

SNAPS

Acid attack

UNB, Kishoreganj

A man sustained serious burn injuries in an acid attack by miscreants at Charpara village in Karimganj upazila on Friday night.

Witnesses said culprits hurled acid at Abdur Razzak, 55, following a previous enmity, when he was returning home after offering 'Tarabi' prayers at about 9pm.

He was rushed to the Karimganj Upazila Health Complex and later shifted him to the Sadar hospital in a critical condition.

Loan for the disabled

UNB, Faridpur

Interest free loan amounting to Tk 2.82 lakh was disbursed among 28 disabled people here to take up income generating schemes.

The Social Welfare Department disbursed the loan at Shilpakala Academy Auditorium here on Friday.

Twenty two poor farmers and small traders got Tk one lakh, nine female entrepreneurs got Tk 38,000 and nine clubs got nine sewing machines.

Two 'followers' of Charmonai Pir held on snatching charge

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Police have arrested two 'followers' of Charmonai Pir for allegedly snatching money and a licensed pistol from a local BNP leader on Tuesday.

Arrested Abdul Berek and Harun Bepari are among 22 accused in the case filed by the BNP leader -- Abdus Salam Rarifor chairman of Charmonai Union Parishad. Harun is a student of Charmonai Madrassah and Berek is an inhabitant of the village.

The accused include four sons of Charmonai Pir, Charmonai UP Chairman Syed Rezaul Karim, his brothers Syed Faizul Karim, Syed Ziaul Karim and Syed Mosaddek Billah and some other relatives and followers of the Pir.

In the case, the BNP leader alleged that they snatched money and a loaded revolver and assaulted him at Biswaser Hat mosque when he was presiding over a meeting of the mosque committee Tuesday evening.

The Charmonai UP Chairman denied the allegation and said as per rule, UP Chairman is the president of the Masjid Committee and when he went there Salam Rari left the place. Charmonai Pir Syed Fazlul Karim who is

also chairman of Islamic Shashontantric Andolon (Islamic Constitutional Movement) said filing of the case is a conspiracy against his family and followers. He demanded withdrawal of the case.

UNESCO DG visits Paharpur Bouddha Bihar

UNB, Naogaon

Visiting Director General (DG) of the UNESCO Koichiro Matsuura visited historic Paharpur Bouddha Bihar at Badalgachi here on Saturday.

Education Minister Dr M Osman Faruk, Cultural Affairs Secretary Modabbir Hossain, wives of UNESCO DG and Education Minister and high officials of local administration were present.

On his arrival at the historic site, hundreds of students from different schools welcomed Koichiro Matsuura with flower petals and bouquets.

Diarrhoea kills 10 in two days in Netrakona

39 die, 8676 attacked in a month

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Netrakona

The diarrhoea situation in Netrakona turned alarming with the death of 10 people on Friday and Saturday.

A total of 712 people have been attacked with the disease in ten upazilas of the district in the two days, sources at the Civil Surgeon's office said.

In last one month, 39 people died and 8676 were attacked with diarrhoea in the district, they said.

Of the dead, three each were in Kalmakanda, Durgapur and the Sadar upazilas; four each in Atpara, Madan, Mohanganj, Barhatta, Purbadhala and Kendua and six in Khaliajuri upazila.

The attacked people include 905 in

Kalmakanda, 813 in Durgapur, 714 in Atpara, 809 in Khaliajuri, 840 in Madan, 912 in Mohonganj, 703 in Sadar, 521 in Barhatta, 1019 in Purbadhala and 1440 in Kendua upazila in last one month.

Civil Surgeon office sources said 97 medical teams are working in the affected areas.

During a visit to Netrakona Sadar Hospital and Kalmakanda and Atpara health complexes on Saturday, this correspondent saw miserable condition of the hospitals.

Doctors there said supply of intravenous (IV) saline was inadequate.

Many patients were seen purchasing saline from outside.

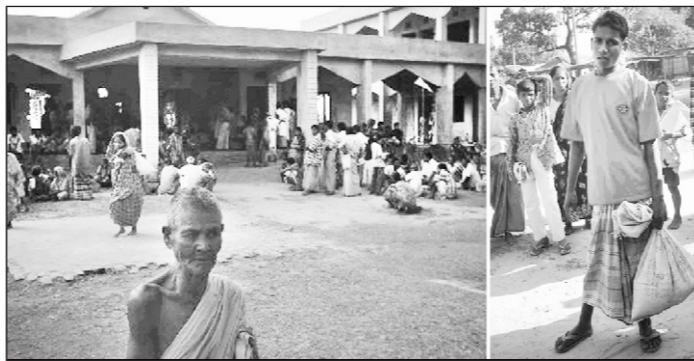


PHOTO: STAR

Foul play with people's misery: (Left) Bhuttori, a needy old woman, was deprived while (right) landowner and vegetable vendor Nazmul got 10 kg VGF rice at Chowra Baragachha distribution centre in the Sadar upazila on Saturday.

