

SNAPS

3 killed in road mishaps in Satkhira

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

Two persons were killed and three others injured seriously in two road accidents on Thursday.

Hanif Munshi, 50, of Laxmidari village in the Sadar upazila and an unidentified man were killed when a microbus hit their rickshaw van at Bhomra land port.

The injured are van driver Haizul Islam, 15 and Abdus Samad of Mahmudpur village and microbus driver Sumon of Kamal Nagar village in the Sadar upazila.

The injured were admitted to Satkhira Sadar Hospital.

In the other accident, an unidentified man was killed when a pick-up van collided with a bus at Hadipur in Debhata upazila on the Satkhira-Kaligonj road.

Six 'wanted criminals' held in Rajshahi

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Police in a pre-dawn raid in different areas of the city on Thursday arrested six persons wanted in cases filed with different thanas.

Tipped off, Rajpara thana OC Fayezer Rahman conducted the raid and arrested Obaidul Islam, Rabbel, Bakul, Shahidul, Amirul and Azfar Hossain alias Mitku.

They were wanted in cases filed for extortion and other crimes, police said.

BNP forms new units in Bheramara, Mirpur

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

Ruling BNP formed new units of the party in Mirpur and Bheramara upazilas at separate conventions held recently.

Mamunur Rasul Khan Babu and Abdur Haq were elected president and general secretary respectively of the Mirpur unit.

The party unit in Bheramara has been formed with Sibahul Islam and advocate Towhidul Islam Alam as president and general secretary respectively. Bheramara municipal committee of the party has been formed with Enamul Haq Master and Amjad Hossain as president and general secretary.

30 makers of powerful bombs in Khulna city!

They can make bombs in less than 5 minutes for political godfathers, extremists, says DB report to KMP Commissioner

QUAZI AMANULLAH, Khulna

There are at least 30 criminals in Khulna city who are experts in making powerful bombs in less than five minutes.

They are divided into three tiers. Political godfathers and notorious extremists hire them on payment.

Sometimes they are forced at gunpoint to make bombs.

But the bomb-makers are not used for hurling those.

These horrifying information have been collected by a five-member Detective Branch team of Khulna Metropolitan Police (KMP)

who are now engaged in locating bomb-makers and their hideouts. They started their probe on September 9.

The team has arrested three bomb-makers, but are yet to identify their financiers and political godfathers.

The team has given a report to the KMP Commissioner.

When asked, the Police Commissioner said he has no doubt that there are some clandestine places in the city for making bombs, as stated in the report.

The report is being checked and re-checked, he said.

According to investigation team,

Bagrama, West Bania Khamar, Tootpara, Dolakhola, Mia Para, Moulvipara and Darogapara are some of the bomb-makers hideouts.

Nahid who was arrested from Moulavipara on Sunday last with bomb-making ingredients told police that an organised group of 25 or 30 young boys between 20 and 25 years are involved in this crime.

Nahid said he was paid Tk 300 to Tk 400 for making a bomb weighing 200 to 300 grams.

"I am only a maker but not thrower", he said admitting to police that bombs used for recent murders were made by him and others of the gang.

"We make bombs as per orders from extremists and political godfathers", Nahid said during interrogation.

According to Nahid's confession to Khulna thana police, ingredients are brought from India through unauthorised routes.

Besides, Sulphur, an important bomb-making ingredient, is procured mostly from match factories on secret payments.

Nahid and two of his arrested accomplices told police that they were frequently given death threats for refusing to make bombs. He said they wanted to return to normal life but could not due to threats.

OC never betrayed me in passing info on police raid

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

NBCP outlaw Haider Ali has been taken on three days remand for the second time.

During interrogation he told police that he used to supply women to former OC of Keshabpur thana Hemayetuddin to get rid of police action against him and other NBCP armed cadres.

"I had to do this so that police do

not disturb me. Apart from entertaining OC Hemayet with whores, I used to give him money every month through SI Nazimuddin", Haider Ali said.

"OC Hemayet never betrayed in passing advance information to me through SI Nazim about police operation which helped me go into hiding with my arms", Haider Ali said.

He also confessed to his involve-

ment in the abduction and murder of Krishak Sangram Samity leader Govinda Sarker of Keshabpur for giving shelter to BCP cadre Akbar Hossain Aka.

Govinda Sarker was abducted from his house at Krishnanagar village under Keshabpur thana and gunned down at Khuksia village in July this year.

Haider Ali also told police during interrogation that.

Rashida rape, murder Warrant against two docs, OC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

The Divisional Speedy Trial Tribunal (STT), Chittagong has issued warrants against two doctors and one police official for their appearance before it for hearing of Rashida Akter rape and murder case.

