

SNAPS

Drama group celebrates Silver Jubilee

A RU CORRESPONDENT

Anushilon, a drama group of Rajshahi University (RU) staged its 43rd production 'Bohay Prantojon' at kazi Nazrul Islam auditorium on Monday.

The drama group was celebrating its silver jubilee on the campus.

Indian drama critic Nipendra Shah and Indian dramatist Chandan Shah attended the programme.

RU Anushilon Drama Group was established in 1979 and performed at different places at home and abroad.

Seven listed criminals held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT,

Khulna

The joint forces on Monday arrested seven listed criminals from the metropolitan city.

The arrested are Wahid Murad Manu, 32, Shahidul Islam, 24, Murad Manu, 32, Shahidul Islam, 24, Asaduzzaman Ripon, 30, Kamrul Islam, 25, Ishaqua Khan Babu, 30, Honda Mazed, 24, and Abdullah, 22.

302 attacked with diarrhoea in Mymensingh, Satkhira

STAR NATIONAL DESK

Three hundred two persons have been attacked with diarrhoea in Mymensingh and Satkhira district in the last several days.

Our Mymensingh Correspondent reported that 152 diarrhoea patients have been admitted at SK Hospital, a mission hospital for treatment of diarrhoea patients here within nine days from October 10 onward.

Of them, 12 patients got admitted on October 10, 11 patients on Oct 11, 22 patients on October 12, 18 patients on October 13, 28 patients on October 14, 22 patients on October 15, 14 patients on October 16, 13 patients on October 17 and 12 patients on October 18.

Dr Md Abdul Kader, Medical officer-in-Charge of the hospital told this correspondent supply of intravenous (IV) saline is inadequate in the hospital.

One hundred twenty bags of saline are needed whereas there is

a supply is 70 bags only, Dr Kader told The Daily Star adding that no death case was reported here in last two months.

However, the rush of patients has increased in recent days in different upazila health complexes and SK hospital.

According to Civil Surgeon (CS) office sources, 8,562 people were attacked with diarrhoea in August while about the same number of patients were also attacked in September. But the report on the number of patients upto October 15, was not available in the CS office.

Dr Md Mahmeed Hossain, CS of Mymensingh told the Daily Star that 152 medical teams are working in the district.

Our Satkhira Correspondent reported that over 150 people have been attacked with diarrhoea and other intestinal diseases as an acute scarcity of pure drinking water prevails in the flood-affected areas in the district.

Heavy downpour and surging water from the Kabodak have caused flood inundated 15 villages in four unions.

About 12,000 people in Dera Jugikhali, Joyanagar and Jalabad unions in Kalaroa upazila have been marooned for the last 15 days as rain water and surging water of the Kabodak remain stagnant in the low lying areas.

More than 500 flood-affected families have taken shelter in schools and madrassahs and on high lands, according to official source.

Crisis of food and drinking water is prevailing in the areas, flood victims said. The inundated villages are Khanpara, Kashiadanga, Sardarpara, Kamarpara, Jugikhali, Khetrapara, Dashiadanga, Malopara, Karikarpara, Gazipara. The areas have gone under four to five feet water. Waters have entered in most of the houses while shops, two primary schools and five madrassahs in these areas. The

KhordoPakuria road has become unfit for plying vehicles as the road went under three to four feet water. Now country boats are plying on the road.

Flood waters have damaged over 750 kutcha houses and 215 shops and completely paralysed life in the area. Flood has damaged aman crop and vegetables on over 2100 acres and 217 acres of land respectively in the area, according to sources in the Agriculture Department.

The flood-affected people are not getting relief, it has been widely alleged. They remain starved or half-fed, a flood victim named Shahar Banu 65, of Dera alleged.

An acute crisis of fodder is prevailing in the area. It is apprehended that Kalaroa, Jala and sadar upazilas in Satkhira district and Keshabpur, Mauirampur and Jhikargacha upazilas in Jessore district may face a devastating flood this year as the Kabodak flowing from India are swelling.



PHOTO: ANWAR ALI

Potholes and cracks have developed at many points on the Rajshahi-Tanore Road due to stagnant rain waters. Because of 'fund crisis' the authorities concerned are carpeting the road with bricks, but it does not work as hundreds of light and heavy vehicles ply along the road.

14 pirates along with ring leader caught

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Srajganj

Fourteen pirates with their ring leader Joyen Uddin were caught by the Chowhali and Enayetpur thana police on Sunday.

Police arrested them with the help of people from Duler Char in the Jamuna. Police said a gang of cattle traders along with cattle left Nowhata shoal to Mona Koshaghat under Shahjapur upazila with an engine boat.

When the cattle loaded engine boat reached the spot then a gang of pirates fired blank shots at about 9-30 am on the day.

Another two engine boats with villagers resisted the pirates. Chased and counter chase took place between pirates and villagers. At one stages police came to the spot and caught all the 14 pirates with their ring leader.

A case has been lodged with Chowhali police station.



PHOTO: STAR

Fourteen pirates who were nabbed by the Chowhali and Enayetpur thana police with the help of people at Duler Char in the Jamuna river on Sunday are seen with their ring leader Joyen Uddin.

