

SNAPS

Man killed in road mishap

UNB, Rajbari
A man was killed in a road accident near Khankhanpur level-crossing in Sadar upazila on Daulatdia-Faridpur highway Thursday. Witnesses said the accident occurred when a truck coming from Daulatdia hit the bicycle of Bhadu Mia, 50, killing him on the spot. The body was sent to hospital morgue for autopsy.

Rivals kill one

UNB, Pabna
A 40-year-old man, said to be member of an extremist group, was slaughtered by his rivals near Koizuri Bazaar in Ataikula upazila Tuesday. Locals said the assailants swooped on Abu Bakar while he was returning home from the bazaar and killed him. Police recovered the body and sent it to hospital morgue for autopsy. A case was filed with the local police station.

Tk 2.58 lakh loan distributed

UNB, Madaripur
Social Welfare Department under its Rural Welfare Programme distributed loan amounting to Tk 2.58 lakh among 81 people in Sadar upazila.

Social Welfare Minister Ali Ahsan Mohammad Mujahid distributed the loan at a function at the Sadar upazila auditorium Thursday. Chaired by Deputy Commissioner Md Abdul Malek, the function was attended, among others, by local MP Shahjahan Khan, political leaders and government officials.

Drug traffickers convicted

UNB, Jhenidah
A court here Tuesday convicted two people and sentenced them to five years in jail in a drug trafficking case.

The court also fined convicts Jayanti Nandi of the town and Abdul Malek of Kaliganj upazila Tk 4 lakh. BDR personnel caught the convicts with 8,189 bottles of Phenidyl on June 20, 2001 during an anti-drug drive launched by the district administration.

Medical camp opens

UNB, Lalmonirhat
A two-day special medical camp opened at Kabi Sheikh Fazlal Karim High School auditorium here Thursday.

Deputy Minister for Communications Prof Asadul Habib Dulu inaugurated the camp organised by Lalmonirhat Diabetic Samity. Secretary General of Bangladesh Diabetic Samity Prof AK Azad Khan was present as special guest. A 22-member medical team is providing treatment to patients in the camp. Over 200 people received treatment on the first day.

Reception to journalist

UNB, Jamalpur
District correspondent of the Daily Janakantha Anwar Hossain Mintu received this year's Transparency International, Bangladesh award for his investigative reports on crime.

Local press club accorded a reception to him at Public Hall Auditorium here Tuesday. Sultan Mahmud Babu, MP, local journalists and elite attended the programme.

Outlaws in Rupsha distribute leaflets for 'armed struggle'

Responsibility for cops' murder, arms loot claimed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Panic gripped Rupsha upazila as armed cadres of outlawed Purba Banglar Communist Party (PBCP) are allegedly moving freely with arms, distributing leaflets and pasting posters on walls.

In the leaflets, the outlaws call upon the people to "help loot arms and ammunition from class enemies to establish an exploitation free society".

PBCP has also called upon its armed cadres to carry forward their "struggle against US imperialism and class enemies".

According to the leaflets circulated in the entire Rupsha upazila, PBCP will continue its armed attacks on "enemies living in urban areas to take revenge

against killing of Shahidul Islam Sabuj of the party's Rupsha upazila unit".

In the leaflets, PBCP has claimed responsibility for murders of policemen in Khulna city and Fakirhat upazila and looting of 20 rifles along with 600 bullets from the store room of Daulatpur Jute Mill.

PBCP has threatened recurrence of such incidents, as stated in the leaflets.

"We are quite alert to face any eventuality and are desperately trying to nab the outlaws", said a senior officer of district police.

All Police camps in the nine upazilas have been asked to remain on high alert and to move cautiously, he said.

Red alert in two Jessore upazila, outlaws held 'Ring leader in ruling party's protection'

Staff Correspondent, Khulna

Keshabpur and Monirampur upazilas in Jessore have been brought under special combing operation since Monday night after police nabbed two injured leaders of outlawed New Biplobi Communist Party (NBCP) along with arms and ammunition following a two-hour gun battle.

The arrested are Prashanta Kumar (36) and Sunil Parhoi (38), top leaders of NBCP. One 9 mm pistol, a sawnoff gun and 18 bullets were recovered from them.