Judge M Hasan Imam issued the warrant on Wednesday against Shafiuzzaman, the then IO of the case and now officer-in-charge (OC) of Daudkandi police station; Dr Nurul Islam, assistant professor of forensic department at Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) and Dr Raihan of Comilla Hospital.

The warrants were issued as they did not appear before the tribunal despite three consecutive summons, court sucrose said.

The warrants, to be served through the DIG (Deputy Inspector General of police) concerned, directed the authorities for producing the three persons before the court by September 29, they said.

Rashida Akter, 15, a student of a Dhakhil Madarassah in Mohonpur under Chandina upazila in Comilla, was picked by four criminals when she went out of her house on nature's call at around 11 PM on May 22 last year.

They took her to a nearby jute field and raped her. As Rashida recognised them, they torched her body by pouring kerosene.

Rashida was admitted to Comilla hospital with critical burn-injuries.

She made a statement (dying declaration) to on-duty physician Dr Raihan on the next day (May 23, 2002).

As her condition deteriorated, Rashida was shifted to DMCH where she died on May 27, 2002.

Autopsy of her body was done by DMCH assistant professor of forensic medicine Dr. Nurul Islam.

Rashida's brother filed a case with Chandina police accusing four persons.

The accused are Akram Hossain Ripon, Md Jamal Hossain, Md Kaoser and Md Golam Dostogir Khokon.

The case was under trial in Comilla District Judge's Court.

Three murder cases sent to Barisal STT

Review body orders quick probe into 6 others

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Three sensational murder cases in the district have been sent to the Barisal Divisional Speedy Trial Tribunal (STT) and more six will be sent after filing charge sheets.

Decisions about the cases were taken at a meeting of the review committee, held at the Deputy Commissioner's office recently.

The three cases are in connection with the murder of Abul Hossain Pahlowan (GR No. 186/02) in Bakerganj on October 13, the double murder of Drowpadi and Jhantu in the same upazila on July 19 and the murders of Abdul Khalek, Abdus Salam, Sohrab and a woman on July 6 in Babuganj upazila last year.

The meeting asked police to immediately submit charge sheets of the cases.

It also decided that six other murder cases would be sent to the STT quickly after investigation and submission of charge sheets.

The six cases are in connection with Mukta Khanam murder (case no. GR 35/02) at Bagdha under Agailjhara upazila, businessman

Azhar Gazi murder (case no. 158/02) at Kawnia in Barisal city on March 7 last year, polytechnic student Gaib murder (case no. 458/02) at Barisal Polytechnic Institute staff quarter on July 4 last year, Union Parishad member Alauddin murder (case no. 96/02) in Agailjhara, murders of Sharbahara Abdul Hakim and rickshawpuller Abdul Khalek (case no. 450/02) at Raipasha Karapur in Barisal city on June 28 last year and madrassah teacher Mufti Giasuddin murder (case no. 415/03) at Khaza Mainuddin Madrasa staff quarter in the city on August 4 this year.

The review committee expressed its dissatisfaction over delay in investigation and failure to arrest the accused in the murder cases.

With DC Sheikh Abul Kalam in the chair, the meeting was attended by and D M Barisal and attended by ADM Syed Ahsanul Huq, Additional S P Ranjit Kumar Sarkar, Public Prosecutor Kamrul Ahsan Shahin, Special P P for STT Majibur Rahman Nantu, Civil Surgeon's representative Dr Abdus Sattar and Court Inspector Kazi Moklesur Rahman.

Rally held protesting land-grabbing in Barisal

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

At least 500 people held a rally at Torki Bandar in Gournadi on Wednesday protesting land-grabbing by some influential persons in the area through fake documents.

Three influential persons in the area are grabbing lands in Torik Char and Sundardi Mouzas by preparing false documents in connivance with a section of corrupt officials, speakers at the rally said.

Many people have been victimised by this gang. They are even grabbing lands of educational and religious institutional, they said.

The rally was addressed by Shahjahan Sharif, Kazi Abdus Salam president and secretary of the Torki Bandar Bonik Samity; advocate Gofran Shah, local BNP leaders Shahbub Sharif Barhti and Malek Sarder; Jobo Dal leader Zakir Hossain Sharif, former Union Parishad member Shahe Alam Khan and Abdus Sattar Molla.

They said the land-grabbers maintain a gang of criminals and so the affected people can not resist them.

They demanded steps by the authorities for return of the grabbed lands to their owners and action against the gang.



PHOTO: ANWAR ALI

Flooded Char Nabinagar on the outskirts of Rajshahi city after Thursday's downpour (left) and cattleheads shifted to a flood control dam on the southern bank of the Padma (right). The photos were taken yesterday.

