

SNAPS

Tigers kill 3 fishermen

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira
Three fishermen were killed by tigers in the Sundarbans in three days.
Quoting eye witnesses police said, Motaleb Ali, 24, son of Adar Ali of Kadamtala village, Shahar Ali, 34, son of Asgar Ali of Sora village and Abdul Gaffar Gazi, son of Omed Ali of Kaikhali village in Shyamnagar upazila were catching fish in Firingimari, Dingimari and Ulokhai canals in the Sundarbans on November 12, 13, and 15 when Royal Bengal tigers swooped and killed them. Later, villagers recovered their bodies.

2 youths caught, pipe gun recovered

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet
Two young men were caught and a pipe gun was recovered from their possession from Pirmohalla area in the city on Sunday night.

The arrested were Kabir Miah, son of Barik Miah of Waizkhali under Sunamganj and Firoze Ali son of Niamat Ali of Pashchimphohalla area.

Kabir Miah and Firoze Ali were living in the city's Bankolapara area. A patrol party of police challenged a group of five to six young men at about 8-30 PM. Out of them police caught the two as others escaped. Kabir kept the pipe gun. The gang was preparing to commit crime, police added.

PBCP activist arrested

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira
An activist of the outlawed Purba Banglar Communist Party (PBCP) was arrested by police from his village home at Chomorkhali village in Tala upazila on Saturday night.

Police recovered a country made pistol and seven rounds of cartridges from his possession. Police arrested Sirajul Islam, 28, son of Omed Ali of Chomor Khali village in Tala upazila from his house. After his confession police recovered a country made pistol and seven rounds of cartridges from the house of Bikramaditya of the same village. Sirajul Islam was wanted in several cases including snatching, robbery and toll collection. A case was filed with Tala Police Station.

Bhasani's death anniversary observed

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

The 27th death anniversary of veteran political leader Manlana Abdul Hamid Khan Bhasani was observed here with due respect.

Different political and socio-cultural bodies organised various programmes on the occasion. Those included rally and discussion meeting.

Chhatra Moitry arranged a discussion meeting at its office. Advocate Mostofa Lutfullah, secretary, Satkhira district Workers Party was the chief guest. It was addressed by, among others, Rokon-Al-Jamal, Pratap Kumar, Piary Akhtar and Srikanth Mondal.

The speakers said Manalana Bhasani dedicated his life to the cause of the downtrodden and dreamt of an exploitation-free and prosperous Bangladesh.

The best way to show respect to his memory is to fight corruption and injustice, they said.

Law for approval from PMO for appointment in public varsities CUTA to go on strike after Eid

CU CORRESPONDENT

The Chittagong University Teachers Association (CUTA) has demanded withdrawal of the government decision providing for approval from the Prime Minister's office in appointment of teachers in public universities.

Otherwise, it will go on an indefinite strike after the Eid-ul-Fitr, according to a decision taken at a meeting of the CUTA executive committee on Monday.

The date for strike and other agitation programmes will be taken at a general meeting of CUTA after the Eid, meeting sources said.

The meeting rejected the provision and resolved that it would curb autonomy of public universities.

The University Grants Commission (UGC), acting on orders from the education ministry, recently issued a circular that appointment of teachers and officials at public universities would be made after approval by education and finance ministries and the Prime Minister's office.

A senior teacher belonging to BNP-Jamaat backed White Panel said the decision is illogical.

It is against autonomy of public universities, granted by the state, he said

seeking anonymity.

CUTA President ANM Munir Ahmed talking to the correspondent said that Monday's meeting unanimously rejected the new provision and demanded its withdrawal.

When contacted, CUTA General Secretary Helal Uddin Nizami said a strong movement will be launched after the Eid for withdrawal of the decision.

"Under the University Act of 1973, only the Syndicate and the Senate of a university can take decision on any appointment. The government is trying to close down public universities like the Adamji Jute Mill by creating anarchy on

campuses".

Teachers will not allow implementation of such an "evil motive to destroy public universities", he said.

He also demanded resignation of the UGC chairman.

CU Vice Chancellor Prof AJM Nuruddin Chowdhury told The Daily Star that the new provision will delay the process of appointment. The CUTA observed a two-hour strike last month protesting UGC's proposal for a uniform criteria for appointment and promotion of teachers and employees in all public universities.



Awami League (AL) President Sheikh Hasina addressing a huge wayside public meeting near Nilphamari town while she was on her way to monga-affected fDomar, Dimla, Jaldhaka and Kishoreganj upazilas on Monday. She addressed several such public meetings during her two-day tour of the area.

BCL leader, 2 shopkeepers hurt by criminals in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A leader of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) was critically injured by miscreants and two shopkeepers were hacked by extortionists for refusing to pay toll in two incidents in the city on Monday.

Police said miscreants intercepted the rickshaw of BCL leader Shafiqul Islam Sumon in Pathantuli area, dragged him down and struck him with a sharp weapon.

Critically injured Sumon was admitted into Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH) in an unconscious state.

