

SNAPS

27 injured in clash**BSS, Meherpur**

At least 27 people were injured, four of them critically in a fierce clash between two groups of people at village Minipara in Gangni upazila recently.

The clash between the two groups ensured over a disputed land and it continued for hours together. Both the groups used lethal weapons during the clash. Police Super Md Shahabuddin Quraishi visited the spot.

Murderer gets life term**BSS, Joypurhat**

One person has been awarded life term rigorous imprisonment (RI) recently for murdering his wife in Lalmonirhat.

Additional District and Sessions Judge Md Akbar Hossain Mridha pronounced the verdict after examining the witnesses and evidences. Fazar Ali strangled his wife Hasina on May 31, 1993 for selling old clothes by her to purchase half kilogram of rice. Later a murder case was filed with the police who submitted chargesheet against the accused after investigations. The judge found the accused person guilty and gave the verdict.

Extortionist arrested**BSS, Thakurgaon**

Police arrested an extortionist, Waliur Rahman, on Sunday from Baliadangi Upazila town in Thakurgaon and sent him to jail.

According to police and eyewitnesses, a group of extortionists numbering 40-50 entered the restaurant of Ashutosh Basak in the morning. After taking dinner they demanded a huge amount of toll from the hotel manager. Failing to get toll they looted Tk 15,000 from the cash box of the hotel. The owner filed a case with Baliadangi Police Station.

Main accused of Principal Syed Hafez murder case absconding**Witnesses feel insecure to appear before court****BSS, Comilla**

As most of the accused persons including the main accused in Principal Syed Hafez Murder Case are absconding, the witnesses feel insecure to appear before the court for deposition.

The Additional Sessions Judge Court here has recorded deposition of two out of 44 witnesses of the case, court sources said.

Syed Hafezuddin Ahmed, 54, acting principle of Companyganj Badtul Alam College, situated about 30 kilometres north of Comilla town, was gunned down on August 9, 2001 in daylight in the college teachers' common room.

An witnesses do not feel secure to appear before the court as the accused absconders are known to be close associates of Kamaluddin better known

as "Pichchi Kamal," according to Public Prosecutor Advocate AHM Taiful Alam.

He told BSS that out of 10 accused, "Pichchi Kamal" and Mosharraf were now in custody and the rest were absconding. Police submitted the chargesheet on May 24 last year.

The court recorded the deposition of complainant of the case Hosne-ara-Begum, 45, widow of the slain principal and Rusmat Ali, a college teacher.

The absconders include Delwar Hossain, Bazlur Rahamn and Dulal, the main accused in the case.

Other fugitives are Polash, Zahirul Islam, Firoz and Momen. Another accused, Habibur Rahman, got bail. The main accused, Delwar Hossain was an expelled student leader of Chhatra League of the college, while Bazlur Rahman and Dulal were his close associ-

ates.

On the fateful day, Principal Hafez lodged a general diary (GD) with Muradnagar Police Station complaining that some unruly boys had broken the lock of the college students' union office room. He did not mention anyone's name in the GD.

As the students' union office became a den of addicts, the college authorities decided to lock it up.

Delwar and his gang became furious following filing of the GD. They stormed into the college teachers' room and gunned down Syed Hafezuddin Ahmed in front of other teachers.

Earlier, Delwar and his gang put pressure on the college authorities to open the students' union office, but the authorities did not succumb to their pressure.

Production in two state-run silk factories to resume within three months**BSS, Rajshahi**

Production in two state-run silk factories in Rajshahi and Takurgaon managed by Bangladesh Silk Board (BSB) is expected to resume within next three months on "no work no pay" basis.

A decision was taken recently at a meeting of BSB considering the factors that the factories are traditional, prestigious and viable.

Presided over by Post and Telecommunication Minister Barrister Aminul Haque, the meeting was attended by State Minister for Textile Mizanur Rahman Sinha, State Minister for Agriculture Mirza Faqur Islam Alamgir, Mayor of Rashahi City Corporation Mijanur Rahman Minu, MP, and Chairman of BSB Professor Dr

Sawdagor Mahfuzur Rahman.