Police have been put on 'red alert' in the area and the operation will continue till the NBCP cadres are arrested, Jessore Police Superintendent Shahidul Islam said.

The shootout erupted when

police swooped on a hideout of NBCP cadres at Patharghata beel (a big water body) on Tuesday when the outlaws were holding a secret meeting, he said.

Other outlaws escaped. They include Mrinal Sarker, the ring leader of NBCP in the south-western districts, Police said quoting confession of Prashanta Kumar who is wanted in 17 murder cases.

Over 100 shots were fired during the shootout, that panicked villagers many of whom left homes fearing further trouble as NBCP had threatened revenge against police.

The mob gouged out one eye of Prashanta and injured Sunil when they were taken to Keshabpur thana premises in tight security. Hundreds of people crowded the Keshabpur thana to see the two

outlaws. Additional forces have been deployed there.

Police said Sunil, wanted in seven murder cases, is the body-guard of Mrinal.

Sunil has made disclosures to police about arms and ammunition in possession of NBCP cadres and whereabouts of Mrinal and other outlaws, police said.

"We are hopeful of nabbing Mrinal Sarker" the SP said.

Mrinal, hailing from Shoma union in Dumuria upazila, is one of the most wanted terrorists in south-western districts. But he is allegedly being protected by a group of ruling party leaders of Khulna, sources close to police said.

A top ranking police officer of Khulna Range is one of beneficiaries in BNCP, sources claimed.

Bhomra port

Govt decision to be challenged in court

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Satkhira Chamber of Commerce and Industry will file a writ petition with the High Court challenging the government's decision to close Bhomra land port.

The decision was taken at a meeting of the Chamber on Tuesday with its president MA Jaill Din Ali in the chair.

The Chamber gave an ultimatum to the government to withdraw its decision or to face movement.

Housewife 'commits suicide' in Sirajganj

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sirajganj

A housewife allegedly committed suicide Wednesday morning in the town.

Police recovered the body of Anowara Begum, 36, which was hanging from a ceiling fan at her house at Mirpur.

Police said she stayed at the house alone as her husband Dulal Bokshmi, an electrician, works in Saudi Arabia.

Dulal came to Sirajganj from Saudi Arabia six months back and left after staying with her for four months.

Dulal talked to her wife over telephone on May 20. Quoting neighbours, police said her husband had rebuked her on telephone.

Police sent the body to Sirajganj General Hospital for autopsy. A case has been lodged with Sirajganj Sadar police station.

Randhunibari camp loot Outlawed party leader held

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sirajganj

Police arrested an outlawed party leader from Foyrar Char in Belkuchi upazila for his alleged involvement in Randhunibari police camp looting on September 16 last year.

The arrested person is Andul Malek.

Four policemen were killed and seven SLRs, two rifles and some ammunition looted in the incident.



They overcome disability: Disabled artistes from Kushtia enthralled the audience at a cultural function at Magura recently.

Journalist on the run for reports on crime

A CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

A local journalist is on the run following threats from criminals, allegedly backed by a section of policemen, for his report on crimes by a syndicate in Bheramar.

Ashrafur Islam Azad, Kushtia district correspondent of the Daily Runner, also faces a criminal case, filed by Bheramar police.

The case was filed after his reports on extortion, abduction, illegal toll collecting and drug peddling by a crime syndicate, allegedly in collaboration with a section of policemen.

A local leader Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD), ruling BNP's student wing, and a police official at Bheramar are also involved with the crime syndicate, sources said.

Shots were fired at Azad after the news items were published. Criminals allegedly backed by the police official threatened to kill the journalist, the sources claimed.

On May 10, the hoodlums led by some JCD activists attacked the journalist's house, ransacked it and looted valuables worth about Tk 20,000. Not finding Azad at

home, they threatened his family members of dire consequences.

When the journalist went to the police station to file a case, the OC declined to take it. Azad then met the police superintendent. After the SP's order, the OC took the case.

But the OC lodged a criminal case against Azad and ordered for his arrest. Azad is fleeing home since then.