In the other incident, criminals allegedly led by Jahangir attacked show trader Harun at Madarbari for refusing to pay toll.

They beat Harun and hacked his brother-in-law Matin. Matin was admitted into CMCH in a critical condition.

Local people caught Jahangir, beat and handed him over to police.

Jahangir was also admitted to CMCH under police custody.

One lakh current nets seized from Tanguar Haor

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

About one lakh current nets were seized from Tanguar Haor in a drive conducted in five days.

Two magistrates and a team of Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) jawans conducted the drive with boats as part Sunamganj district administration's programme.

Two temporary police camps would also be set up in the haor area.

Despite declaration of Tanguar Haor a Ramsar site years ago, unscrupulous fishermen went on fishing here at random. As a result the plan for establishing a fish sanctuary here could not be fulfilled.

Besides, influentials were foiling a bid to lease out the water body by the government under the Ramsar programme for the last three years.

Influential groups with blessings from the ruling party had been plundering fish and other resources worth several crores of taka every year without legal authority.

Moreover, almost every year several murders are also committed in the vast haor area over fishing.

Businesses stop for 15 minutes at Natore

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Natore

Business at Natore town stopped for 15 minutes on Monday to protest suspension of operation of a corruption and extortion resistance committee.

The businessmen kept their shutters down from 11:00am to 11:15am to protest the November 15 decision of the law and order meeting that withheld operation of the terrorism and extortion resistance action committee (Terac) of the district.

Formed in 2000, Terac became popular among business circle and commoners alike for its efforts at scaling down extortion and terrorism.

But the law and order meeting, chaired by Deputy Minister for Land Ruhul Kuddus Talukhdar, observed that the Terac activities contradict the law of the land as a number of businessmen gather with sticks to resist criminals. Gathering of five or more people with sticks is a crime, the meeting observed.

Dr Aftab murder trial Supplementary charge added, fresh date today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

The trial of much talked about Dr Aftab Hossain Murder case could not be started on Sunday as the prosecution prayed for addition of a supplementary charge of extortion against the accused.

The Speedy Trial Tribunal will announce today the next date of trial.

The Special Public Prosecutor and two other lawyers appointed by the Bangladesh Medical Association (BMA) on Sunday appealed to the tribunal for adding the supplementary charge.

Charge-framing of the case was completed on October 29.

The chargesheeted persons are JCD cadre Noman Uddin Murad, Jashimuddin, Sujon Ali, Luthfur Rahman and Sufian. All of them except Jashimuddin are in jail hajat. Jashimuddin is absconding.

The accused were produced in the court on Sunday.

The prosecution told the court that that the accused had demanded toll from Dr Aftab days before the killing. Failing to realise toll, they planned to kill him. But this was dropped from the charge sheet. This should be added before start of the trial, they told the court.

As many as 36 witnesses are there in the case.

Dr. Aftab Hossain, Assistant Director of Sylhet MAG Osmani Medical College Hospital, was called out of his chamber at Dhakadakhin bazaar in Golapganj upazila on the night of September 14 last year on the plea of attending an elderly patient.

The assailants on motorbikes took him to a hillock in remote Ghoshgaon village and killed him. The killers took

away his motorbike, mobile phone and money.

The body was recovered next morning.

Following filing of a case, the then officer-in-charge of Golapganj thana was entrusted with the task investigating the case.

Sources said a gang of hoodlums of Dhakadakhin bazaar had demanded a big amount as toll from Dr Aftab for bail of one of their gang members. As he declined, they planned to kill him.

The killing of Dr. Aftab, known for his amiable behaviour, sparked a widespread resentment.

A hartal was observed in the upazila for arrest and trial of the killers.

The BMA also gave a memorandum to the government for arrest and punishment of the killers and its members in Sylhet abstained from seeing patients at their private chambers.

SUST students lay siege to admin building

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Students of the Forestry Department of the Shahjalal University of Science and Technology (SUST) laid a siege to the administrative building of the university demanding realisation of their demands.

Their demands include immediate appointment of teachers for which they were suffering for a long time. Later, they met the acting Vice Chancellor (VC) and handed over a memorandum to him.

The VC assured them of taking measures within two days.

Steps to stop fish fry netting in Chandpur

BSS, Chandpur

A meeting held at the Deputy Commissioner's conference room recently to find out ways and means to stop catching of Hilsha fry in Meghna and Padma rivers in Chandpur.

The meeting was presided over by Deputy Commissioner Md Abdur Rob Howlader.

The meeting was addressed by, among others, Police Superintendent Md Bakhtiar Alam, Advocate Iqbal bin Bashir, Advocate Kamrul Islam and District Fishery Officer Md Serajuddin.

An elaborate programme has been chalked out to ban netting of all kinds of fish fries in the rivers from Saitnal under Matlab upazila to Char Bhairabi under Haimchar upazila in the district.

Catching fish fry is prohibited from December to September. Several mobile courts headed by magistrates will function from December, the meeting decided.

