

SNAPS

'Outlaws' gun down freedom fighter

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Kushtia*
A freedom fighter was gunned down in Jhenidah on Tuesday night by alleged outlawed party cadres.

The dead was identified as Fazlur Rahman of Gopinathpur village in the Sadar upazila in Jhenidah district.

Police said, at least eight armed men of outlawed New Biplobi Communist Party (NBCP) went to Fazlu's house at about 12 pm and called him out.

As Fazlu came out, the miscreants picked him on gunpoint. They took him to a field nearby, slaughtered and shot him.

Police recovered the body and sent it to Jhenidah Sadar Hospital for autopsy.

A case was filed with the Sadar police station.

'Criminal' held in Kushtia

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Kushtia*

Police arrested a 'notorious criminal' with arms Sunday night.

Police said, Anwarul Kader Paltu 33, a 'top terror' in the district and accused in several cases, was arrested from a tea stall at Poradah railway station.

A foreign revolver along with five bullets was recovered from his possession.

Prisoner dies in Kushtia

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Kushtia*

A prisoner died at Kushtia Sadar Hospital yesterday.

Police said, Atiar Rahman, 36, son of Bazlur Rahman of Chuadanga, was serving a 10-year jail term.

Atiar felt serious pain in his chest Tuesday evening. He was taken to Kushtia General Hospital where he died in the early hours of yesterday.



Flood water approaching rooftops at Biswas Para village in Chapainawabganj district (left) and children moving to a safer place in a neighbouring village (right). The photos were taken yesterday.



PHOTO: ANWAR ALI

Floodwater enters Rajshahi city, C'nawabganj town

One lakh marooned in Kushtia, road links snapped

STAR NATIONAL DESK

Flood situation in Rajshahi, Chapainawabganj and Kushtia worsened yesterday as fresh areas were inundated following further rise in the water levels of the Padma and Mohananda.

Our Kushtia correspondent reported yesterday that the Roads and Highways Department suspended operation of Pakshi ferry ghat on Tuesday as pontoons on both sides were damaged by floodwaters, snapping road link between southwestern and northern districts.

Low-lying areas of the district have been inundated. The worst affected area is Daulatpur upazila where at least one lakh people are marooned in six unions. The unions are Chilmari, Maricha, Philipnagar, Pragpur, and Adabaria.

The Padma was flowing above its danger level at Herdinge Bridge.

Our staff correspondent reported from Rajshahi that floodwater entered low lying areas of Rajshahi city and Chapainawabganj town.

In Rajshahi city, flood water is gushing through drains and Bulonpur area is threatened with inundation as the Town Protection Dam (TPD) and the 'I' groyen there have developed breaches.

Water Development Board (WDB) is dumping sandbags into the Padma at Bulonpur and Kadamtala areas in the city in a bid to mend the breach in the TPD.

The Padma rose by eight cms in Rajshahi and was flowing at 15 cms above the danger level. It rose by 17 cms at Pankha point in Chapainawabganj and was flowing at 1.42 metres above the danger level.

The Mahanada rose by nine cms and was flowing 20 cms above the

danger level in Chapainawabganj.

Floodwater entered Godagari upazila Sadar and inundated three more unions. The three unions are Char Asharidaha and Mohonpur in Godagari upazila and Monigram in Bagha upazila.

With this, 14 unions in four upazilas Godagari, Paba, Bagha and Chorghathave been flooded damaging about 3,000 houses and affecting 5,000 families.

Some three kilometers area between Tangon and Yusufpur in Chorghat upazila is also facing serious erosion and at least 100 houses here have already been washed away.

In Chapainawabganj, the flood has taken a serious turn as floodwater entered the town and inundated three areas Sankarabati, Mohonpur and Char Mohonpur in the municipality.

A total of eight unions of

Chapainawabganj Sadar and Shibganj upazilas have been affected.

At least 50, 000 people are marooned in Shibganj upazila as about 90 percent of Pankha and Ujirpur unions and 80 percent of Monakosha and Durlotpur unions have gone under water.

Another 1400 families are marooned in Narayanpur union of the Sadar upazila, where crops on 100 hectares of land have gone under water.

Outbreak of diarrhoea were reported from many areas in the char lands as drinking water is scarce because tube wells have gone under water. People are using river water.

Eight metric tons of rice have been distributed among the flood affected people of Godagari upazila, was reported.

Gaibandha district BNP body formed in Dhaka!

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Gaibandha*

A Gaibandha district committee of BNP has been formed in Dhaka, party sources said here yesterday.

It was formed at BNP's central office on September 15 through election.

The election was held through 'vote of representatives of Gaibandha BNP and its front organisations', they said.

Advocate Hamidul Huq Chhana, Anisuzzaman Khan Babu and Gausul Azam Dollor were elected president, secretary and organising secretary respectively.

In the last council of Gaibandha district BNP held in 1998, a 71-member committee was formed with Sheikh Samad Azad as president and Anisuzzaman Khan Babu a secretary.