IRRI-boro yield less than target

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gaibandha

Irrigation-boro production target may not be achieved in the northern region during the current season due to prolonged cold spell and dense fog in the last winter, hail storm and price hike fuel for irrigation.

According to the Agriculture Extension Department, the target was fixed at 17 lakh 81 thousand tonnes from 5 lakh 50 thousand hectares of land. The production may barely reach four lakh tonnes, officials said.

For 100 taka only!

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar

A small trader was beaten to death at Dail Para village in Khuruskul union on Thursday only for Tk 100.

Shahabuddin, 28, son of one Nurul Alam, had borrowed Tk 100 from the husband of his sister-in-law some days back. He promised to repay the money on Thursday.

As he failed, the money lender beat him severely, Sadar thana police said.

Shahabuddin died while being taken to Cox's Bazar Sadar hospital.

No case was filed.

Tk 50 lakh property gutted

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Property worth Tk 50 lakh was gutted in a devastating fire in Barisal city on Wednesday night.

The fire originated from a short circuit at Babul Cloth Store at Mohsin Market, according to fire service and eye witnesses. A total of 16 shops were gutted and 25 damaged.

Fire fighters from the city and Jhalokathi put out the fire in two hours.



Artistes of Spondon Shilpi Gosthi, a cultural group at Gaibandha town, rendering song on the occasion of its founding anniversary recently.

80 vigilance teams for HSC exams under Barisal Education Board

BSS, Barisal

Barisal Education Board has taken up stern measures to hold the Higher Secondary Certificate (HSC) examinations beginning May 29 in a free and fair atmosphere.

About 300 school and college teachers will be inducted in 80 vigilance teams to be deployed in 75 centres.

A total of 32,947 students including 13,545 females from 224 colleges will appear in the examination this year, Board sources said.

Of the candidates 4,654 examinees belong to Science Group, 20,188 to Humanities group and 7,705 to Commerce group. Besides, 4,779 examinees will appear at the examination under special consideration.

A total of 13,644 students will sit for examination from Barisal

followed by 5,099 from Pirojpur, 4,656 from Patuakhali, 4,002 from Bhola, 2,812 from Barguna and 2,724 from Jhalakathi districts.

Talking to BSS, chairman of the Barisal Education board Principal Anwarul Huq said the board authority is pledge bound to conduct the HSC examinations free from unfair means.

Some skilled teachers including headmasters of high schools would be included in the vigilance team to check adoption of unfair means in the examination halls.

All preparations for holding the examinations have already been completed and the answer scripts and other relevant papers have already been supplied to the centres.

State Minister for Education Ehsanul Huq Milan is expected to visit the divisional headquarters to over see the preparations and measures.

Night guard beaten to death

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

A night guard was beaten to death allegedly by his employer on Tuesday in the city.

Hafizur Rahman, 40, was a night guard at Joint Traders' Company at the KDA (Khulna Development Authority) New Market.

Police said his employer Qudus Lashkar called him at his house at Damodar village in Phultala upazilla on the day and charged him with stealing Tk 20,000 from his shop. Qudus and seven others beat him severely. Hafizur died at Khulna Medical College Hospital (KMCH) at about midnight.

The victim's younger brother Rafiqul Islam Lashkar lodged a case with Khulna sadar thana accusing eight persons.

He also complained that the employer tried several times to Hafizur in drug trade.

UP member gets life term for killing wife

A CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

A Union Parishad (UP) member--Khairul Alam--has been given life term for killing his wife.

Alam, a member of Rajpur UP in the Sadar thana, killed his second wife Motahara Begum, 22, on February 6, 1997.

He fled home after the incident. He was arrested after a month as the victim's uncle Fazlar Rahman filed a case with the sadar police.

Judge Akbar Hossain Mridha gave the verdict on 18 May.

Fake doctor handed over to police

A Correspondent, Lalmonirhat Villagers caught a fake doctor, beat him and handed him over to police here recently.

Abdul Malek, 45, tried to operate upon Abdur Rahim 55, of Mohis Khocha village in Aditmari upazila to remove a tumor.

As the patient died, angry villagers beat him and handed him over to police. The fake doctor was from Udayon Narayan village under Haragach union in Kawnia upazila in Rangpur district, police said.