

National

News snaps

SM Sultan's birth anniversary Aug 10

NARAIL, Aug 6: Different socio-cultural organisations of the district have chalked out elaborate programmes on August 10 on the occasion of the 73rd birth anniversary of the great artist SM Sultan, reports BSS.

The programmes include placing of wreath on the grave of the painter, children's rally, children's painting competition and discussion on the life and works of Sultan. Shishu Sarga — a children's organisation founded by the great painter — will arrange separate programme to mark the occasion. Local baul singers will present mystic songs at the residence of Sultan.

One held for possessing hemp

From Our Correspondent

PARIDPUR, Aug 6: One person was arrested and one and a half kilogram of hemp and four litres of country-made wine were recovered in two separate raids conducted recently by Paridpur Narcotics Control Department.

A task force headed by Abdur Rashid, Assistant Director of Paridpur Narcotics Control Department, raided the house of Bimala Dashi at Goalchamot in the town on July 26 and recovered four litres of country-made wine and 500 grams of processed hemp. The task force also raided the house of Tapan Kumar Goswami at Badarpur and recovered one kilogram processed hemp. Goswami was taken into custody.

11 uplift projects implemented by WDB

PATUAKHALI, Aug 6: Water Development Board (WDB) implemented 11 development projects in the district during 1996-97 fiscal year under Food For Work Programme, reports UNB.

Official sources said 3,400 metric tons of wheat were utilised for the implementation of the projects. These included construction of a 61-km embankment and repairing of embankments in the coastal areas of the district. With the completion of the projects, 6,000 acres of agricultural land in Mirzaganj, Galachipa, Kalapara and sadar thana of the district have been protected from flash flood and salinity.

12 hurt in AL-JP clash

From Staff Correspondent

BARISAL, Aug 6: At least 12 activists from both sides were injured when AL-BCL and JP activists locked in a clash at Bhola town on Monday evening.

Witnesses said, the clash erupted when an AL-BCL procession was passing near the Jatiya Party office. They chanted obnoxious slogans. The JP office was also ransacked and damaged. Two police were also injured amid heavy brickbattling. Police were deployed in Bhola town to avert further clash. None was arrested till filing of this report.

Education Week in Gafargaon

GAFARGAON, Aug 6: A cultural and literary programme sponsored by the thana administration in observance of the National Education Week '97 concluded recently at Kairunnesa Government Girls' High School here, reports BSS.

Students of 50 schools, colleges and madrasahs of the thana took part in the weeklong programme. The programme was inaugurated by Thana Nirbahi Officer, Gafargaon, Khondkar Ahmed Ali.

Cotton seed farming programme

CHUADANGA, Aug 6: An intensive cotton seed cultivation programme has been taken up by the Bangladesh Cotton Development Board in the Chuadanga Cotton Cultivation Zone this year, reports BSS.

According to an official source, 80 hectares of land has been earmarked in the zone for the cultivation of cotton seed. Of the total land, 20 hectares will be brought under cotton seed cultivation in Damurhuda unit, 15 hectares in Andulbaria unit, 10 hectares in Baradi unit and 35 hectares in Meherpur unit. The production target of seed cotton in this zone has been fixed at 80 metric tonne.

Mother of 5 children commits suicide

From Our Correspondent

MAGURA, Aug 6: A mother of 5 children, Kali Dasi, 35, wife of Pulin Biswas at village Ramkantopur under Shalikha thana of the district allegedly committed suicide by taking poison on July 30, family sources said.

Family trouble is cause of her suicide. An unnatural death (UP) case has been registered with Shalikha thana in this connection.

Contrabands worth Tk 9 lakh seized

SATKHIRA, Aug 6: Members of Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) seized contrabands worth over Taka nine lakh during the last four days, reports BSS.

