

NEWS SNAPS

**Lightning kills farmer**

**UNB, Pabna**  
A young farmer was killed by lightning at village Dipchar in Sadar upazila on Friday.

The deceased was identified as Yusuf Ali, 38, of the village. Locals said Yusuf Ali died on the spot when thunderbolt struck him while working in his field during rain in the morning.

**Body recovered**

**UNB, Gazipur**  
The beheaded body of an unidentified woman aged about 35 years was recovered beside a canal in Dhaur area in Uttara thana on Sunday.

The body was sent to hospital morgue for autopsy.

**Imposter arrested**

**UNB, Meherpur**  
A fake army captain was arrested from village Rongmahal in Gangni upazila on Friday.

When Shafiqur Rahman demanded bribe from some villagers identifying himself as an army captain local people informed the matter to Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) camp who later caught him and handed him over to police. A case was filed.

**Donation**

**UNB, Barisal**  
Home Minister Altaf Hossain Chowdhury handed over a cheque of Tk 50,000 for the Barisal Reporters' Unity on Saturday.

President of Barisal Reporters; Unity Nasimul Alam and secretary Moniruzzaman were present at the function. The amount was given as grant. The minister in his speech stressed on objective journalism and sought cooperation of the journalists to help improve the law and order situation.

**Training ends**

**UNB, Comilla**

A 20-day socio-economic research methodology course concluded at Bangladesh Academy for Rural Development (BARD) on Thursday.

**New UP chairman, supporters sued for violence in Moulvibazar**

**RAJAT KANTI GOSWAMI, Moulvibazar**

Panic gripped the supporters of newly-elected chairman of Mostafapur union Md Shahed Ahmed.

Two separate cases were filed with Moulvibazar Sadar Police Station on charge of violence in front of the office of Deputy Commissioner (DC) by the supporters of Shahed Ahmed recently.

A total of 42 people were arrested, while some of the arrested were brought under police remand.

A Sub-inspector (SI) of police of Moulvibazar police station and

Nazarat Deputy Collector (NDC) of the DC office filed the cases recently.

Md Shahed Ahmed was the main accused in both the cases and more than 800 of his supporters were shown accused in the cases.

Police of Sadar police station started their action against the accused. The brick kiln owned by Shahed was closed and some motor vehicles of Shahed and his supporters were seized by police.

The Nazarat Deputy Collector (NDC) and the Officer-in Charge (OC) of Sadar police station told local

journalists that legal actions were taken against the accused, according to law of the soil. They further informed newsmen that both the civil and police administrations worked in an impartial manner.

Thousands of supporters of new chairman Md Sahhed Ahmed of Mostafapur union took the streets protesting alleged vote rigging. They brought out procession in the town and laid seige to the office of DC and staged sit-in programme there. At that time 15 people including policemen were injured in police-people clash.

**Sugarcane growers in Chapainawabganj deprived of fair price**

**UNB, Chapainawabganj**

Sugarcane growers of Chapainawabganj are disappointed as they are deprived of fair price of their produced molasses.

There is no sugar mill or sugarcane procurement centre in Chapainawabganj.

But this season, molasses which they produce are facing tough competition from cheaper and low quality products smuggled from across the border.

Farmers alleged that people preferred to buy this low quality sugar due to its cheap price.

In this situation, the farmers are compelled to sell molasses at low prices and sometimes below the production cost.

Some 10,805 hectares of land were brought under sugarcane cultivation in five upazilas here this season.

Of the total, 455 hectares were cultivated in Sadar, 8,750 hectares in Shibganj, 945 hectares in Gomostapur, 495 hectares in Bholahat and 160 hectares in Nachole.

**Man injured in clash dies at hospital**

**UNB, Laxmipur**

A man who was injured along with his three brothers in a clash over land dispute at village Charchanita in Sadar upazila on Friday died at Sadar hospital on Sunday.

The deceased was Mafizullah, 45, son of Mominullah of the village.

Mafizullah, his brothers Yusuf, 47, Abdul Kuddus, 35, and Delwar, 22, were injured in the clash with neighbours Siddiquillah, Duda Miah and Ruhul Amin centering land dispute on Friday.

Three other injured people were undergoing treatment at the Sadar hospital.

**'Steps taken to restore traffic discipline in Rajshahi'**

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi**

The newly appointed commissioner of Rajshahi Metropolitan Police (RMP), S M Sabbir Ali called upon the citizens of the divisional city to abide by traffic rules while using roads.

'Necessary steps have been taken to restore traffic discipline and create public awareness about the problem,' he said to journalists of various national and local news media while exchanging views with them at his office on Sunday.

Prior to his joining here on March 30 he was superintendent of the special branch of police in Dhaka.

He vowed to take stern action against illegal drug traders and users, criminals and extortionists. But he did not elaborate.

**Foundation laid**

**UNB, Patuakhali**

Home Minister Altaf Hossain Chowdhury on Friday laid the foundation stone of Patuakhali Press Club building.

A gathering of local elite was arranged at Shaheed Alauddin Shishu Park.