The reviving activities would start within next three months after completion of necessary official procedures.

The meeting decided that the two factories would be functional utilising the existing machinery and property.

The meeting examined all relevant factors as to how to make the factories profitable and stressed the need for reaching production upto the mark of customers' demand so that they can compete in private sector.

Silk business has been running profitably in private sector, but why public sector could not make profit, the meeting posed a question and called upon the officers and staff of BSB to work hard with dedication, sincerity and honesty for development of the sector.

Two killed in Narsingdi road accident**UNB, Narsingdi**

Two labourers were killed on Monday night when a speeding truck skidded off the Dhaka-Sylhet highway and smashed a hut at Chhoto Godai in Madhabdi upazila where they were sleeping.

The deceased were Yusuf Ali, 22, and Mohammad Ali, 24, who hailed from Keyarabhanga of Kishoreganj Sadar upazila.

Police said the accident took place at late night when the driver of the Dhaka-bound goods-laden truck from Ghorasal lost control over the steering. Police seized the truck but the driver managed to flee the scene.

Man beaten to death**UNB, Manikganj**

A man was beaten to death by a gang of local miscreants at village Rotnadia in Sadar upazila on Sunday.

Family sources said the culprits picked Iman Ali, 50, up from village arbitration and beat him to death. A case was filed against five people.



PHOTO: STAR

Cyclone affected family members stand beside their damaged houses at village Bejgram in Hatibandha upazila, Lalmonirhat. A severe cyclonic storm lashed five villages named Bejgram, Vabanipur, Sindurna, Thangbhanga, and Dhuboni of Hatibandha upazila on Friday night leaving one dead and injuring over 50 persons. The dead was identified as Abdul Karim, 40, son of Safar Uddin. Crops and wealth worth more than Tk two crore were damaged, according to district administration sources.

Tarique's call to work for development**ABUL KALAM AZAD, back from Cox's Bazar**

BNP Joint Secretary General Tarique Rahman urged all to shun political differences and work for development.

He said this while distributing cattle and poultry birds among poor villagers of Pekua Upazila.

The country could not attain self-sufficiency even after 30 years of independence because of unnecessary debate among political parties. "We engaged ourselves in dividing the country by creating debates over political ideologies and opinions, rather than working for development," he told a big gathering at Shaheed Ziaur Rahman College ground in newly-floated Pekua upazila.

"Forgetting all differences we should work together to eliminate poverty and help poor change their lots," he further told the audience.

Tarique was on a two-day trip here from Monday morning to distribute cattle and poultry birds among poor as part of a programme of Ziaur Rahman Foundation.

In the first phase of the programme, Tarique, as president of the foundation, distributed cattle and poultry birds among needy in Rajshahi.

The slogan of the programme is,

"One initiative and little endeavour will bring self-sufficiency in the country."

Thousands welcomed him on arrival at Pekua from Chittagong. Hundreds of school children and people of all walks of life lined up on both sides of streets with colourful festoons, flags, his portraits and those of Ziaur Rahman to greet him. People crowded in crossings and bazaars to have a glimpse of him. All the way from Chittagong to Pekua, he stopped wherever he observed crowds. He shook hands with them and exchanged new year greetings with them.

He distributed 105 cattle among poor villagers at Pekua Sadar and urged them to rear those for prosperity of themselves and the country. "One cattle can bring self-sufficiency in a poor family. It can change economic condition of the family if the members take care of it properly," he added.

State Minister for Communications Salauddin Ahmad, MP, along with BNP and Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) leaders Mafiqur Hasan Tipu, Dr. Firoz Mahmud Iqbal, Sazzadur Rahman Night, Raqibul Islam Babul and Ishikul Islam accompanied him during the visit.

Tarique drove himself to another remote area Char Bhoddarghat.

5=3/c

6=3/c

10=3/c

20=D/c