

SNAPS

6 fugitive convicts

held in Manikganj

BSS, MANIKGANJ

Six fugitive convicts were arrested from different areas of Shibhalaya upazila on Tuesday.

Police sources said they arrested one Mussa Mia of Alokia village, who was sentenced to 30 years' imprisonment in a murder case.

The other arrested persons are Siddique Sheikh, Fatezuddin, Manan, Askar and Afaz.

The arrested were sent to jail.

Khulna AL leader's

killing condemned

A RU CORRESPONDENT

The Sammito Sangskritik Jote (SSJ), Bangabandhu Sangskritik Jote (BSJ) and Anushlon Nattya Dal at Rajshahi University in separate statements on Tuesday condemned the killing of Khulna City Awami League President Monjurul Imam.

They demanded immediate arrest of the killers and called upon the people to build a movement against killings and violence.

Gayabana Janaza held at Mymensingh

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

Awami League and its front organisations held a Gayabana Janaza for slain Khulna city AL President Manjurul Imam after Asar prayer on Tuesday.

A large number of people including officials, journalists and the local elite attended the Gayabana Janaza, held at the Town Hall ground.

The Mymensingh Bar Association and the local Awami Ainjibi Samity in separate statements condemned the killing and demanded immediate arrest and punishment of the killers.

Seminar on HIV held at Faridpur

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Faridpur

A day-long seminar on 'HIV/Aids, Health Reproduction and Gender Development' organised by the Faridpur of Bangladesh Family Planning Association (FPAB), was held on its office premises here recently.

Faridpur Deputy Commission Jalal Ahmed was the chief guest. FPAB Deputy Director Md Shahid Hossain, Faridpur Family Planning Deputy Director Md Abdul Malek and Civil Surgeon Dr Abdul Khayer Mia were special guests at the seminar.

Move to close jute mill in Sirajganj

Procession, rally held in protest

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sirajganj

The Raipur Quami Jute Mill Rakkha Sangram Committee yesterday brought out a huge procession from the mill gate to drum up support for its Thursday's half-day hartal in the town, called to protest an alleged government move to close the mill.

Hundreds of workers and employees of the mill, joined by people paraded the main streets of Sirajganj town chanting slogans against the alleged government move.

The procession was followed by a public meeting, held at the Bazaar Station.

The proposed hartal is part of a programme announced by the committee earlier.

All units of all political parties have extended their support to the committee's demand for keeping the mill running.

The committee also held several protest meetings in the town, formed a human chain and handed over memorandums to the local administration protesting the move.

The government has taken a move to close down the mill due to recurring losses.

The public meeting was presided over by the committee's convenor Mohiruddin.

The speakers included Abdus Samad, Korban Ali, Nazrul Islam, Nobokumar, Abu Bakar Bhuiya, Borkotullah and Mahbub-e-Khoda Tutul.

The speakers threatened to go for tougher action programmes if the closure move is not stopped.

Nasim tells Sirajganj public meetings

Build mass movement against the 'failed' govt

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sirajganj

Front ranking Awami League leader and former home minister Mohammad Nasim on Tuesday called upon the people to launch a mass movement against the "failed" government.

The government has failed in all sectors, he alleged and demanded mid-term polls.

He was addressing public meetings at Ratonkhundi and Shimato Bazar in the district, organised by AL.

Killings, specially political ones, increased since takeover by the four-party alliance government. It has miserably failed to ensure security of life to people.

"They (ruling party leaders) speak against terrorism at public meetings but shelter criminals and terrorists. How can they improve law and order?"

The recent killing of Khulna Awami League leader Monjurul Imam is the proof, Nasim said.

Outlaws, contained during Awami League rule, have surfaced again under the present government, he claimed.

Presided over by Awami League

leader Sha Alam, the meeting was addressed by, among others, Abu Yusuf, KM Hossen Ali, Ajhar Ali Khan and other local party leaders.

Nasim said anarchy is prevailing in the country as the government has established autocracy in the name of democracy.

The police force and the administration have been politicised.

Gram Sarkar is being formed to cling to power. Creation of Gram Sarkar will neutralise local bodies and create chaos at the grassroots level, he said.

Rule of law will not be established till execution of the verdict in

the Bangabandhu murder case, he said and demanded immediate execution of the verdict.