One lakh marooned in Rajshahi shoals

Food and drinking water crisis, no relief

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

The flood situation in Rajshahi and Chapainawabganj districts remained static yesterday but low-lying areas of the city and its outskirts were inundated following Thursday's downpour.

The meteorological office here recorded 106.2 mm rainfall during the 12 hours till 6pm Thursday evening.

The inundated areas in the city include Shaheb Bazar, Kumarpara, Fudkipara, Pathanpara, Malopara, Shastitala, Sultanabad, Sherol, Boalia, Hetom Khan, Uposahar, Bhadra and Ramchandrapur.

Shaheb Bazar areas went under two feet water.

Water entered most of the shops and houses in those areas. Stagnant water created long traffic jams on most of the city thoroughfares.

Sarit Dutt Gupta, chief engineer of Rajshahi City Corporation (RCC), The daily Star that the inundation in the city resulted from choking of drains at Terokhadia and Bhadra points.

"Efforts are on way to clear the drainage system", Gupta said.

The major rivers -- Padma and Mohananda have started falling but are flowing above their danger

marks, Water Development Board sources said.

The flood affected people in Rajshahi who took shelter on high lands alleged that they were not getting any relief.

More than one lakh people are marooned in the char areas of the Padma, where acute crisis of food, drinking water and fodder in prevailing.

Curunupnagar, Devinagar, Alatuli, Shahjahanpur, Islampur, Charbagdanga, Noraganpur and Sundarpur under the Sadar upazila and Panka, Durlawpur, Monakasha and Uzipur under Shibganj upazila are the worst affected unions.

There is hardly any dry land in these areas.

Talking to this correspondent, 73-year-old Abdur Rahman said, "Padma has taken away all my 20 bighas of land. I am now a pauper."

He said he got no relief so far. Enamul Hoque of Namobaidanapur talked with this correspondent from the rooftop of his thatched house. He said he his family members eat once a day. "I got 12 kgs of rice 12 days ago".

Israil, who lost his homestead to the Padma took shelter on the riverbank along with his eight-member family eight days ago, but got no relief so far.



PHOTO: STAR

Students of Shahjalal University of Science and Technology (SUST) on Wednesday formed a human chain in Court Point area of Sylhet city to press their demand for starting first year classes.

Meeting on Puja held at Narsingdi DC office

BSS, Narsingdi

A preparatory meeting was held at the conference room of the Deputy Commissioner on Monday to celebrate the Durga Puja in a befitting manner.

Local MP Shamsuddin Ahmed Esak was the chief guest at the meeting while DC Kazi Akhtar Hossain was in the chair.

President of Narsingdi District Puja Ujjapan Committee Prof Ahi Bhusan Chakrabarti, its secretary Ranjit Kumar Shaha and committee leaders from Shibpur, Belabo, Raipura, Jammata-e-Islam district Amir Abdus Satter, Police Superintendent Mokhesur Rahman and general manager of Pally Bidyut Abdur Razzak, among others, attended the meeting.

Two killers to die, another gets life term

STAR NATIONAL DESK

Two killers were sentenced to death by two courts in Habiganj and Netrakona while another killer was awarded life term by a court in Bogra.

A Habiganj Correspondent reported that District and Sessions Judge AKM Ishtiaque Hussain on Wednesday awarded death sentence to Rabi Munda for killing Nandalal Zhora at Nalua tea estate under Chunarughat upazila on May 29, 2000.

BSS reported from Netrakona that District and Sessions Judge Mainul Islam Chowdhury sentenced Shukchand alias Batum, 25, to death court on Wednesday for killing a minor boy.

Shukchand of village Nowanagar under Netrakona Sadar had strangled Abdul Haque, 7, son of Fazlul Haque of the same village after torturing him sexually on June 8, 2001 in a jute field.

BSS reported from Bogra that Additional District and Sessions Judge Khandker Emdadul Hasan on Tuesday sentenced two persons to life term imprisonment for killing a baby.

The convicts are Rashed Miah,

son of Abdur Mannan and Manik Miah son of Fazlur Rahman of village Chalkpara under Shibganj upazila.

Rashed and Manik called Munira, 8, daughter of Abdur Malek of the same village from her house and strangled her in a room on December 21, 1997. At night they threw the body in a pond.

Rangamati Pahari Chhatra Parishad body formed

BSS, Rangamati

A 21-member district committee of Pahari Chhatra Parishad (PCP) was formed in its 8th conference here recently.

Ashim Chakma and Tulu Marma were elected president and general secretary respectively of the committee, a PCP press release said.

A total of 97 representatives of the organisation and 61 'observers' from different upazilas and unions attended the conference, held at the Rangamati Pourasabha auditorium.