

SNAPS

Housewife killed

UNB, Kishoreganj
A young housewife was killed by miscreants at Arisnada village in Mithamain upazila here early Sunday. The body of the victim, Pear Khatun, 22, wife of Firoz Miah of the village, was recovered from a nearby ditch in the morning.

Relief for tornado victims

UNB, Noakhali
Government has allocated Tk 1.50 lakh in cash, 500 metric tons (MTs) of wheat and 100 MTs of rice for the tornado affected people of seven villages in Chakhill upazila. Tornado lashed the villages on Saturday rendering about 5,000 people homeless. Standing crops on a vast tract of land were damaged and many trees uprooted in the catastrophe.

Youth arrested with heroin

UNB, Jamalpur
Police arrested a youth along with heroin from the Gate area in the town on Saturday. The arrested was identified as diploma engineer Azam, 24, son of Khandoker Abdul Hannan of Dayamoyeepara in the town.

Villagers clash: 100 hurt in B'baria

UNB, Brahmanbaria
A clash between two groups of villagers left at least 100 people injured at Mohibber village in Nasirnagar upazila on Sunday. The clash ensued following a quarrel between children and it lasted for about two hours, witnesses said. Ten of the injured were rushed to Sadar hospital. On information police rushed to the spot and brought the situation under control. Additional police have been deployed in the area to avert further trouble.

Cash, valuables looted

UNB, Gopalganj
Robbers looted cash and valuables worth Tk 2.5 lakh from a house at Manikhar village in Sadar upazila Thursday. Bandits stormed into the house of Monu Khan, who returned from Singapore recently and looted the valuables fastening all the family members, locals said. Police visited the spot. A case was filed.

BRTC faces resistance from private bus owners in Bogra**UNB, Bogra**

After the stoppage of Bangladesh Road Transport Corporation (BRTC) double-decker bus services by the government, a group of private bus owners and workers here have been trying to put obstacles to plying of other long-route BRTC buses much to the sufferings of commuters. Bus services on Bogra-Naogaon route remained suspended since Saturday due to the interruption by troublemakers. A BRTC bus from Naogaon had to go back from the four-lane cross-

ing area as troublemakers resisted the vehicle from entering into the town on Sunday.

However, the Naogaon-bound BRTC buses from Bogra plied as usual under police protection.

Passengers said that after the installation of BRTC buses on long routes they enjoyed journey at a comparatively lower cost.

Meanwhile, BRTC workers and employees also brought out a protest rally in the town on Sunday demanding uninterrupted BRTC bus service including double-decker ones in the northern region.

Four-Party Alliance will last 25 yrs, says Noman**BSS, Chittagong**

State Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism Mir Mohammed Nasir Uddin has said the four-party alliance will remain intact for another 25 years to serve the people.

He called upon activists of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) and Islami Chhatra Shibir (ICS), student bodies of BNP and Jamaat-E-Islami, to be on guard against any attempt to break the coalition.

He was addressing as chief guest a function to celebrate two decades of Jatiyatabadi Samajik Sangskritik Sangstha (JASAS), held at Chittagong University on Sunday. JASAS is the cultural wing of ruling BNP.

State Minister for Education ANM Ehsanul Haque Milon, CU VC Prof AJM Nuruddin Chowdhury and Pro-VC Dr Mohammed Shamsuddin, Barrister Mahabuddin Khokon, a BNP standing committee member, CU teacher Dr ANM Munir Ahmed Chowdhury and JASAS central Vice President MA Malek also addressed the function.

Milon said the government will set up another technical college in Chittagong soon.

He expressed satisfaction over holding of SSC and HSC examinations in a cheating-free atmosphere this year. "We will try to stamp out

violence from campuses", he said.

The function was rounded off with a cultural function.

JCD's CU unit arranged a separate discussion meeting on the campus on the occasion of 21st death anniversary of Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman.

Jute farming on the wane**OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh**

Farmers in the district have lost interest in jute cultivation due to its continued low price.

Once famous for the golden fibre, the total area brought under jute cultivation this year is only 7740 hectares out of targeted 16720 hectares in the 12 upazilas, officials at the Department of Agriculture Extension (DAE) said.

Following a ban on polythene bags, farmers were encouraged last year when 10,800 hectares were brought jute cultivation but the poor price frustrated them, they said.

