

## SNAPS

**Bomb found at under-construction Khulna judge court building**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna  
A powerful hand bomb was recovered from the premises of the under-construction Judge Court building on Tuesday.

It is yet to be detected who hurled the bomb there when masons and day labourers were working.

Earlier on Sunday, a powerful hand grenade was recovered from the premises of CSS-run orphanage Home of Blessings at Sonadanga.

**JCD sweeps CMC polls**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg  
Jatijatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD), student wing of ruling BNP, swept the Chittagong Medical College Students' Union (CMCSU) election, held on Tuesday.

After the election, a 17-member new CMCSU committee was declared with Md Shafiqul Islam and Masud Rana as its Vice President (VP) and General Secretary (GS) respectively.

Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL), student wing of opposition Awami League, boycotted the election.

**SI 'closed' for links with outlaws**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna  
Senior Sub Inspector Nazimuddin of Keshabpur thana has been closed at Jessore police lines and placed under suspension for his connection with outlawed NBCP.

The orders were passed on Monday, Jessore police source said.

NBCP got advance information about police operations from SI Nazimuddin that made police raids futile.

Haider Ali of NBCP, now on remand, told the court of First Class Magistrate Ashake Kumar Devnath that Nazimuddin used to take money from NBCP every month.

**Foundation of Zainul Fine Arts Instt laid**

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Muktagacha

The foundation of Shilpacharya Zainul Abedin Fine Arts Institute (ZAFAI) has been laid at Mashkanda in the district town.

The great artist studied at Mritinoy High School at the district town.

AKM Mosharrif Hossain, State Minister for Energy and Mineral Resources laid the foundation at a simple function on September 18.

Principal Md Abul Quasem, also president of ZAFAI Governing Body, was in the chair at the function.

M y m e n s i n g h Deputy Commissioner Md Safiqul Islam and former BNP MP advocate AFM Nazmul Haque attended the function as special guests.

Speaking on the occasion, Zainul Abidin Tarafder, principal of the ZAFAI said admission at institute will start from this session and 50 students will be admitted to the two-year diploma course on Bachelor of Fine Arts.

**2 Barisal villages disappear in Meghna within week****Hundreds made homeless by massive erosion**

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Two villages disappeared into the mighty Meghna in seven days, making hundreds of people homeless.

Scores of people are coming from different areas to see the unprecedented erosion that washed away at least 900 houses and 300 acres of land.

According to local administration, Union Parishad members and the victims, Nalgora and Goalgar villages in Gobindapur union under Mehendiganj upazila disappeared into the mighty river due to strong

current.

The devoured lands include 200 acres of betel nut garden and 100 acres of cropland.

Once well-to-do farmers, the homeless people are now pauper and at the mercy of others, seeking relief.

At least 290 houses of Bepari Bari, 75 of Dhali Bari, 120 of Howlader Bari, 30 of Mianji Bari, 40 of Abedin Bari, 52 of Majhi Bari, 200 of Lal Colony, 150 of Sheikh Colony and many houses of Sarkar Bari, Dafader Bari, Ullah Bari have been washed away.

Tentulia Government Primary

School is under water and the Meghna is only 200 yards off the Kaliganj bazaar. The bazaar will be washed away within a week, local people said.

A Qawmi madrassah, several mosques and another primary school in the area are threatened, they said.

Fishermen Abul Hossain, farmer Siraj Pahlowan, boatmen Idris Majhi, Dulal, Baset, housewife Noorjahan and many other victims said they became homeless more than once in recent years due to river erosion but received no relief

from the government or any NGO.

The victims have demanded their permanent rehabilitation elsewhere.

The homeless people have taken shelter on roads, embankments and at educational institutions and are without food, drinking water and other basic necessities. They have no work.

Mehendiganj UNO Md Helal Uddin and upazila BNP president Syed Rafiqul Islam Labu visited the area and distributed some money among the victims.



Furious Meghna devouring villages one after another in Mehendiganj (left) and people made shelterless by the river under the open sky near the river bank (right).

**Diarrhoea: Two die, 200 attacked in Lalmonirhat**

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

Diarrhoea killed two children and attacked about 200 people in the Sadar, Kaliganj and Hatibandha upazilas in the last five days.

Health officials said Sagor, 8, son of Meher Ali of Khedabag village under the Sadar upazila died on Friday and Harun, 10, son of Badar Uddin of Rameswar village under Kaligonj upazila died on Saturday.

Most of the about 200 people afflicted with the disease are children, they said.

Five diarrhoea patients from Sinduma and Patikapara villages under Hatibandha upazila are now under treatment at the upazila health complex. They are Mamun (6), Sabuj (9), Radesh (16), Nirmon (20), Halim (5) and Rumi (12).

Medical teams are working in the affected areas, the health officials said.