**Woes of a retired jail watchman**

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi**

Sheer negligence of the Ministry of Home Affairs has made the life of a retired jail watchman miserable.

The ministry has been delaying to respond to his prayers for withdrawing his pension money. He submitted his prayers repeatedly to the ministry.

Md Khosbor Ali, a jail watchman went on retirement on September 13, 1999 due to illness.

Ali informed the journalists that Regional Accounts Officer of Rajshahi and District Accounts Officer of Natore deducted a lion's share of his pension money and other dues as he disagreed to pay their demanded toll. He complained about the matter to Chief Auditor General (CAG) on November 4, 1999. The CAG's office termed the act of deduction of his pension money as 'illegal' and asked for necessary instruction from the Ministry of Finance.

In the course, Finance Ministry sent a letter to the Ministry of Home Affairs on July 20, 2002 asking for relevant papers to verify the matter. But till now the Ministry of Home Affairs held up the concerned file, Ali alleged.

Khosbor Ali appealed to the Home Secretary thrice till March 25, but in vain.

Due to financial problem Khosbor Ali is passing last days of his life in great misery in his shanty in Nutan Bilsimla area of the city.

**Bridge on Ichhamoti under construction**

**UNB, Pabna**

A 30-metre long bridge is being constructed on the Ichhamoti River in Sadar upazila at a cost of Tk 22 lakh.

Local member of parliament (MP) Moulana Abdus Sobhan inaugurated the construction work of the bridge connecting Dharmagram- Shibpur road on Saturday.

Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) is supervising the construction work of the bridge.

The work on the bridge is likely to be completed by the end of this year, official sources said.



PHOTO: AKM MOHSIN

State Minister for Education ANM Ehsanul Hoque hands over the secretary of Koruna Mokadia Alia Madrassah centre in Betagi upazila of Barguna district along with two teachers to police for helping examinees adopt unfair means in examination. He also expelled some examinees from the centre for cheating in examination and asked police to arrest them.

**Crimes up in southwestern region**

**UNB, Jessore**

Crimes are on rise in the southwestern region marking deterioration of the law and order.

According to the survey on published news in different newspapers, 51 people were killed in 10 districts of the region last month.

Of the total, 14 were killed in Khulna, four in Kushtia, five in Chuadanga, six each in Satkhira and Jessore, seven in Bagerhat, three in Meherpur, two in Jhenidah and four in Narail.

Most of them were killed due to Union Parishad election violence, extramarital affairs, dowry, land dispute and rape.

Some 13 women were raped and four received acid burn injuries in the region during the period.

**Premier's ambulance for CMCH**

**UNB, Comilla**

An ambulance, given by the Prime Minister (PM), was handed over to the Comilla Medical College Hospital (CMCH).

Shipping Minister Lt Col (retd) Akbar Hossain handed over the key of the ambulance to the hospital authorities at a simple ceremony at the local circuit house recently.

Professor of CMCH Dr M Abdul Haque, Supervisor Dr Badrunnahar, Civil Surgeon Dr Abdul Kader Miah, BMA President Dr Iqbal Anwar and General Secretary Dr Golam Mohiuddin were also present.

On the same day, State Minister for Liberation War Affairs Redwan Ahmed handed over an ambulance,

to Chandina Health Complex at a simple function.

**1,500 MT tons of boro output target fixed for Joypurhat**

**UNB, Joypurhat**

Some 64,515 hectares of land have been brought under boro farming in Joypurhat exceeding the cultivation target of 62,500 hectares.

Some 600 hectares of land where potato was cultivated earlier have been brought under aus or late boro paddy cultivation with a production target of 1,500 metric tons (MTs).

Department of Agriculture Extension (DAE) officials hoped that some 3,33,450 MTs of paddy would be produced in the district this season. Farmers are also expecting bumper production due to the prevailing favourable weather condition.

DAE has set up a number of demonstration plots to acquaint the farmers with the modern method of cultivation.



PHOTO: STAR

Members of Mymensingh Theatre Association brought out a colourful procession in Mymensingh town on March 27 to mark World Theatre Day.

**PBCP activist slaughtered**

**UNB, Chuadanga**

An activist of outlawed Purba Banglar Communist Party (PBCP) was slaughtered allegedly by his fellows at Hogoldanga Laxmipur field in Damurhuda upazila on Saturday night.

Locals said some activists of the same party called Abul Chan, 40, out of his home and slaughtered him taking him at the field.

The body was sent to the morgue for autopsy. Internal rivalry was the reason behind the murder.

A case was filed.

**Muggers snatch money from two bankers at Langolbandh**

**UNB, Narayanganj**

Muggers swooped on two bankers in Langolbandh area of Bandar thana here and snatched Tk one lakh from them on Saturday leaving three people injured.

Police said the snatchers attacked the two officials of Social Investment Bank (SIB), Sonargaon branch, in the evening when they were returning to the bank in an auto-rickshaw and took away the money at gunpoint.

The muggers looted the gun of a security guard of the bank.