

NEWS SNAPS

Chapainawabganj road mishap kills boy

UNB, Chapainawabganj
A boy was killed in a road accident in Bohalbari area on Chapainawabganj-Shibganj road here Saturday.

Witnesses said a Chapainawabganj-bound minibus from Shibganj hit Rabbani, 10, from behind killing him on the spot. A case was filed in this connection.

Five hurt in Munshiganj road mishap

UNB, Munshiganj
Five people including a teacher of local BT College were injured when their auto rickshaw turned turtle on Munshiganj-Tongibari road on Sunday.

Locals said Tomal Ghoshal, 42, English teacher of the college was first admitted to Sadar hospital and later shifted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital in a critical condition.

New power station opens

UNB, Faridpur
The work on a pilot project for power production by using poultry waste has been completed here involving Tk 7 lakh.

Communications Minister Barrister Nazmul Huda inaugurated the power station Sunday. Ministry of Environment and Forest implemented the pilot project under its Sustainable Environment Management Programme with the financial assistance from United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

Distribution of textbooks on

UNB, Brahmanbaria
Primary Education Department has started distribution of textbooks among primary school students of the district.

Deputy Commissioner of the district Shah Moksed Ali inaugurated the book distribution programme Thursday.

Some 12.50 lakh textbooks will be distributed among 3.85 lakh students of various primary schools in the district, officials said.

Obituary

UNB, Chapainawabganj

Rezaul Karim, 60, a valiant freedom fighter of village Khalshivitabari of Nachole upazila, died of old age ailment at Rajshahi Medical College Hospital Thursday.

He was buried at his family graveyard with state honour.

Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) Abdul Jalil and acting officer of Nachole thana Shafiq Ahmed were present.



PHOTO: STAR

Kulsum Bibi, 32, wife of Md Suna Miah of Gobindasri area in Moulvibazar town has been turned into an abnormally fat woman owing to wrong treatment of gout by a quack for about six months. The victim whose weight is now 185 kilogram takes treatment in Moulvibazar Sadar Hospital to get rid of her abnormal weight.

Cold wave death toll 24 in Nilphamari, Thakurgaon

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Twenty four people have died in Nilphamari and Thakurgaon districts because of cold wave that has been sweeping over the entire northern region for the last few days.

Our Nilphamari correspondent reports: Normal life has been paralysed in Nilphamari owing to intense cold weather.

Cold wave has claimed six people in this northern district within a span of three days till Monday.

The deads are Zafar Mia, 50, of Baraipara, Mohram Ali, 40, of Khoksabari, Nazim Uddin, 50, of Baraibari, Jamir Uddin, 65, Chakiron Bibi, 60, and Abdullah Khalifa, 50 of Polashbari in the Nilphamari Municipality area.

UNB from Thakurgaon reports: The cold wave which is sweeping the district from Sunday claimed two more lives rising the number of cold related deaths to 18.

The dead persons were identified as Samaru Barman, 60, of village Keutan and Ali Mohammad, 65, of Kashipur in Ranisangkail upazila. Normal life has been paralysed in the northern districts due to the severe cold.

BSS from Rangpur adds: Cold wave which is sweeping the eight northern districts in greater Rangpur and Dinajpur zone for last 20 days have paralysed normal life causing immense sufferings to the common people.

Due to biting cold the poor people are worst sufferers who cannot afford to buy warm cloths for abnormal high prices. As a result they are suffering

from various cold related diseases. According to local Met office sources temperature fluctuates between 10 to 11 degree Celsius in Rangpur zone while in Dinajpur zone it dropped below nine degree Celsius. Sky almost whole day remained overcast by deep fogs and due to heavy fogs plying of vehicles and rivercrafts are being disrupted. At night situation turns worst. So, most shops, business establishments and traffic movement become very thin due to severe cold.

Rangpur district administration distributed blankets and warm cloths among the distressed people. Besides, 500 pieces of blankets and huge number of warm cloths were distributed by a team of Disaster Management and Relief Ministry. The team distributed those blankets and warm cloths among the floating and poor people sleeping in open places in railway station, Zahaj company, Dhap, central road and Ashratpur.

The team led by DC Manirul Islam also included district BNP president Rahim Uddin Bharsha, ADM Rafiqul Islam, DRO Abdul Mazid, TNO Sadder and BNP office secretary Salequzzaman Saleq.

Meanwhile, the relief goods mostly blankets and warm cloths sent by the instructions of the Prime Minister were distributed among the cold wave hit people in the district. Lions club of Rangpur distributed 100 blankets and 200 pieces of warm cloths among the people of the town.

Besides, Rangpur Chamber of Commerce, some local NGOs and RDRs also distributed warm cloths among the cold hit people of Greater Rangpur and Dinajpur districts.



PHOTO: STAR

Some poor fishermen of village Khordo-Kasundi in Sadar upazila of Magura district collect fishes which they caught from the Madhumati River. An acute scarcity of fish has been prevailing in this district due to various reasons. Many water bodies have already dried up while most of the rivers need immediate dredging.

UP election

Copter to carry polls materials in Rangamati

UNB, Rangamati

Helicopter will be used for carrying election materials in the upcoming union parishad (UP) elections in the remote hilly areas of the district.

A total of 343,000 voters will exercise their franchise in 48 unions of the district in the upcoming elections. Helicopter will be used in 42 centres, inaccessible by foot or motor vehicle.

The centres where helicopter will be used for carrying polling materials include one centre in Bilaichhori union, five in Farua union, four in Aimaichhra union, one in Bhushonchhora union, four in Horina union, two in Jurachhori union, nine in Moidung union, nine in Dumduma union and seven in Sajek union.

Number of total voters in these centres are 23,222, local election commission sources said.