The crop was grown on of 8,500 hectares in 2000-2001 season and 6800 hectares in 1999-2000 season in the district, they said.



PHOTO: STAR

Cries for environmental protection gets louder but those fall on the deaf ears of encroachers and, also, officials. The photo shows a brick kiln built by an influential person on a newly emerged shoal of the Kobadak river in Magura under Tala upazila in Satkhira. Many influential persons illegally grabbed about 20-kilometre shoals from Patkelghata to Kapilmerni and established brick kilns, fish enclosures and dwelling houses, obstructing smooth flow of the river and damaging the environment.

Fake journalist handed over to police**OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira**

Some schoolteachers beat a man and handed him over to police for allegedly trying to blackmail them by falsely identifying himself as a journalist.

Teachers of South Alipur Primary School in the Sadar upazila caught Azizul Haq, 50, as he allegedly demanded money from the school authorities and threatened to publish their "irregularities" in the Dhaka-based crime magazine Aparadh Daman for noncompliance.

He had identified himself as a reporter of the magazine, police said quoting the school teachers. Police said he was from Ujirpur village in Kaligonj upazila in Narsingdi district.

When asked by this correspondent, Haq said he went to the school to collect news on irregularities but did not demand money. A case was filed with Satkhira police.

3 killed, 40 hurt in road mishaps in Sirajganj, Rajshahi**STAR NATIONAL DESK**

Three people were killed and at least 40 injured in three road accidents near the Bangabandhu Jamuna Bridge and in Godagari in Rajshahi in the early hours of Monday and on Sunday.

Our correspondent reported from Sirajganj that a Dhaka bound truck killed two pedestrians on the western side of the Bangabandhu Bridge. The truck crushed them when they were crossing the road and sped away, police said. The victims could not be identified.

In another accident near the spot, a Dhaka-bound coach skidded off the road, injuring 30 people, 19 of them seriously. The seriously injured people were admitted to Sirajganj Sadar Hospital and the rest were given first aid.

A BSS report from Rajshahi said

one person was killed and 10 people were injured when two buses collided head-on at Satbaria on Rajshahi-Chapainawabganj highway under Godagari upazila on Sunday.

According to police, the accident occurred when a Chapainawabganj-bound bus-Rupali Paribahan—collided head-on with another bus coming from the opposite direction at about 3.25 pm. Helper of the Rupali Paribahan died on the spot and 10 passengers were injured.

Injured persons were undergoing treatment at Godagari Health Complex.

Godagari police recovered the body and seized both the buses. A case has been filed in this connection. However, drivers of both the vehicles managed to escape.

Pirates kill fisherman for toll on Meghna**OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal**

Pirates killed one fisherman and injured three others on the Meghna river at Char Nizam under Manpura upazila in Bhola district Saturday night for refusing to pay illegal toll.

The dead was identified as Nayan, 20. The injured are Kamrul, 23, Ripon, 21 and Abul Kalam, 22. They were admitted to Bhola Sadar Hospital. They hailed from Charnizam village in Manpura.

Police said the pirates swooped on them at about midnight and demanded Tk one lakh. As they refused, the pirates attacked them.

Police recovered the body of Nayan and sent it to Bhola hospital for autopsy. A case was filed with Bhola thana.

AL-BNP clash over LGED work**A CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat**

Rival activists belonging to ruling BNP and opposition Awami League clashed at the Local Government and Engineering Department (LGED) office here on Sunday over construction works involving Tk 39 lakh.

According sources at the LGED office, BNP activists were given Tk 29 works and AL Tk 10 lakh works. This angered the AL activists, resulting in the clash. None was however hospitalised.

When contacted, the LGED engineer refused to make any comment.

BIT Rajshahi Teachers' Assoc elected**RU CORRESPONDENT**

Election of teachers association of Bangladesh Institute of Technology, (BIT) Rajshahi was held on Sunday.

Dr Md Sheikh Nijamuduwla and Dr Md Asrafur Haq were elected president and general secretary respectively.

The panel led by Dr Sheikh Nijamuduwla bagged all the nine posts.