**He can make powerful bomb in 2 minutes!**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Notorious criminal Nahid Hossain, 24, arrested from Moullovipara on Sunday night, has told police that he can make a powerful hand bomb in one or two minutes if the situation favours.

Police said Nahid is a ringleader of an organised gang of bomb makers.

Police said 175 grams of Potash, 70 grams of Sulphur and other ingredients required for making high-powered bomb were recovered from his possession.

Nahid confessed to police about making bombs on payment by criminals.

Police said Nahid is a skilled bomb maker. He has given important information about persons who financed him and placed order for making bombs.

**One killed in Barisal fire**

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

One person was burnt to death and four others were injured in a devastating fire at Nathullabad central bus terminal in the city on Monday night that gutted 14 shops and a boarding house.

The dead was identified as Syed Abdul Hamid, 53, son of Syed Shamsuzzoha of Baliadi in Mirzapur in Tagail district. He came to Barisal for business and was staying at the Neon Boarding.

His burned body found from the gutted Nayan Boarding.

Two of the injured Firoz, 32 and Mamun, 22, were treated at a local clinic.

Fire fighters from Barisal city and Jhalakati put out the fire after two hours' frantic efforts.

Eyewitnesses said the fire originated from an unauthorised battery charging shop of the terminal.

**Supporters on rampage after Khulna city BNP leader's arrest**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Nazrul Islam Babu, BNP president at ward no. 25 was arrested early Tuesday morning from his residence.

Sonadanga thana officer-in-charge said Babu has been arrested at the instruction of the BNP central high command.

He is accused of extortion, tender scandals and illegal occupation of fish farms, police said.

The BNP leader was maintaining a strong lobby with top outlaws of Dumuria and Batiaghata upazilas in doing misdeeds.

Besides, the four persons arrested

on Monday with 8,40,000 Indian rupees named Babu as an accomplice in hundi business, police said.

After his arrest, his supporters damaged five buses, put up barricades on Khulna-Satkhira highway and pelted stones at Sonadanga thana building Tuesday noon.

Police swung into action and dispersed the protesters.

Babu was sent to Jail Tuesday afternoon.

The city BNP faction led by its secretary Nazrul Islam Manju demanded unconditional release of Babu.

**Arrest warrant against former OC for death in custody**

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

A court here has issued warrants of arrest against former officer-in-charge of Kaligonj thana and a housewife in connection with the death of a man in police custody in 2001.

The warrants have been issued against the former OC Ershadul Bari Chowdhury and Anjali Rani Mondal, wife of Biswanath Mondol, the victim.

Biswanath Mondol of Ghona village in Shyamnagar upazila was arrested from his father-in-law's house at Damrail village on July 30, 2001, allegedly in collaboration with his wife Anjali in connection with a 'false case'.

It is alleged that the then OC

Ershadul Bari Chowdhury tortured him that led to his death. Bari hails from Kishoreganj.

Sources said order was given to the Kishoreganj Police Superintendent for taking necessary action.

The victim's father, Judhithir Mondal, filed a case with a First Class Magistrate's court on August 5, 2001 accusing Bari and Anjali.

The magistrate court sent the case for judicial inquiry.

The arrest warrants were issued after the judicial inquiry report was submitted to the court on September 18, which accused the former OC of Kaligonj thana for the Biswanath Mondol's death.

**Demand for re-excavation of Kobodak  
Hundreds join march, rally at Satkhira**

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

People brought out a big procession in the town, staged a sit-in in front of the Deputy Commissioner's office and held a rally demanding government steps to re-excavate the Kobodak river passing through Satkhira and Jessore districts.

After the rally, a memorandum addressed to the Prime Minister was handed over to the DC.

The programmes were organised by the Kobodak Protection Action Committee.

Hundreds of people of all walks of life joined the procession and paraded the main streets of the town carrying banners and chanting slogans to save the river, a lifeline for the two districts.

Anil Biswas, convenor, of the committee, presided over the rally. It was addressed by, among others, advocate Mostofa Lulfulah, Iqbal Kabir Zahid, Azizur Rahman, Prof Sabir Hossain Prof Rafiqul Islam, Chairman Tapan Saha, Shahajahan Ali, Mofizul Haq and Ebadul Haq.

The speakers said once mighty Kobodak is now being silted, depriving the people of livelihood and creating pollution.

The river dies up in the winter affecting irrigation and floods Tala, Kalaroa, Assassumi and Sadar Upazilas in Satkhira district and Keshabpur, Manirampur and Jhikargachcha upazilas in Jessore.

The speakers urged the government to re-excavate the river to save the people.



Joining hands to empower rural women ... Interspeed Rural (IR), multinational company Lever Brothers and JAKAS (Jatiya Kallyan Sangstha) a local NGO, will work together to empower rural women in Joypurhat. Photo shows officials of IR and JAKAS after a recent ceremony at JAKAS office at Joypurhat.