

A Correspondent

Bagerhat: The ringleader of a forest robber gang and its another member were killed in a 'gunfight' with members of Rapid Action Battalion (RAB) at Harubari of Sundarbans in Sharankhola upazila on Tuesday morning.

The deceased were identified as Imadul Howlader, 35, ringleader of the forest robber gang, 'Daroga Bahini', and his associate Saiful Islam, hailing from Rupsa upazila of Khulna District. Lieutenant Colonel Faridul Alam, commanding officer of Barisal RAB-8, said on secret information that a gang of robbers was taking preparation to set up a camp in the area, a team of the elite force launched a drive there at about 6:50 am.

Sensing the presence of the RAB team, the gang members fired gunshots, forcing the law enforcers to retaliate, which triggered a gunfight.

Imadul and Saiful were caught in the line of fire and died on the spot while their associates managed to flee the scene.

RAB recovered the bodies from the spot and handed over those to Sharankhola Police Station. They also recovered 13 firearms, five sharp weapons and 150 rounds of bullet from the scene.