The meeting decided to motivate about 30,000 fishermen of the district not to catch fish fry in the area. Current net factories in the area have been advised not to produce current nets.

Cop faces action for attempted rape

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

A police sub-inspector of Kolaroa thana has been found guilty of attempted rape.

Investigation by Kalaroa thana OC Golam Kibria revealed that SI Mujibar Rahman, in-charge of Sarashkati police camp, had entered the house of one Ibrahim Dafader at Bamankdali village on the night of November 13 and attempted to rape his wife. Ibrahim works in Malaysia.

The probe was ordered by Satkhira Police Superintendent Rafiqul Islam following a complaint by the housewife.

Sources said the OC has submitted his probe report. The SP has ordered that the SI be 'closed' to police lines and departmental action be taken against him.

Viscera report says

Student strangled at Mission hostel

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet.

The death of Rajesh Roy, a student of Sylhet Government College, was from strangulation, according to the viscera report available recently, six months after the incident.

A second year student, Rajesh stayed at the Ramkrishna Mission hostel at Mirabazar in the city. His body with marks of injury was found on the roof of the three storied building on May 30.

Mystery shrouded the death as the victim's family accused the Mission authorities of the murder, a charge denied by them.

The death sparked agitation in the city. Students brought out processions and held meetings demanding a judicial probe into the incident.

Tk 50,000 looted from Barisal school

BSS, Barisal

Robbers looted Tk 50,000 from a government girls' school on Bagura Road in the city in the early hours of Saturday.

Police said eight armed dacoits forced their way into the school at about 1 am and tied its two night guards Jafar and Rafique.

They entered the office room, broke open the almirah and took away the money.

A case has been lodged with Kotwali thana.

25 hurt as villagers clash over land in Kushtia

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

At least 25 people were injured in a clash between two groups of people at Amdah village in Daulatpur upazila on Monday.

Police said, the two groups were led by Tamiz Uddin and Laskar Ali, who had dispute over possession of land.

Eight of the injured, including a woman, were admitted to Daulatpur Health Complex.

No case was filed till filing this report on Tuesday.

CPB lays a siege to DC's office 'Ensure food, work in monga-affected areas'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gaibandha

The Communist Party of Bangladesh brought out a procession in the town and laid a siege to the Deputy Commissioner's office on Monday demanding government measures to face the monga and diarrhoea situation in northern districts.

CPB President Monjurul Ahsan Khan and other central leaders of the party led the programmes. Addressing the crowd during the siege of DC's office, Monjurul Ahsan said the BNP-Jamaat alliance government is busy with Iftar parties and the Prime Minister is performing Umrah while thousands of people are virtually starving in the monga-affected northern districts.

A demand by opposition political

parties to open gruel kitchens has been ignored by the government. This proves the government does not care people's sufferings. It has no right to stay in power, he said.

People are dying from doarthoea only due to lack of proper steps by the government, he said. The government which can not supply saline to poor people should step down on its own, he said.

Earlier, processionists paraded streets of the town carrying banners and festoons and chanting various slogans demanding food and work in monga-affected areas.

A memorandum was also handed over to the Deputy Commissioner for transmission to the Prime Minister.

Acid attack on 3 women in Barisal, Satkhira

STAR NATIONAL DESK

Two women and a teenage girl have sustained acid burn injuries in Barisal and Satkhira in two days.

Our Barisal Correspondent reports: Miscreants threw acid on Piary Begum, 30, mother of four children at Varatkali village under Nalchhity Police Station in Jhalakati on Sunday midnight.

She was rushed to Barisal Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital (BSBMC) in a critical condition. Victim and police sources told this correspondent, Rahat, son of Mahmuda Pervin Mimi, a local Union Parishad member beat Sumon, son of Saleha Akon, a Family Planning assistant at the venue of a Boishakhi fair organised to mark the Bangla new year on April 20 as he protested an incident of toll collection.

Police are reported to be hunting Rahat.

On the fateful night Sumon's mother Saleha Begum and cousin Piary Begum were going on road to take revenge of the incident then Rahat and his associates Bacchu, Sajal, Swapan, Manir and Sohail riding on motor cycles ambushed Saleha Begum and threw acid on her.

But they missed the target and Piary fell a victim. After the incident, the miscreants fled away.

A case was lodged with Nalchhity Police Station, but nobody was arrested.

Our Satkhira Correspondent reports: A mother and her teenage daughter sustained burn injuries in an acid attack by miscreants at village Samujidipur in Tala upazila on Saturday morning.

The acid attackers also tortured them. Both the injured were admitted to Satkhira hospital in a critical condition.

Quoting local people police said to this correspondent, Jahura Khatun, 30, wife of Nur Ali Sardar and their 14-year-old daughter Ratna of village Samujidipur came under acid attack by Habibur Rahman and his son Jahangir of the same village because they resisted them from ploughing a disputed land on Saturday morning.

A long standing dispute over land is believed to be the cause of the attack.

A case was lodged with Tala thana. None was arrested.