Removal of school teacher demanded

From Our Correspondent

KUSHTIA, Aug 6: Journalists of Bheramara Press Club have demanded removal of Rawshan Ali, assistant teacher of Bheramara Pilot Girls' High School immediately. He assaulted Ismail Hossain Babu, Bheramara correspondent of Dainik Bangla Bazar when he went to school on his professional duty.

Rawshan Ali has been put under suspension when local dailies and weeklies published report against two teachers of this school for their attempt to violate girl students. The journalists are being threatened by those teachers. Meanwhile, guardians are being afraid of sending their daughters to school due to misconduct of such teachers. They have demanded removal of all male teachers from the school.

Playmates kill boy

From Our Correspondent

KISHOREGANJ, Aug 6: A boy aged about 12 was killed following a quarrel over a trivial matter at village Pabalkandi in Kishoreganj thana recently.

Police sources and witnesses said, Mahbub Anam was hit with a stick on the head during an altercation while he was engaged in playing with his playmates. Mahbub was immediately rushed to the Mymensingh Medical College Hospital where he succumbed to his injuries the same day. A case was registered with Kishoreganj police accusing 5 persons. None has yet been arrested.

The members of BDR 21 Battalion of Satkhira district raided several border areas and seized the contrabands. The goods included sugar, salt, cumin seeds, bicycle, spare parts of bicycle, milk powder, nylon net, sugar candy, sarees. The goods were deposited with the Customs authorities. None was arrested in this connection.

Hossanabad road mishap claims 4

BHERAMARA, Aug 6: Four passengers were killed and two others injured in a road accident at Hossanabad under Daulatpur thana, reports BSS.

The accident occurred when a speeding bus dashed with a road side tree at Hossanabad, 20 kilometre off from here, on Saturday last. The dead are identified as Khabiruddin, 28, Hossain Ali, 18, Nizam Uddin, 35, and Abul Hossain, 25. A case was registered with Daulatpur thana in this connection.

107 homeless families rehabilitated

SIRAGJAN, Aug 6: A total of 107 homeless families have been rehabilitated with dwelling houses and cash money under a World Bank-financed project, reports UNB.

The families, who had taken shelter on the Brahmaputra Town Protection Embankment after being homeless by river erosion, have been rehabilitated on a 165 kathas of land at Kazipur ghat in the town. Deputy Commissioner AKM Shamuddin Ahmed inaugurated the newly-implemented settlement-project at a function here on Monday. River Bank Protection Project director Anisur Rahman was present.

Law, order situation reviewed

NARSINGDI, Aug 6: The monthly law and order meeting of Narsingdi district was held on July 29, at the Deputy Commissioner's conference room with Deputy Commissioner Rafiqul Islam in the chair, reports BSS.

The meeting was addressed, among others, by Police Super Shah Ali, ADC (General) Begum Jishan Ara Arifun Nesa, Principal, Madhabdi College Abdul Ali, TNO, Narsingdi Sadar Sarwar Khan and BSS district correspondent Abu Taher.

The meeting decided to take effective measures against all crimes particularly repression to women and children including dallying, torture, abduction, rape and murder and child lifting.

Body recovered

From Our Correspondent

JHENIDAH, Aug 6: Decomposed deadbody of an old farmer was recovered from a jute field at village Kushorios under Jhenidah thana on Tuesday evening. The dead was identified as Abu Bakar, 52.

Police said, the victim left house on Sunday morning last. A case was filed with Jhenidah thana in this connection and the body was sent to morgue for autopsy.

Step to protect people from river erosion

GAIBANDHA, Aug 6: Water Development Board (WDB) has taken up a project at a cost of Tk 9,76,11,000 to protect the people of the district from the erosion of rivers and flood, reports BSS.

The work of the project includes construction of 25 kilometers long flood control embankments on both sides of the Ghagor river, digging of a two-kilometer long canal, construction of 75-metre RCC bridge and nine sluice gates.

The work of the project will be completed by 1999.