Irregularity in VGF rice supply

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Nilphamari

Irregularity and malpractice in distribution of relief rice have been alleged from different munga-affected areas despite government's stern warning and presence of a high official to oversee the operation.

Last Thursday was fixed for distribution of rice against VGF (Vulnerable Group Feeding) cards in Itakhola, Ramnagar Kundopukur and Charaikhola unions in the Sadar upzila.

At Itakhola, when distribution of VGF rice was going on, hundreds of deprived people were seen staging a demonstration. They made several attempts to enter the Union Parishad by breaking the security cordon. But the UP chairman's musclemen stopped them by force.

Talking to this correspondent, some of the demonstrators alleged that the

chairman sold 200 VGF cards out of 500 to VGF card traders.

Octogenarian Gilo Begum of Singdoi village alleged that she went to UP chairman for a VGF card but UP member Surot Ali drove her away.

In late afternoon, the agitated people got hold of six sacks of VGF rice which were being taken from the distribution centre to an undisclosed place. But a Gram Sarkar member Kaosar of Ward No. 4 intervened and took away the sacks.

UP member Mominur and the Gram Sarkar member had hot exchange of words at the corridor of the UP office over alleged sharing VGF rice.

Additional Secretary Badiur Rahman of relief ministry is in Nilphamari to oversee the relief operation.

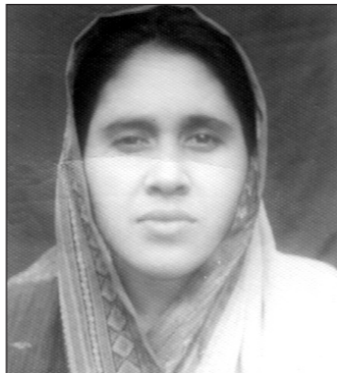
He said it is impossible for one person to check irregularities.

Parul Akteri elected Manikdaha UP chairman

STAR NATIONAL DESK

Parul Akteri Begum was elected unanimously the chairman of Manikdaha Union Parishad (UP) under Bhanga upazila in Faridpur recently.

This was declared officially on



PARUL AKTERI BEGUM

October 26.

Parul is the widow of slain popular chairman of the same UP, AKM Sahed Ali Mia who was elected chairman for three consecutive terms, says a press release.

Criminals shot and chopped him to death on September 25 night while he was on way home from Kalibari bazaar by a rickshaw van. They killed him because during his tenure he resisted and successfully stopped acts of terrorism, murder, rape, armed robbery, trade of illegal drugs and narcotics including all kinds of unauthorised anti-social activities with iron fist.

Following his unnatural death thousands of people in the area organised a grand rally protesting the killing at Kalibari bazaar field on September 28. They demanded culprits' death. The rally announced Parul Akteri the chairman of Manikdaha UP.

After the election procedures of by-polls, the Election Commission (EC) announced her the elected chairman of Manikdaha UP.

SUST takes action against JCD leader

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet.

The Proctorial Committee of Shahjalal University of Science & Technology (SUST) will file a case against SUST unit JCD President Reza Sharif Kamal for giving death threat to the committee chief and Student Welfare Advisor Dr Sajedul Karim.

The committee at a meeting on Friday also decided to that neither the varsity office nor the department concerned would issue testimonial to Kamal. It also demanded other punitive actions against him.

Dr. Karim on Thursday lodged a written complaint to Acting Vice-Chancellor Prof Moshleh Uddin Ahmed that Kamal gave him a death threat on mobile phone earlier on the day.

Kamal was earlier expelled from the party, but he managed a comeback.

4 given 14 yrs RI for acid attack

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

The Special Tribunal here has given 14 years' RI to four persons and fined them Tk 25000 each for acid attack on a woman and her minor son at a village in Barguna in September last year.

Judge S K M Anisur Rahman Khan handed down the punishment to Nasir (absconding), Harun Chowkidar, Ansar and Emdadul Huq of Baaterfal village. They threw acid on Halima and her son Hasib of the same village out of previous enmity.

The fine will be given to the victims.

Halima's husband Bashar filed a case with Pathorghata thana.

'Bring the doc back to Chuadanga'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chuadanga

A big public meeting was held at the Bara Bazar here on Saturday protesting the threat that compelled a reputed doctor to leave Chuadanga.

Dr. Nurul Islam, consultant physi-

cian on medicine at the Sadar Hospital, left the town on November 11 in the face of death threat by anonymous callers over mobile phone.

People of all sections joined the public meeting, presided over by Dr

Hirok.

The speakers protested the threats and urged the authorities concerned to bring the doctor back to Chuadanga and to ensure security.

They also demanded action against the culprits who threatened the doctor.