HSC exam vigilance team attacked in Jhalakati**Showcause notices on 8 madrassahs in Khulna****UNB, Jhalakathi**

Miscreants swooped on a vigilance team of Barisal Education Board and damaged their car at Nolchhiti upazila headquarters here on Saturday.

Criminals attacked the car of the vigilance team when they were going to Mollarhat Higher Secondary School Certificate (HSC) examination centre after expelling 12 students from Nalchhiti centre.

The team members were forced

to take shelter at the local police station with their damaged car.

A case was filed. Our Staff Correspondent from Khulna reports:

Eight madrassahs in Khulna district have been served with showcause notices for "very poor performance" of students in examinations.

The madrassahs are Piprail Fazil Madrassah in Phultala upazila, Baruli Alim Madrassah in Paikgacha upazila, S K Dakhil Madrassah and

Thukcha Dakhil Madrassah in Dumuria upazila, Dearha Dakhil Madrassah, Haramia Dearha Dakhil Madrassah and Maramia Alim Madrassah in Koira upazila, Jamia Islamia Arabia Dakhil Madrassah in Batiaghata upazila and Darus Sunni Dakhil Madrassah in Rupsha upazila.

The district education officer said if replies to the show cause notices are not satisfactory, their MPOs (monthly pay orders) will be cancelled.

Recruitment of policemen Irregularities, bribery alleged**A CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat**

Participants have demanded cancellation of tests for recruitment of police constables, held here on Sunday.

There were irregularities during written examinations and physical tests, some of the participants told newsmen on Sunday after the tests. Some police officials also took bribe,

They alleged. The tests were held at the district police headquarters.

Hundreds of job seekers gathered at the police line ground to appear at tests for 27 posts of constable.

Four persons who were earlier declared physically unfit were allowed to appear for written test, they alleged.

Only two persons were selected against seven posts under freedom fighters' quota though many candidates who are sons of freedom fighters were present with documents.

There was resentment among the examinees when some officials were seen helping a few by providing them with answers, they said.

When asked, Lalmonirhat police superintendent who is also chairman of the recruitment board, declined to make any comment about the allegations.

Tragic**A CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia**

A child and a college student drowned when they slipped into Gorai river while immersing the image of a Hindu goddess in Aruapara area in the town Saturday night.

The victims were identified as Tama Dutta, 10, a student of class five at Aruapara Girls School and Palash Chandra Shaha, 22, an honours student of Kushtia Government College.

Family sources and witnesses said, Palash and Tama were relatives and went to Gorai with a large number of devotees at about 8 pm. As it was night they could not be traced immediately due to darkness, they said.

Late in the night, their bodies were recovered.

Businessman robbed**OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira**

Miscreants shot a businessman and took away Tk 1,19, 000 Sunday morning at Bakal near the town.

The victim, Bazlur Rahman, 48, of village Sultanpur under Satkhira municipality, was taken to Satkhira Sadar Hospital and later shifted to Khulna Sadar Hospital.

Police said, the businessman was returning home in a motorcycle from a shrimp farm in Debhata upazila with the money. On his way, a woman requested him for a lift and he took her on board.

As they reached Bakal, the miscreants stopped them and tried to snatch the money. As he resisted, the miscreants shot him in the left thigh. He fell down. They snatched the money and left riding his motorcycle. Police said he might have been waylaid by the miscreants.

The woman has been identified as Shanzat Khatun, 35, wife of Ratiul Islam of Debhata. A case has been filed with Satkhira thana.

16 teachers' posts vacant in Tangail Polytec Instt**BSS, Tangail**

Academic activities at Tangail Polytechnic Institute are being greatly hampered due to shortage of teachers and lack of instruments and other facilities.

Out of 32 posts of teachers, 16 are vacant. Also, 21 posts of employees, three of office assistants and two posts of librarians are vacant.

Third year students of electronics who have to attend six classes a day are the worst sufferers as they are getting only two teaches, each of whom is to take four classes every day.

The 21 female students coming from different areas are the worst suffers, as there is no hostel for them.

Principal M Rezaur Rahman told BSS that letters were sent to the authorities concerned several times to remove the problems, but to no effect.



PHOTO: STAR

An old dilapidated cyclone shelter in a coastal area of Patuakhali. At the advent of monsoon season, people get panicked at the thought of natural calamities. So, the shelters need to be repaired on emergency basis.