The local AL leaders alleged that erosion by the Jamuna river has washed away miles of embankments and displaced thousands of families as the present government failed to repair those.

Ruling party leaders in connivance with a section of officials have misappropriated funds allotted for maintenance of these embankments, they alleged.

Eight killed, 15 hurt in road accidents in Bogra

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bogra

At least eight people were killed and 15 injured in two road accidents on the Bogra-Rangpur highway on Tuesday.

The first accident took place at Nawdapara at about 10:30am when a bus hit a motorcycle.

The dead are Bhadon Ali, 20, son of Nurul Islam and Abul Hasnat Rony, 23, son of Solaiman Ali of Bogra, both from Baghopara area on the outskirts of Bogra town.

Police and eyewitnesses said Bhadon died on the spot and Rony was critically injured when a Rangpur-bound minibus hit their motorcycle. Rony died at Bogra Mohammad Ali Hospital at about 12:10pm. They were

going to Bogra town.

In the other accident, five persons were killed on the spot and 15 injured when a Rangpur-bound truck (Bogra-DA-11-0114) collided head-on with a Sonatola-bound minibus, Ecota Poribohan, at Digholkandi in Shibgonj upazila at about 6pm.

One of the dead could be identified as Sobuj, an activist of Chhatra League, Awami League's student front.

He died at Bogra Mohammad Ali Hospital.

The rest victims could not be identified.

Separate cases have been filed with Bogra Sadar and Shibgonj thanas.

Medicines looted at Patuakhali recovered in N, ganj

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

Police have recovered medicines looted from a pharmacy in the town on August 14 and arrested six persons including two women in this connection.

The medicines were recovered from a house in Narayanganj. The truck used to carry the medicines has been seized, police said here yesterday.

The arrested persons are Faqu Mia, Harun, Masud Rana, Sahid, Parul and Masu.

Police said a team led by SI Safiqur Rahman went to Dhaka on information. They seized the truck used to carry the medicines and arrested its driver Fazu Mia and helper Harun on August 25.

Acting on their confession, police raided a house at Panchabati in Narayanganj, recovered the looted medicine and arrested Masud Rana and his brother Sahid along with their wives Parul and Masu.

They were brought to Patuakhali on Tuesday, police said.

Police earlier said that miscreants broke open the shutter of the pharmacy and took away medicines worth about Tk 6 lakh.

Fleeing toll collectors hurl bomb, cop hurt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A policeman was injured when toll collectors hurled a bomb on him in Muradur area under Panchlaish thana in the city Tuesday evening. The victim is Havilder Mobarak Ali of Kalurghat camp under Chandgaon police station.

Police and witnesses said, a group of miscreants entered a hotel at busy Muradpur crossing and demanded toll. On refusal they started ransacking it.

Mobarak Ali who was passing by the hotel chased them along with local people. The fleeing miscreants hurled a bomb, critically injuring Mubarak.

521 Gram Sarkar units formed in Naogaon

BSS, NAOGAON

A total of 41 Gram Sarkar units were formed in the district on Tuesday, district administration sources said.

With this, the total number of the Gram Sarkar units formed in the district now stands at 521, they said.



PHOTO: STAR

Non-government teachers recently staged a token hunger strike in front of Satkhira Deputy Commissioner's office to press their 8-point demand. This was part of the agitation programme announced by the Jatiya Teacher-Employee Front.

3 get 18 yrs RI for abducting schoolgirl

A CORRESPONDENT

Four persons have been sentenced to 18 years imprisonment and fined Tk 50,000 each in Noakhali for abducting a school girl in April last year.

Noakhali Women and Child Repression Control Tribunal Judge Muhammad Mujibul Kamal handed down the punishment to Abul Hashem, 22, Anowar Hossain, 24, Wali Ullah, 19 and Mostafa, 30 on Tuesday in absentia.

They had abducted schoolgirl Ayesha Khatoon while she was going to school on April 7 last year.

The victim's brother had filed a case against the three and a woman named Sahida Khatoon.

Police recovered the abducted girl from Chittagong and submitted charge sheet against the accused.

Sahida Khatoon was acquitted.

Father attempts to kill baby for dowry

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

A father, failing to realise dowry, allegedly attempted to kill his one year-old son by feeding milk mixed with poison.

The incident took place at Panchpota village in Kolaroa upazila on Thursday night.