After expiry of its term, a 101-member convening committee was formed with Saiful Alam Saja as convenor in 2001. This committee could not hold a council even in nine months.

The central committee dissolved it and formed a fresh 141-member committee with Dr. RA Ghani, member, BNP Standing Committee, as its convenor.

This led to an inner conflict among leaders and workers of Gaibandha BNP and two factions emerged, one led by Dr. RA Ghani and Anisuzzaman Khan Babu and the other led by Saiful Alam Saja and Sheikh Samad Azad, the sources said.

Meanwhile the Gaibandha district unit of Jatityabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) at a meeting yesterday felicitated the new office bearers of the district committee.

Netrokona Sadar AL body elected at convention

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Netrokona*

Netrokona Sadar upazila Awami League held its convention in the town on Monday.

The earlier convention was held seven years ago.

The convention elected a 67-member Netrokona Sadar upazila committee with Bazlur Kadar Sahjahan and Golam Mohammad Bimal as its president and secretary respectively.

Abdul Latif Siddiki former MP and member of central Awami League was present as chief guest. It was presided over by Nawab Ali, convenor of Netrokona Sadar upazila Awami League.

Among others, Dewan Shafiqul Arafin Tulul, Asim Kumar Uki, Shafi Ahmed, Manjur Kadar Kurashi, Ahmed Hossein, Fazlur Rahman Khan, Jalaluddin Talukder and advocate Amirul Islam addressed the convention.

Three get 44 years RI for gangrape in Barisal

Another jailed for 14 years in Netrokona

STAR NATIONAL DESK

Three persons have been given 44 years' imprisonment for gangrape in Barisal and another given 14 years for raping a girl in Netrokona.

Our Barisal Correspondent reported that Judge Abdul Quddus Mia of Barisal Divisional Speedy Trial Tribunal sentenced Babul Molla, Kamal and rickshawpuller Majibor of Amtali in Barguna to 44 years' imprisonment and fined them Tk 1.5 lakh each for gangraping a 14 year-old girl.

They had kidnapped the girl from Amtali when she was returning home after seeing a puja festival on the night of October 15 last year.

She was confined at the house of one Hamed Munshi at Rawma village in the area and gangraped

two days.

Kanchan Ali Molla, maternal grandfather of the victim, lodged a GD with Amtali thana on the night of the incident, which was later turned into a criminal case.

Local Union Parishad member Shah Alam and Chowkider Mokhlesur Rahman rescued the girl from that house on October 17.

SI Abul Hossain filed a charge sheet against the three accused on November 30. The case was transferred to Barisal STT.

The verdict was delivered on Monday after examining 12 witnesses in 15 working days.

The convicts were given life term and fined one lakh taka each under Section 9/3 of the Women and Children Repression Prevention Act for rape. They were given more 14

years RI and fined Tk 50,000 each under Section 7 of the same Act for abduction.

The judge also ordered payment of 25 per cent of the fine to the victim after recovery.

Our Netrokona Correspondent reported that Additional District and Sessions Judge Mohammad Amirul Islam yesterday sentenced one person to 14 years' imprisonment and fined Tk 500 for abducting and raping a minor girl.

The convict is Dulal Mia of Satashi village under Durgapur upazila.

Dulal, with the help of two accomplices kidnapped the girl of the same village on April 9, 2000, confined her in a house for five days and raped her.

Fisherman kidnapped by Indian pirates for ransom

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Satkhira*

A fisherman has been kidnapped from Atharobeki canal in the Sundarbans allegedly by Indians pirates for ransom.

Abdus Sattar, 32, of village Kalinchi in Shyamnagar upazila, is now held hostage at Pashintala near the Indian border for Tk 50,000 ransom, police said quoting his companions with whom he had been fishing.

Sattar and two other fishermen were catching fish in the canal Sunday night when some Indian pirates attacked them and kidnapped him. The two others managed to escape.

They told police that the captors sent a message to them for payment of Tk 50,000 ransom for Sattar's release.

Acid attack on 2 women in Satkhira, Chuadanga

STAR NATIONAL DESK

Two women suffered serious burn injuries in acid attacks in Satkhira and Chuadanga on Tuesday night.

Our Satkhira Correspondent reported that housewife Jahura Bibi, 35, suffered serious burn injuries when miscreants threw acid on her while she was asleep at her house at Moutala village in Kaligonj upazila.

Jahura, mother two children, is the wife of Habibur Rahman, police said.

She is under treatment at Shyannagar hospital with burn injuries in the face and other parts of her body, hospital sources said.

The cause of the attack could not be known immediately. A case was filed with Shyamnagar thana.

Our Chuadanga correspondent reported that one Shefali alias Minu Khatun, 24, came under acid attack while she was asleep at her house at Buzrukargari Bonani Para village.

Her face was severely burnt and one eye was affected.

She was rushed to Chuadanga Sadar Hospital. As her condition deteriorated, she was sent to Dhaka yesterday, hospital sources said.

A case was filed with Chuadanga Sadar police accusing one Anwar Ali.