Priority on electrification of villages

PARIDPUR, Aug 6: Forest and Environment Minister Syeda Sajeda Chowdhury on Monday said the government has attached the highest priority to rural electrification to fulfil its commitment to improve the lot of the rural people within the shortest possible time, reports BSS.

The government has made a huge allocation for rural electrification for the development of villages as well rural economy, she said while addressing a public rally on the occasion of the electrification of village Rasulpur under Nagarkanda thana.

Presided over by the President of Paridpur Palli Bidyut Samity Mohammad Abdul Kuddus Sardar, the rally was addressed, among others, by Brigadier Mohammad Enamul Haque, Chairman, Rural Electrification Board (REB), REB members M A Wadud and M A Samad and leaders of local Awami League.

5 killed in separate incidents

NILPHAMARI, Aug 6: Five people, including an old woman, died in separate incidents in the district during last three days till Tuesday, reports UNB.

They were identified as Mostafa, 19, R K Kundu, 33, Moneshwari, 52, Dilip Kumar Biswas, 28, and Jahangir Alam, 32.

Police said Mostafa of village Chanderhat in sadar thana was killed when he was hit by a stick on his head following a feud over money he borrowed from one Latifa Begum on Tuesday.

Rice trader R K Kunda allegedly committed suicide by jumping under a train at Debir Danga in the poura area on Monday. Bandi feud was the cause behind the suicide, police said.

Earlier on Sunday, Moneshwari was allegedly killed by her family members at Jelepara village in Sadar thana.

On the same day, Dilip was beaten to death by his stepmother and brother at Shafiamari union in Jaldhaka following family feud.

In another incident, Jahangir was stabbed to death by unidentified miscreants at Kazirhat village in Jaldhaka thana.

Huge foodstuffs misappropriated from LSD godown

From Our Correspondent

RANGPUR, Aug 6: A huge quantity of foodstuffs disappeared from the Taraganj LSD food godown recently.

The Officer-in-Charge of the thana LSD godown in collaboration with a section of food officials at least 62 metric tonnes of rice, paddy and wheat worth misappropriated Taka 8 lakh. It has been alleged.

Acting on a complaint, the district controller of food along with the thana administration held an enquiry and detected the incident of misappropriation. The thana food godown officer-in-charge was immediately put into temporary suspension by the district controller of food and specific case was started against him. The accused OC, LSD of Taraganj Abdullahe Bakri scented the danger abominated well ahead. In his absence the enquiries and the weighing of foodstuffs were held by the enquiry officials.

In the meantime, the wife of the accused OC Kamrun Nahar Begum submitted a complaint with the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Rangpur alleging that her husband was forced to hand over charge and later taken to unknown destination in a mire by some unknown persons. Since then he was untraced, the petitioner alleged.

RMCH teacher assaulted

From Our Correspondent

RAJSHAHI, Aug 6: An assistant professor of Rajshahi Medical College Hospital (RMCH) was seriously injured when some unidentified youths assaulted him in the hospital compound Monday night.

Dr Shaymol Krishna Saha came under attack of the gang while he was returning home from duty. The attackers beat him up with iron rods and hammers, police said.

When contacted over telephone the Divisional Forest Officer told The Daily Star that during the financial year 1994-95 the Forest Extension Department of Pabna had arranged planting 4,16,677 saplings of different varieties in various areas of the district. Besides, it was further disclosed that a total number of 9,54,267

plants of different varieties were also distributed among the members of the public during the same period.

The forest area of Pabna district has decreased due to indiscriminate cutting of trees. The minimum forest area, according to the international experts, should be at least 25 per cent of total area of a country. This is essential for maintaining the ecological and environmental balance of a country.

When contacted, the Divisional Forest Officer, Pabna admitted the truth. He expressed his grave concern over the situation. He, however, stressed that the government was making all-out efforts to increase forest area.

The Divisional Forest Officer (DFO) said that a more vigorous and aggressive drive should be launched. He sought greater participation of NGOs in this regard.

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