

SNAPS

Partial court boycott in Barisal

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal. A court boycott programme, called by Barisal District Bar Association on Saturday, was observed partially. The program was called to protest government's amendment to the Civil Procedure Act.

5 political leaders held in Bhola

BSS, Barisal. Borhanuddin police arrested five local political leaders from Gangapur union recently on charge of criminal offences. Police sources said, acting on a tip off, a police team raided houses of the leaders and arrested them.

Two get 15-yr RI for keeping arms

BSS, Chuadanga. District and Sessions Judge, Chuadanga sentenced two persons to 15 years' imprisonment for possessing illegal arms. The convicts are Eunuch alias Saju, 35, of Bhaugbaria village and Azad alias Tela, of Nargarbolia village, both under Alamdanga upazila.

Truck falls from ferry in Padma

A CORRESPONDENT, Manikganj. A loaded truck fell into the Padma river from Raniganj ferry while the vessel was going to Daulatdia from Paturia terminal yesterday morning. IATA sources said the truck broke the railing of the ferry and fell into the midstream as the vessel was swinging due to high waves and strong current.

These are minister's pocket committees, party men say

Godagari BNP council held on 24 hours' notice, 3 bodies formed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Three committees of ruling BNP were formed in Godagari at a party council on Thursday, called on 24 hours' notice. The council formed party units for Godagari Pourashabha, Kakonhat Pourashabha and Godagari upazila in absence of many senior leaders.

Many party men raised protest slogans outside the venue, party sources said. They said formation of the committees has drawn flak from many party men as the new bodies are dominated by relatives of Post and Telecommunication Minister Aminul Haque and his loyalists.

Godagari Girls' High School. Sincere workers found no place in the committees, the party sources claimed. A 'subject committee' at a 45-minute 'secret meeting' selected the key men of the three committees. The subject committee comprised six persons including Rajshahi city Jubo Dal President Mosaddek Hossain Bulbul, its district president Tofazzal Hossain and BNP leader Altaf Hossain.

In Kakonhat Pourashabha committee, Ismail Hossain, known to be loyal to the minister, was made the president. Party men Ishaq Ali and Nurul on Wednesday evening called the council, they said. During the council, journalists saw a group of Jatyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) workers barring "uninvited guests" from entering the venue.

Some of the speakers at the council were heard saying: He (the minister) is our sole guardian and we will support any man selected by him. BNP leader Abdur Rouf later told newsmen that he would have been a candidate for the post of upazila BNP general secretary if he was invited. "Crimes and smugglers are now being privileged as they can collect money", he said.



Fishes have become scarce due to indiscriminate netting of fries in territorial and inland waters with current nets. Although the government has banned use of current nets, the practice goes on unabated. In the picture a boy is seen with a current net on a boat in the sea in Kuakata in the shore area.

Nurul Islam murder case shifted to STT

BSS, Lakkhipur

Advocate Nurul Islam Murder case, a sensational political killing during Awami League rule, was shifted to the Speedy Trial Tribunal (STT), Chittagong on Wednesday.

Lakkhipur District and Sessions Judge Anwarul Haque ordered transfer of the file and evidences of the case to STT, Chittagong. The order came upon a petition filed by district Public Prosecutor advocate Monirul Islam Hawlader and in response to a Home Ministry gazette notification on the matter.

Hearing of the case at the District and Sessions Judge's court remained stopped for the last nine months following a High Court order issued upon two petitions filed by the accused. Lakkhipur police submitted charge sheet against 31 people including Abu Taher, former district Awami League general secretary and Lakkhipur Poursava chairman as the principal accused.

Kidnapped boy rescued in 15 hrs

STAR NATIONAL DESK

A seven year-old boy kidnapped from Dinajpur town was rescued by police from a Nilphamari village within 15 hours.

In another incident, Mymensingh police rescued a 12 year-old boy and nabbed the captors. Our Nilphamari correspondent reported that Taposh Roy alias Niloy, 7, son of businessman Nanigopal Roy of Bara Bandar in Dinajpur town, was kidnapped when he was playing in a field near his house Friday afternoon. He was lured with candy, hustled into a white microbus and taken away.

The kidnappers demanded Tk 50,000 ransom from his parents, who informed Dinajpur Kotwali police.

Dinajpur police swung into action and informed police forces in Nilphamari and neighbouring districts.

Acting on an information, a joint team from Dinajpur and Nilphamari police raided a house at Gaber Tol

village in Itakhola union under Nilphamari Sadar upazila Saturday morning, rescued the boy and arrested five of the kidnappers. Of them, four was identified as Rubel, 15, of Barabandar, Dinajpur, Jahangir, 18, of Chhotoburgola, Dinajpur, Quddus, 17, of Thakurgaon and Syeed, 16, of Natan Para, Barabandar, Dinajpur.