Elections to the unions of the district will begin on January 25. Candidates have already started door-to-door visit and mass contact to gain support in favour of them.

16,860 nomination papers of 6 southern districts valid

BSS, Barisal

A total of 16,860 nomination papers have been found valid for 325 union parishad (UP) bodies of six southern districts in Barisal division for the ensuring polls.

Official sources said, at least 536 nomination papers have been cancelled after scrutiny in these districts for various defects. Highest number of nomination papers have been submitted in Barisal district while highest number of nomination papers were cancelled in Bhola district. A total of 325 chairmen, 2,925 members and 975 women members under women reserved seats will be elected in these union parishads of this division in the next polls.

The actual number of candidates will be known after the withdrawal of the candidatures on January 9 next.

A total of 477 Chairman candidates, 2,753 member candidates

and 805 women candidates are contesting in 81 unions of Barisal district.

One hundred forty eight chairman candidates, 983 member candidates and 291 women candidates will contest in 31 unions of Jhalakathi district. In Bhola district some 288 chairman candidates, 1943 member candidates and 587 women will contest for 60 union parishad bodies. In Patuakhali district, 317 chairman candidates, 2,007 member candidates and 615 woman candidates have been contesting in 65 unions while 210 chairman candidates, 1,302 member candidates and 387 woman candidates in Barguna district for 38 union parishads this year.

Besides, 279 chairman candidates, 1,731 member candidates and 484 woman candidates are contesting in 60 unions of Pirojpur district in the polls.

Indian national freed from B'baria jail

UNB, Brahmanbaria

An Indian national languishing in the district jail for the last one year was freed Sunday.

Jail sources said Rakhi Bonik, 25, was arrested on August 18, 2001, for intruding illegally into Bangladesh territory.

Later, she was sentenced to a 15-day imprisonment on October 24.

Although her jail-term completed much earlier, she had to stay in jail with her two-year-old son due to the delay in checking her nationality by the Indian embassy.

The woman was handed over to Indian Border Security Force through Akhura check post.

Two killers to die in Satkhira

UNB, Satkhira

A court here has sentenced two youths to death for killing a teenage boy.

They were identified as Selim Reza, 18, son of Shahidul Islam at village Shetpur in Asashuni and Shahadat Hossain, 20, son of Abul Hossain of the same village.

According to the prosecution in brief, Selim Reza aided by his friend Shahadat slaughtered his brother Masum Reza Laitu, 14, with a sharp weapon on July 9, 1997, after Laitu disclosed their anti-social activities.

After examining the records and witnesses of the case, GMS Farid, Judge of District Additional and Sessions Judge court-2, handed down the verdict Sunday.

Robbery in Narayanganj

UNB, Narayanganj

Robbers looted valuables worth Tk five lakh from seven houses in two villages in Sonargaon upazila Sunday midnight.

Police said the gang stormed into the houses of Mobarul Huq, Abdul Aziz and Habibur Rahman of village Bashirgaon and Obaidul Huq, Shamsuddin, Hatem Ali and Aminul Huq of Gobindapur and looted valuables.

Four people were also injured by the bandits while they tried to resist them. Two of them were admitted to local health complex.



PHOTO: STAR

Jatiya Sangsad Whip Fazlul Haque Aspia handing over stipend to a meritorious student at a function organised by the Jagannathpur British-Bangla Trust on December 31. Stipend amounting to Tk 7 lakh was distributed for the second time by the Trust formed by UK based non-resident Bangladeshis hailing from Jagannathpur upazila in Sunamganj district. Trust president M A Ahad, Trust Secretary Mohib Chowdhury, Dr Kabir Chowdhury, Lt Col (ret'd) Ali Ahmed attended the function.

Legality of Magura Municipality polls challenged

HOSSAIN SERAJ, Magura

A case was lodged on January 2 with the Assistant Judges Court (Sadar) in Magura challenging the legality of holding of Magura Municipality election on January 18.

Abu Sayeed Bulu, a resident of Pannanduuli area in Magura town filed the case.

In the case he prayed for an injunction order on holding the election till disposal of the case pending with the High Court regarding demarcation of Magura Municipality.

The hearing upon the case will be held on January 11.

Senior Assistant Judge Nitai Chandra Saha issued notices on Returning Officer Kamal Uddin Bhuyan and District Election

Officer Mohammad Mohsin Ali to show cause why injunction order will not be effective for holding the Magura Municipality polls.

The last election of Magura Municipality was held on January 30, 1993. That year the municipality was upgraded into a first class one and areas of the adjoining union councils Kasundi, Atharokhada, Moghi, Chowlia and Jagdal in Magur Sadar upazila was included in the municipality area.

But the chairmen of the aforementioned union councils jointly filed a case with the High Court protesting the decision of extension.

Although the term of the elected bodies of the municipality expired on June 26, 1998 the election could not be held on the scheduled date due to legal complications.

Foundation of Sircar-Pasha Welfare Trust laid

BSS, Jamalpur

Jute Minister Hafiz Uddin Ahmad laid the foundation stone of Major (Rtd) Dr Bhojon Ali Sircar and Azad Mohammad Jagul Pasha Welfare Trust at Sharishabari in Jamalpur on January 5 evening.

The trust will have three units a 30-bed modern hospital, an English medium school and college, and an orphanage. The units are being established at an estimated cost of Tk. 3 cr (30 million).

Major Dr Bhojon Ali Sircar had joined the British Indian Army medical corps as a Lieutenant in early 1940 and was promoted to the post of major in 1943. Dr Sircar lost his parents, grand father and grand mother in his childhood. All of them died of cholera and without treatment within 12 hours.

This tragic family event made Sircar an orphan and gave him the determination to become a doctor. He decided to establish a hospital at his birth place.