

SNAPS

Acid victim dies

UNB, Pirojpur
A housewife, who received acid burn injuries, died at Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) on Thursday.

Locals said Swapan and his four accomplices threw acid on Shilpi, 25, daughter of Jalal Fakir of Noilatola village in Nazirpur upazila on April 12. She was admitted to Sadar hospital and later shifted to DMCH following deterioration of her condition.

Police arrested one person named Lokman and a case was filed.

Unnatural death of housewife

UNB, Jhalakati
A housewife allegedly committed suicide by taking insecticides at village Uttar Kirtipasha in Sadar upazila on Saturday. Locals said relatives of Aruni Rani Mondol, 40, wife of Sunil Mondol, rushed her to the hospital. But when the attending doctors declared her dead they fled away leaving the body in the hospital. Hospital sources said the body bore some injury marks. Police sent the body to hospital morgue for autopsys.

Five-day Baishakhi fair begins

UNB, Rangamati
A five-day Baishakhi Mela began here on Friday amid much enthusiasm. Deputy Minister of Chittagong Hill Tracts Affairs Moni Swapan Dewan inaugurated the fair jointly organised by Global Village and District Youth Welfare Association. A total of 50 stalls were set up in the fair.

Smuggled goods seized

UNB, Joypurhat
Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) jawans, in separate drives, raided two trains at Joypurhat rail station and seized Indian smuggled goods worth over Tk 4 lakh on Monday and Tuesday.

Smuggled timber seized

UNB, Chandpur
Police seized smuggled timber worth over Tk one lakh from Chandpur court station in Sadar upazila on Saturday. Police recovered the timber from the station. They suspected that an organised gang brought the timber here from Chittagong. None was arrested. A case was filed.

Crimes on alarming rise in Satkhira

ABU AHMED, Satkhira

The law and order situation in Satkhira deteriorated alarmingly.

Incidents of murder, robbery, acid throwing and rape increased in seven upazilas here.

On March 4, an old man was killed by miscreants at village Baintala in Assassumi upazila. The victim was Pancha Ram Sana, 60, of village Baintala. At dead of night, armed miscreants attacked and killed him.

On the same day, a five-year-old girl was raped at village Debnagar in Sadar upazila. The victim, Shahina, 5, daughter of Rajab Ali of village Debnagar was playing when the rapist Bablu, 19, son of Fazlur Rahman took her to a nearby bush and raped her.

On March 5, a housewife was raped and killed by miscreants at village Thakurbari in Kalaroa upazila. The victim, Mahmuda Begum, 28, daughter of Ahad Ali of village Alaipur in Rupsa upazila of Khulna was brought by Hafizur and Russel of Khulna, on a plea of providing a job at Thakurbari in India. There the miscreants raped and killed her.

On the same day, a seven-year-old girl was raped at Khashipur in Shyamnagar upazila. The victim, Khodeja, 7, daughter of Asgar Ali of Kashipur was raped by Bellal of the same village.

At night on March 9, a housewife was beaten to death by her husband at

village Bakal in Sadar upazila. Rasheda Begum, 22, wife of Abdul Wajed was beaten to death by husband who demanded dowry from his father-in-law who failed to pay the same.

At night on March 12, Arun Kumar Biswas, 32, son of Kartik Biswas of village Padma Shakhra in Sadar upazila was killed by miscreants at Bhomra in Sadar upazila. Police recovered the body of the victim on the following morning.

At night on March 16, Shahnara Khatun, 25, wife of Sakim Uddin of village Shakdah in Kalaroa upazila sustained serious acid burn injuries when her husband threw acid on her. Her husband wanted to marry a woman as second wife which she resisted. Being angered, he threw acid on her.

On March 20 night, Narim Sardar, 38, of village Atarai in Tala upazila was abducted and killed by a group of miscreants. The miscreants abducted him from his house.

On March 21 night, Asadul Islam, 35, of village Tuardanga in Assassami upazila was gun down by the armed cadres of outlawed Chhinnamul Communist Party. Armed cadres demanded toll which he failed to pay.

On March 26, Rawshan Ara, 32, of village Chechua in Assassumi upazila was killed by her neighbours who attacked her following dispute over a plot of land.

On March 28 night, a group of armed robbers attacked the houses of Hira

Mondal, Parimal Mondal, Sunil Master and Kartik Moral of village Fatikkhali in Assassmi upazila. At gun point they looted cash and other valuables worth Tk one lakh.

On the same night armed robbers attacked the houses of Sunil member and Shyamal Ghosh of village Sureabad in Assassuni upazila. They looted cash and other valuables worth Tk 30,000.

On March 29 night, a group of armed robbers attacked 11 houses of village Khajra in Assassuni upazila. At gun point they looted away cash and other valuables worth over Tk one lakh.

On March 30 night, a group of armed robbers attacked Nalta bazasar in Kaligonj upazila and by breaking open the doors of three jewellery shops named Soukhin Jewellers, Manihar Jewellers and Sarkar Jewellers they looted cash and gold ornaments worth about Tk six lakh.

On April 2 night a widow was gang raped and killed at village Goalpara in Kalaroa upazila. Morzina Khatun, 35, wife of late Hossain Ali of village Goalpara was abducted by a group of miscreants. They took her in a nearby bush beside the Khhamati River and killed her after rape. They threw the body into the river.