Our Mymensingh correspondent reported that Gafargaon police on Friday rescued an abducted boy and arrested his captors. Police said, Judge Miah, 12, son of Abul Hasem of village Char Rashlinda Zerati Para was abducted on August 22. The captors demanded Tk one lakh ransom.

The boy's mother, Jarina Begum, filed a case with Gafargaon police accusing one Halim of the same village.

Police raided a house in the area, rescued the boy and arrested three persons - Moin Mia, Tafazzol and Monjur Ali. Nothing could be known about Halim's alleged involvement in the abduction.

'Criminal' freed on ruling party pressure, SI 'closed' in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A sub-inspector of Patiya police has been 'closed' reportedly for releasing a 'notorious criminal' after arrest.

Sub-Inspector Humayun Kabir was 'closed' and sent to the district police line at Halishahar in the city on Friday, sources said yesterday.

He was 'closed' following investigation by a one-member body comprising Additional Police Super (ASP) Hasib Aziz (Chittagong Head Quarter), they said. A team of Patiya thana police led by SI Humayun Kabir arrested one Jasim Uddin, an alleged gang leader of inter-district robbers and an accused in seven criminal cases, from Hayeedgaon under Patiya thana on Wednesday night.

But he was released next morning (Thursday) allegedly following pressure by a local leader of the ruling party.

The incident triggered resentment among local people, the sources said.

However, Humayun denied arresting any body named Jasim Uddin on Wednesday night and claimed that he was a victim of circumstances.

Hasanat's land occupied for BNP office? Gournadi BNP says it's govt land

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Family members of former chief whip of Jatiya Sangsad Abul Hasanat Abdullah and Gournadi Awami League leaders have alleged that local BNP led by an MP grabbed Hasanat's land near Gournadi bus stand and forcibly started construction of party office there.

But BNP claimed that the land belongs to the Roads and Highways Department.

Some sources in Gournadi said the 1.10 acre prime land (Dag No. 68 and 69) surrounded by brick walls is under West Bijoypur Mouja.

They said it was a khas land and

Hasanat's father Abdur Rob Serriabat leased the property from government after independence. It was in their possession till 1975. After 1975, it was encroached by some people including small shopkeepers.

During 1996-2001 AL rule, Hasant took possession of the land again and raised brick walls on three sides. Even Hasanat's family paid Tk 10,000 lease money for last two years on July 30 this year, they claimed.

About two weeks ago, local BNP workers led by the MP broke the wall on one side and laid the foundation of their party office. They also a function there to celebrate BNP's silver jubilee. Local BNP leaders in a statement denied that they occupied any private land. The foundation of BNP office was laid on Roads and Highways land, they claimed.

The land was created from a ditch when the highway passing through the area was constructed and Jagodal (later turned into BNP) office was there since 1976-77. If the Roads and Highways Department asks them, they will shift their party office from there, they said.

1,500 vehicles plying without licence in Rajshahi

BSS, Rajshahi

The government is being deprived of at least Tk one crore revenue each year as a large number of motorised vehicles are plying on different routes in the region without valid licence. Official sources said around 1,500 motor vehicles without valid documents including route permit and fitness certificate are plying on different routes in

Rajshahi, Chapainawabganj and Natore districts.

Besides evading taxes, the vehicles are polluting the environment by emitting black smoke.

Sources said at least four mobile courts are checking vehicles at different points.

Meanwhile the local BRTA office has earned a revenue of Tk 4.27 crore in the last financial year.

Dacoity at Sirajganj BSCIC estate

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sirajganj

A dacoity was committed in the BSCIC industrial area in Sialkole under the Sadar upazila on Thursday night.

Police said a gang of 15 to 20 armed dacoits wearing black clothes and masks tied up night guards and looted cotton yarn and valuables worth over Tk two lakh from a mill.

Sirajganj Police Superintendent AKM Shahidul Haque visited the spot next morning.

Police picked up six people in this connection and released them after questioning.

Four teenage girls missing from Barisal village in a day

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Four teenage girls are missing from Joilrpar Baro Mugra village under Agailjhara thana since September 1.

They are Shilpi, 13, daughter of Mannan Fakir; Rozina, 12, daughter of Enajuddin Talukder; Naznin, 15, daughter of Rajab Ali Fakir and Mukta, 14, daughter of Toiab Ali Talukder.

Naznin and Mukta were students of class nine and seven respectively at Jobarpar High School.