Drug addict Rejaul Alam had demanded a dowry of Tk 5,000 from his father-in-law and asked his wife to bring the money. As she refused, she threatened to kill their son.

On Thursday night, the mother prepared milk in a feeder bottle for her son Sabuj.

Rejaul sent his wife away for minutes on a plea and secretly mixed pesticides with the milk. A short while later, she fed her son.

Next morning, the baby fell ill and was admitted to Kolaroa Health Complex. As his condition deteriorated, he was shifted to Satkhira Sadar Hospital.

The baby is fighting for life, doctor said.

Police said the father is absconding.

MMC teacher sued by wife, sent to jail

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

Dr Harun-or-Rashid, an eminent dentist and Assistant Professor at Mymensingh Medical College, has been arrested in a case filed under the Women and Children Repression Prevention Act.

Mymensingh Kotwali police arrested him Monday night following filing of the case by his second wife Mrs Suraiya earlier on the day.

On Tuesday, he was produced before court, which sent him to jail.

Jamaat leader killed at Gazipur

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

A local leader of Jamaat-e-Islami was stabbed to death by unidentified miscreants near his house at Sreepur upazila headquarter Monday night.

Police said Maolana Abdul Mannan, 50, also a teacher of Boiragirchala High School, was hacked when he was returning home from a local market.

Local people rushed him to Dhaka Medical College Hospital where he died.

Police said land dispute could be reason behind the killing.

2 get 10 yrs RI for having foreign knife, hand bomb

STAR NATIONAL DESK

Two persons have been sentenced to ten years imprisonment, one for illegally possessing a foreign knife and the other for hand bombs.

A BSS report from Kushtia said District and Session Judge Mahabubul Alam on Tuesday sentenced one person to 10 years rigorous imprisonment for illegally possessing a foreign knife.

The court also fined Abul Fazal Tk 1,000, in default to suffer six months' more RI.

Abul Fazal of Kacher Cole village under Saikupa upazila was arrested from the main gate of Islamic University, Kushtia, with an illegal foreign knife on March 24, 2001.

Another BSS report from Chuadanga said the Additional District and Sessions Judge sentenced one person to 10 years' rigorous imprisonment for possessing explosives.

The court also fined Ansar Ali Tk 10,000, in default, to suffer one year RI more.

He was arrested with 10 hand bombs from his house at Jhadjadanga village under Damurhata upazila on July 7, 2000.

He was tried under the Explosive Act.

Row over power bills

Beanibazar tense as 3 local leaders sent to jail

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

The situation a Beanibazar upazila headquarters remained tense yesterday following Monday's police-mob clashes and arrest of eight persons including Municipal Administrator Tofajil Hossain, 30 on Tuesday in absentia.

They also manhandled the DGM of Pali Bidyut Samity, Shakhawat Ullah, when he went to the TNO's office area.

The eight arrested include Lautu UP chairman Abdul Jaill, Tilpara UP chairman Israil Haque and Jatiya Party leader Ali Ahmed.

Police arrested them when they along with others were holding a meeting at Dakshin bazaar of Beanibazar Monday night.

After Monday's clashes, two cases were lodged accusing a total of 900 people including the arrested leaders.

One of cases was filed under the Speedy Trial Act accusing 300 people for obstructing government employees from discharging duties.

The agitated processionists also ransacked some windows glass at the Upazila Nirbahi Officer's office. The scared UNO took shelter in the toilet, sources said.

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The other case was filed against 600 people.

Additional police were deployed at the upazila headquarter.

The UNO also held an urgent meeting of the Upazila Law and Order Committee on Tuesday. Local leaders of BNP, Awami League 10 Union Parishad chairmen, the OC and others attended the meeting that lasted over five hours.

A number of BNP leaders while talking to newsmen said, police and the administration created the unwanted situation. The pourashava administrator, ex-upazila chairman and others arrested Monday night were sent to jail hajat on Tuesday. Three of the injured persons-- Mokhtar Hossain, Mujib and Nizam Uddin -- were shifted to the Sylhet Osmani Medical College Hospital.



PHOTO: STAR

The greens and fertile lands in vast areas in Gopalganj Sadar may soon be extinct due to erosion by the MODhumati river. The photo was taken recently from Manikdha where almost half of the village has been devoured by the river in the last fortnight, making over 300 families homeless.