On April 4, a beheaded body of an unidentified woman, aged about 30 was recovered from Raita beel, a water body, in Kalaroa upazila. She was gang raped and killed by the miscreants, police said.

SUST admission tests May 16, 17

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

The tests for admission in first year Honours classes in Shahjalal University of Science and Technology (SUST) will be held on May 16 and 17.

The test for 'KA' unit will be held on May 16 and that of "KHA" unit will be held on May 17, said an official of the university. The seat plan will be announced on May 15.

11 Indians pushed into Bangladesh territory

UNB, Dinajpur

The Indian Border Security Force (BSF) pushed into Bangladesh 11 Indian Muslims through Khanpur border in the early hours of Monday.

Six of them who were arrested by railway police on arrival at Dinajpur Railway Station disclosed their identity as Monwara Begum, 50, Alauddin, 11, Mizan, 19, Chan Mia, 28, Jostna Begum, 24, and three-year-old Shakhi. Five others managed to flee.

Monwara Begum told UNB that police picked them up from their homes at Shimapara near New Delhi on April 8. They were herded into a warehouse at Barat and transported by train to the Indian part of Dinajpur.

They were brought to Vaduria border outpost. During Monday's hailstorm the Indian border troops pushed them into Bangladesh territory through Khanpur border, Monwara added.

Monwara further told police that she had seen more than 100 Indian Muslims being taken to border outposts for pushing into Bangladesh.

Local BDR commander told UNB that BDR, in cooperation with villagers along the border had taken steps to prevent push-in of Indian Muslims.

Sangskritik Jote expels six workers

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

Sammitito Sangskritik Jote, Moulvibazar district unit a leading cultural organisation, expelled six workers for their alleged anti-organisational activities.

The expelled workers are Poresh Roy, Sahab Uddin Ahmed, Makbul Hussain, ASM Saleh Suhel, Mahbulul Alam Ruhel and Kanchon Dasgupta.



PHOTO: STAR

Awami League chief and Leader of the Opposition in Jatiyo Sangsad (parliament) Sheikh Hasina addresses a roadside public meeting at Lohagara on Thursday while on way to Meherpur from Gopalganj. She was going there to observe Mujibnagar Day.

Chilly production falls short of target in Joypurhat

BSS, Joypurhat

Cultivation of chilly suffered a serious setback in the current season due to prolonged cold wave in the northern region, farmers and officials in Department of Agriculture Extension (DAE) said.

Severe cold wave that swept over the region in phases in December last year and January and February this year caused havoc to the growing chilly crops. Flowers of chilly plants fell down due to extreme cold weather during the period causing fall in production.

In most cases chilly plants damaged due to cold related diseases. As a result, production of chilly came to all time low in the region. The phenomenon caused price-hike of the most essential commodity. The present market price of the commodity fluctuates between Tk 20 and 26 per kg, consumers and market sources said.

Cold waves hit blooming chilly plants which adversely affected production of the crop, according to Dulal Chandra Sarker, Deputy Director of DAE, Joypurhat. Farmers are now busy in cultivation of summer varieties of chilly here. Their produce will appear in

local markets in May, he added.

Chilly growers of Joypurhat, Bogra, Naogaon, Natore, Dinajpur, Gaibandha, Rangpur and Thakurgaon told BSS roving correspondent recently that they incurred great loss this year by cultivating chilly.

The farmers could not bring the targeted land under cultivation of the crop due to bad climatic condition.

Water, power supply snapped

CHT CORRESPONDENT, Bandarban

Water and electricity supply in Bandarban remained disrupted for a few days resulting in people's sufferings.

Patients of hospitals were the worst sufferers. Disturbance in supply lines created the situation since Friday, according to local electricity department.

Even in normal situation people suffered due to inadequate supply of water. People were used to get water on every alternate day.



PHOTOS: STAR

As elsewhere, Pahela Baishakh was celebrated in Rajshahi and Moulvibazar with great enthusiasm and fanfare. (Top left-right) Students of Fine Arts Department of Rajshahi University parade the streets of the university in colourful processions, while Pro-Vice Chancellor Professor KHM Shahadad Hossain Mondol and Students' Advisor Professor Rafiqul Islam and chairman of Fine Arts Department Hosne Ara are seen in front of the processions. (Bottom left-right) Child artistes and another cultural group in Moulvibazar named Kristi welcome the Bangla new year in a traditional manner.

Three outlawed party activists arrested

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

Police arrested three members of an outlawed political party from village Khalma in Kaligonj upazila on April 11. Police recovered a pistol with four rounds of cartridges from their possession.

The arrested persons are Sajal Kanti Mondal alias Babu, 25, of village Shekhertek in Dumuria upazila of Khulna, Arjun Sarkar, 30, and Sadhan Kumar Sarkar, 50, both of village Khalna in Kaligonj upazila. Police raided a shrimp enclosure at Khalna and arrested them. They are the activists outlawed Chinnomul Communist Party.

Tubewells installation project

UNB, Panchagarh

Department of Public Health Engineering (DPHE) has undertaken a Tk 15 lakh project to install shallow and ring tube-wells in five upazilas of Panchagarh to ensure supply safe water in rural areas.