to the limit

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"We are trying to increase the ICU capacity to at least 30 beds," he said.

According to the hospital's internal death review, most fatalities occur due to late hospitalisation and underlying health complications.

"People should get tested early," Dr Mollah advised. "If someone develops a fever, they should take the NSI test on the first day. After three or four days, the result may turn negative even if the patient has dengue." Dr Mollah advised.

HM Nazmul Ahsan, associate professor at

Six years on, Babuhrat market remains half-built Traders, locals bear the brunt

KM HABIBUR RAHMAN, Pirojpur

Nearly six years after construction began, the new Babuhrat market in Pirojpur's Nazirpur remains only 30 percent complete, leaving traders and thousands of dependents struggling.

Rusting iron rods jut from unfinished floors, concrete pillars rise from bare earth, and empty shop frames stand abandoned where bustling businesses once thrived.

The four-storey market, part of the Countrywide Rural Market Infrastructure Development Project, was awarded in December 2019 to Shimran Mayan Trade International and Efte ETCL (Pvt) Ltd for Tk 3.3 crore, with work originally scheduled for completion in June 2021.

Despite disbursing roughly Tk 1 crore -- nearly one third of the cost -- most work remains unfinished.

"Over two dozen shops were demolished to make way for the new market," said trader Mamun Bepari. "We expected to return quickly, but the delay forced us to move our businesses elsewhere."

Fellow trader Shahjahan Sarder added, "Thousands in Nazirpur and neighbouring Bagerhat districts rely on this century-old marketplace that sits on Saturdays and Tuesdays every week. Their livelihoods are now at risk."

The project was reportedly awarded to Noore Alam Siddique Shahin, younger brother of then minister SM Rezaul Karim, whose influence allegedly discouraged scrutiny.

A team from the LGED headquarters visited in April 2022, expressed dissatisfaction, and warned the upazila engineering office, but the situation remains unchanged.

Locals said that as Shahin was very powerful, they could do nothing while he delayed the work. He left the country after the fall of the Awami League government last August, leaving the project in limbo.

Contacted, Executive Engineer Mohammad Azizur Rahman declined to comment.

UNO Sajia Sahnaz Tama said they are contacting the LGED to come up with a solution.

Rezwan's floating

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schools into the National Adaptation Plan 2050.

"Education is not only

about reading and writing," Rezwan said. "It is about fostering peace, equality, and resilience. With literacy and knowledge, our youth can build a future where no disaster prevents children from learning."

A photo series titled "Boat Schools of Bangladesh - Future That Floats" is on display at the French National Museum

of Immigration History's Migrations and Climate exhibit in Paris through April 5, 2026. The TRT World documentary "Bangladesh Turns Tide on Climate Change with Floating Schools" is a finalist for the Save the Children Global Media Awards 2025.

Rezwan's work is also featured in Julia Watson's book Lo-TEK: Water, which highlights 22 contemporary TEK-based innovations worldwide.



A farmer tends to seedlings of various winter flowers at a nursery in Alankarkathi village of Nesarabad (Swarupkathi) upazila in Pirojpur. These seedlings are supplied from various nurseries, at both retail and wholesale prices, to different parts of the country. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: TITU DAS

that delays in referring critically ill patients from district hospitals to Dhaka are contributing to rising fatalities.

"District-level hospitals must follow national treatment guidelines strictly and treat patients locally whenever possible," he urged.