They left home for school and did not return. The tow others are missing from their homes.

Their guardians and villagers apprehend that the girls might have been taken away by traffickers. The officer-in-charge (OC) of Agailjhara thana visited the village after the guardians lodged a general diary on September 2.

The OC said one housewife and three teenage girls were also

reported missing some month back but they returned home. It was later found that that they had gone with persons known to them without informing their families, he said.

But some of the villagers claimed that the four girls have been trafficked by one Zahirul of Chakri village in Bagda union under the same upazila and his associates Nixon Talukder and Faruk Talukder. The three are members of an organised gang of traffickers, they claimed.

Zahirul stayed at Joilrpar village identifying himself as a Detective Branch police on the plea of investigating Union Parishad member Alauddin murder case.

He is also missing since September 1 and his identity was also proved false later, the villagers said.

When the villagers put pressure on Zahirul's family, they agreed to bring back Shilpi, one of the four girls, the villagers said.

Jubo League activist released after ransom payment

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushila

A leader of Jubo League, Awami League's student front, abducted on August 27, was released on Saturday after payment of Tk 60,000 ransom.

Police said abductors of Alauddin Ahmed, president of Boalia union Jubo league in Daulatpur upazila, had demanded Tk one lakh ransom.

After negotiation with the armed abductors through a media, two members of the victim's family kept Tk 60,000 at a house on Thursday night.

In the early house of Friday, the abductors left Alauddin near the house with his mouth taped and hands tied.

Police said the victim did not disclose the kidnappers' name and identity as they threatened him. "They will kill me if I disclose their names", he told some newsmen.

One held for Tk 10 lakh forgery with Bandarban bank

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bandarban

Police have arrested a man who drew Tk 10 lakh from Sonali Bank on July 2 through forgery.

Acting on a tip-off, police raided a house at Sripur village in the Sadar upazila and arrested Lutfur Rahman alias Golum Nabi Bhutto on Friday.

Police said during interrogation Bhutto confessed to drawing Tk 10 lakh from the bank through two forged cheques and said four others were involved in it. He said he had opened an account with the branch with a false address.

Bhutto was produced before court, which placed him on seven days' remand.

Bhutto told newsmen that he is a member of an organised gang involved in forgery.

Earlier, when the scam was detected, five officials of the bank branch were arrested.



Daffodil Institute of IT, Chittagong organised a certificate awarding ceremony recently on its campus after a month long training for 53 school, college and university students. Picture shows the best participant receiving prize from chief guest Dr Mohammad Nurul Mustafa. Deputy Director and in-charge of DIIT presided over the function.

BSF fires shots in Dinajpur border

BSS, Dinajpur

Indian Border Security Force (BSF) fired several shots in the early hours of Saturday, frightening residents along the frontier in Dinajpur.

BDR and local sources said BSF of Abtar camp opposite BDR's Basudebpur border outpost (BOP) under Hakimpur upazila fired the shots at about 1:30am.

Ten minutes later, BSF of Hamjapur camp opposite BDR's Sundara BOP under Kotwali Police Station fired two more shots. BDR officials said they immediately demanded an explanation from BSF for their unprovoked action.

The BDR, however, urged the people in the frontier not to be frightened and carry out their normal activities.

12 'listed terrorists' held in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Twelve 'listed terrorists' and two other 'notorious criminal' were arrested in the city in twenty-four hours ending at 6 PM on Saturday, police said yesterday.

Of the terrorists, Md Jasim Uddin, 35, alias Boma Jasim was arrested from Cinema Palace area under Kotolai thana. Mohammad Ali, 30, and Kamal Hossain alias Kala Babu, 32, were arrested from Saraipara and Signal Colony areas under Pahartoli thana.

Kulshi thana police arrested Md Masum Hasan Chowdhury, 25, from Feroz Shah Colony and Md Rahman alias K Rahman, 25, and Swapnan Kumar, 30, from Motijharna area.

Panchlaish thana police arrested Md Bellal Hossain alias Bellal, 26, from Bibirhat area while Bayezid Bostami thana police arrested Delowar Hossain alias Delu, 25, and Nizam, 28, from Noyarhat and Kulgaon respectively.

Md Naser alias Nasir, 30 was arrested from Free Port (CEPZ) area under Bondor thana, Jasim Uddin, 25 from Goshaildanga under Double Mooring thana and Peyar Mohammad alias Peyaru, 32 from Kalamia Bazar under Bakolia thana.

Bayezid thana police arrested Md Salahuddin, 25. Nine warrants were issued for his arrest.

Md Rafi, a convict, was caught from Chawk Bazar in the city.