Life term RI for 2 murderers in Moulvibazar

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

Two persons were awarded life term Rigorous Imprisonment (RI) in two separate murder cases recently.

Masud Rana Chowdhury, son of Mohiuddin Chowdhury of village Bhabanipur under Baralekha was awarded life term RI and fined Tk 10,000, in default to suffer six months more RI.

Mujahar Hussain, District and Sessions Judge, Moulvibazar delivered the judgement on October 11.

In another murder case the judge sentenced Badul Miah, son of Md Idon Ullah of village Hilalpur under Moulvibazar Sadar upazila to suffer life term RI on charge of killing one woman. The convict was also fined Tk 5,000, in default, to suffer five months more RI.

Babul Miah entered the house of Rezia Begum, wife of a Kuwait expatriate at village Hilalpur and stabbed her to death on May 22, 1996.

Ban on Hilsa fishing in four rivers underway

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

The government has a plan to completely ban fishing of Hilsa for three years in four rivers of the southern region.

The move would be undertaken to save Hilsa from the clutch of unscrupulous fishermen.

The Hilsa, Meghna and Bishkhali and Padma rivers of Barisal, Bhola, Patuakhali and Barguna, Munshiganj, Chandpur and Laxmipur region would be declared as sanctuaries of Hilsa fish.

The actual date of its implementation is yet to be fixed after approval by the ministries con-

cerned.

Special grants, facilities and alternative employment opportunities would be provided to the affected and unemployed Hilsa fishermen under the fourth fisheries planning of the government.

The local fisheries directorate told this correspondent that the government has taken up the plan after being failed to stop fishing of 'Jatka', under size fry.

A 'Hilsa Management Action Plan' has been prepared and sent to the ministry concerned.

Random fishing of 'Jatka' goes on in the Hilsa breeding season creating an acute scarcity of the fish.

Police chase alleged 2 motor cyclists killed in road mishap

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

Two motor cyclists were killed on the spot when their motorbike collided with a passenger bus on Sunday evening.

According to sources, the victims, Osman 25 and Md Shahin 28 were riding a newly purchased motor bike having no registration. When police sergeant at Paksey Ghat challenged the motorists they could not show any valid documents.

It is also alleged that the police sergeant had demanded bribe from the youngsters who refused to pay and had fled the scene.

On being chased the victims sped away on Pabna-Iswardi highway. The accident happened at Krihnadiar village when the motorcyclist hit a passenger bus coming from Kushtia Aram Paribahan.

30 injured in Magura in AL-BNP clash

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Magura

At least 30 people were injured, 10 of them seriously in a clash between two rival groups at village Pathorghata in Haripur union of Magura Sadar upazila on Tuesday morning.

Police and locals said, supporters of ruling BNP backed Union Parishad chairman Abul Kashem and former chairman of the union, AL leader Looftar Rahman locked in a clash over establishment of their supremacy in the area that began at around 5-30 am and continued till 7 am.

Both the feuding sides used lethal weapons during the clash.

At one stage they went on rampage and five houses were destroyed in the attacks and counter attacks, witnesses said.

On information police from the local camp rushed to the spot.

Seriously injured Salam Molla 45, Akseid Mian, 60, Bulbul, 35, Bashimuddin, 20, Rezaul, 23, Golapi Begum 40, Wahab Zoander 32, Afan Zoardep 24, Alimuzzaman, 40, and Kamal Zoander were admitted to Magura Sadar Hospital.

No case was lodged till fill of this report at 12-30 pm on Monday.

Extension plan of Barisal airport

Landowners building houses on agri lands to get compensation

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

People have constructed many houses overnight near the airport, on the outskirts of Barisal town, in the hope of getting more compensation money from the authorities concerned who have a plan for acquisition of land needed to extend the runway.

When this correspondent visited the area he came to know from the inhabitants that the government had a plan to extend the present 6,000 feet runway of the Barisal Airport.

The extension is needed to clear the runway and accommodating operation of the wide-bodied aircraft.

A proposal for acquisition of land for extension of the airport with maps and drawings of the area has already been sent to the department concerned.

When the local land owners came to know about the plan they began to create residential quarters overnight on the agricultural lands, even on marshy land with a hope of getting more compensation money. However, there is no sanitation, water supply facilities and link roads et cetera in the area.

Local administration told this correspondent that the compensation money of the acquired lands would be given according to the land revenue records and maps and the newly-constructed structures would not be included for payment at higher rates.

Corrupted staffs of the airport are

reportedly linked with such construction work and they collected money from the landowners. They also allured them to give more money to them.

RUVC's driver stabbed for protesting act of extortionists

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Miscreants stabbed the driver of Rajshahi University (RU) vice chancellor's (VC) vehicle who protested the act of extortion at his sister's hostel on Monday.

Rahmat Hossain, the driver was admitted to Rajshahi Medical College Hospital with critical injury.

Ten miscreants demanded a 'handsome toll' from Rahmat's sister who runs a female hostel in her house at Meherchandia area.

Meanwhile, on October 14, the miscreants forcibly entered into the hostel and caught a couple, police said.

However, Rahmat was stabbed during an altercation between the miscreants and Rahmat over their demand.

Rahmat's brother Abdur Razzak filed a case in this regard accusing 11 persons.

Police arrested Kalu and Jahangir among the accused.