The officer-in-charge of Chuadanga Sadar thana visited the spot yesterday.

Local people told him that Anwar Ali wanted to marry Shefali, police said.

15 hurt in BNP factional clash in Kushtia

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Kushtia*

At least 15 people were injured in clash between two BNP factions at Foyzullahpur village in Bheramara upazila Tuesday evening.

One of the factions is led by Abdul Jalil Kabiraj and the other by Aftab Uddin, a Union Parishad member.

Police said, the clash erupted after an altercation over formation of the party's local unit.

Both the groups used lethal weapons during the clash that lasted for about an hour.

Police later arrested three BNP men.

Of the injured Jalil, 60, Akbar, 57, Salim, 50, Komor, 30, Mahbub, 35, Abu, 30, Kashem, 60, Ripon, 26 have been admitted to the local health complex.

Govt dissolves NGO executive body

Irregularities, political involvement alleged

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, *Rajshahi*

The government's Social Welfare Directorate has dissolved the executive committee of a Rajshahi-based NGO for alleged irregularities and involvement in political activities.

The Directorate has also formed a three-member committee headed by its official Zaituna Khatun to run the NGO Association for Community Development (ACD)— till further decision is taken on it.

The action followed an order from the office of the Director General of the Directorate that detected "gross irregularities and political activities by the NGO authorities".

Sources said ACD authorities failed to satisfactorily explain 12 allegations of fund embezzlement, anti-constitutional activities and involvement in political activities.

Earlier on June 16, the Directorate in a show cause notice asked the NGO authorities to explain allegations that include showing fake money receipts on entertaining

destitute children at its Drop-in Center and expansion of its work outside Rajshahi without approval of the Directorate. It was also alleged that ACD Executive Director Salima Sarwar drew Tk 74,350 as monthly payment without approval of its general council.

On June 23, the NGO authorities replied to the show cause notice, denying the allegations. But they failed to show necessary documents, the sources said.

The DG's office conducted an investigation into the NGO activities and found the allegations true, Deputy Director of the Directorate Aftab Uddin Sheikh said.

The DG office probe also found that the NGO was engaged in political activities and acted against Jamat-e Islami during the last parliamentary election.

None of the officials of ACD could be contacted despite repeated attempts.



PHOTO: STAR

The Department of Agriculture Extension (DAE), Mymensingh distributed kit boxes to 46 women after a two-day training on poultry vaccination recently, at the DAE office at Mymensingh town recently. Photo shows a trained women receiving a box from DAE Additional Director General Md Abu Taher at a simple function held at the DAE office.

Eight 'outlaws' held in Khulna, Satkhira

STAR NATIONAL DESK

Eight alleged outlaws were arrested in Khulna and Satkhira on Tuesday. Staff Correspondent, Khulna

Our Staff Correspondent reported from Khulna that seven armed cadres of outlawed Purbo Banglar Communist Party (PBCP) were arrested in Khulna city on Tuesday night.

They are Ali Hossain, 30, Rashed Sana, 40, Anisur Rahman, 32, Babul Hossain, 28, Abu Hanif, 35, Ashraf Howlader, 30, and Babu, 30.

Police sent the outlaws to jail yesterday afternoon, showing them arrested on charge of subversive activities.

Police believe the outlaws came to Khulna from Jessore and Satkhira to carry out another killing.

They said advocate Awami

League leader Manzural Imam murder case may take a new turn with the arrest of the seven BPCP cadres. But police commissioner Bazlur Rahman remained tight-lipped when asked on interrogation of the arrested outlaws.

Our Satkhira Correspondent reported that police arrested a leader of outlawed Biplobi Communist Party (BCP) from a hotel at Radhanagar in Satkhira town on Tuesday.

Abul Kahir, 45, of Parmachkhola village in the Sadar upazila is a leader of BCP and active in Machchakhola-Matiadana area, police said.

Police said that Khair, was wanted in several murder cases and cases of robbery and extortionist, filed with with different thanas in Satkhira. He returned from India recently, police said.

Shamsur Rahman murder case New charge sheet politically motivated, says victim's wife

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Khulna*

Wife of slain Janakantha journalist Shamsur Rahman has submitted a *naraji* petition to the Magistrate's Court against the extended charge sheet in her husband's murder case, saying it is politically motivated.

In her petition submitted on Monday, Selina Akhter Lucky, complainant of the Shamsur Rahman murder case, rejected the new charge sheet submitted on Sunday that included Farazi Ajmal Hossain, senior staff correspondent of the Ittefaq.

Moula Bux, incumbent investigation officer (IO) of the case, did not take her consent before filing the charge sheet and "falsely implicated" Rahman's close friend Farazi to defend the real killers, she alleged in her petition.

Lucky also requested the court to start trial of the case on the basis of the charge sheet submitted by the then IO Dulaluddin Akhand on May 20, 2001.

The court fixed September 27 for hearing of the petition. Hearing on the supplementary charge sheet will be held on September 29, sources said.