

News snaps

Old woman commits suicide

From Our Correspondent

JHENIDAH, Aug 30: A 75-year-old woman allegedly committed suicide by cutting her throat herself with a machete recently. She was identified as Krimannessa of village Jangalia under Sailakupa thana. Police sources said the old woman cut her throat herself in her bed-room at noon and succumbed to her injuries immediately. She tried to commit suicide many times earlier, police quoting the family sources said.

Two miscreants arrested

From Our Correspondent

MYMENSINGH, Aug 30: Police arrested recently two persons for their alleged involvement in an attack on a doctor at emergency section of Mymensingh Medical College Hospital (MMCH).

They were identified as Ariful Islam Shanta and Zeaur Rahman. Police said a group of miscreants attacked Dr. Shaiful Islam on August 8. Following the attack, local chapter of BMA enforced a three-day strike protesting the attack and demanded immediate punishment of culprits. A case was lodged in this regard. Earlier police arrested one Anwar Hossain in this connection.

Man commits suicide

From Our Correspondent

FARIDPUR, Aug 30: A man committed suicide by taking poison at village Bhajandanga on the outskirts of the town on August 16.

According to police sources, the victim, who was identified as Sohrab Sheikh, 35, son of Samad Sheikh of the village, took poison and fell sick. He was rushed to Faridpur general hospital where he died immediately after admission. Family feud was stated to be the cause of suicide.

Minor strangled

From Our Correspondent

BRAHMANBARIA, Aug 30: A minor boy was killed at village Atkapara under Sadar thana of the district recently.

According to police sources, a step mother Ansuna Begum along with her a group of accomplices allegedly strangled her step son Jamal Mia, 8, on July 26 while he was sleeping in the house. The dead body was found in a nearby banana field. Police arrested Ansuna Begum.

Drinking water scarcity

From Our Correspondent

KUSHTIA, Aug 30: Rural people in the district have been facing acute scarcity of drinking water.

The number of tube-wells in six thanas is inadequate to meet the demand. According to a report, a large number of tube-wells have remained out of order for the last two years, causing untold sufferings to the villagers. Local people have urged the authorities concerned to immediate steps to repair the tube-wells.

Tk 44,000 distributed among women

BANDARBAN, Aug 30: Taka 44,000 was distributed among 440 old aged women in Sadar thana of the district as Old Age Allowance at the rate of Tk 100 per head, reports BSS.

The allowance was distributed on the occasion of National Mourning Day on August 15. According to official sources, Chairman of the Hill District Council of Bandarban Thawing Cha Prue Master distributed the allowance as the chief guest in a function held at District Town Hall on this occasion. Local leaders and social welfare officials in the district attended the function organised by Social Welfare Department.

Relief distributed among flood-victims

COMILLA, Aug 30: Comilla unit Red Crescent Society distributed 130 tonnes rice and 26 tonnes pulse among the flood affected people in Devidwar, Chandina and Burichong thanas, reports BSS.

Thirteen thousand affected families of ten unions of the three thanas received the relief. Each family got 10 kg rice and 2 kg pulse. Secretary, Red Crescent Society, Comilla, Abdul Awal said 12 medical teams were working for the treatment and distribution of necessary medicines among the flood affected people.

30 schemes nearing completion

SHERPUR, Aug 30: Work on 30 development projects involving an expenditure of Tk 44 lakh in Sherpur town is nearing completion, reports UNB.

The projects under the Annual Development Programme of last financial year were taken up before June. Sources in the Engineering Department said 70 per cent of the work, including repair and construction of 18 roads, construction of last phase of Pourasava building and earth filling at coach terminal has already been completed. They said Tk 21.27 lakh has been sanctioned for carpeting, renovation and drainage work along 18 road and Tk one lakh for the completion of the last phase of Pourabhaban. Work on earth filling to expand the coach terminal at a cost of Tk 11 lakh and installation work of 150 hand-operated tube wells in slum areas taken under the Dutch-Bangladesh joint development assistance programme at a cost of Tk 11.72 lakh is also nearing completion.

Training for fruit growers

RAJBARI, Aug 30: A 21-day long training course for the growers of summer fruits concluded at the Horticulture Centre here on August 18, reports BSS.

The training programme was organised by the Horticulture Development Scheme of the government in collaboration with the Asian Development Bank (ADB). A total of 420 persons both male and female from 23 villages of Rajbari district participated in the training. The participants were divided into 14 batches. Horticulturists imparted training to the growers of summer fruits on modern method of fruit production.

Woman commits suicide

MANIKGANJ, Aug 30: A woman committed suicide allegedly by taking poison in her house at Katigram in sadar thana on Sunday, reports UNB.

The police and neighbours said Rabeya, 44, mother of three children, took her life being angry with her husband Danej who failed to take action against the quarrelling neighbour. Family sources said she had a quarrel with the neighbour over a silly matter on the day. Her autopsy was done at Sadar Hospital on Monday.

Leg of young man severed

PATUAKHALI, Aug 30: Terrorists out of enmity severed a leg of a young man on Monday night, reports UNB.

Witnesses said about 8 terrorists attacked Kalam Payda, 30, when he was sitting tea in a tea stall at Saujbag and axed his left leg with Chinese axe at 9 pm. They also hacked him with sharp weapon inflicting deep injuries in the body. Kalam, a fish trader living in College Road area, was lying in semi coma in Sadar Hospital. The police arrested Belal for his alleged involvement in the brutal attack.

Tk 95 lac loan disbursed

MEHERPUR, Aug 30: Bangladesh Krishi Bank (BKB) disbursed taka 95 lakh as loan in the two thanas of Meherpur district in the month of July under its agriculture rehabilitation programme, reports BSS.

A BKB source said here, taka 65 lakh has been disbursed among 435 small farmers and sugarcane growers and taka 30 lakh among the farmers of various crops and for animal husbandry and fish culture for the current fiscal year has also started in the district.

Loan for tribal youths

KHAGRACHHARI, Aug 30: Youth Development Department on Monday disbursed loan totaling Tk 12.70 lakh among the youths here for their training, reports UNB.

District Council chairman Jatindra Lal Tripura distributed the loan at a function, marking the 24th death anniversary of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. Officials said the department disbursed Tk 28.83 lakh among 5,069 unemployed youths in eight thanas here in last three years. However, they realised loan amounting to Tk 26.97 lakh during the period.

Accused escapes police custody

NAOGAON, Aug 30: A young man, accused of woman repression, escaped from the police custody recently, reports UNB.

Mukul alias Samaj of village Hakimpur in Dinapur district was produced in the court. On taking back to jail, Mukul managed to open the handcuff and flee from the custody of the police.

H S C talents of Jhenidah

From Delwar Kabir

JHENIDAH, Aug 30: The cadets of Jhenidah Cadet College achieved brilliant results in the Higher Secondary Certificate (HSC) examination under Jessoro Board this year.

They bagged a total of 16 positions. Of them 13 secured positions from the Science group while the rest three from the Humanities group.

Cadet **Shahed Mosharraf** got the third position in the combined merit list securing 928 marks. He got letters in Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry and Biology.

He is the son of Md Mosharraf Hossain, Superintendent of the Narcotics department at Srimangol in Moulvibazar district. His hobby is reading books. He desires to join the Army to serve the nation.

Cadet **Tanvir Hossain** stood fourth in the combined merit list securing 919 marks. He scored letter marks in Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry and Statistics.

He read for eight hours a day. His hobby is reading science related books or periodicals. He desires to be an educationist in future.

His father Dr Akhter Hossain is a teacher in Bangladesh Agriculture University in Mymensingh and mother Dilruba Hossain is a housewife. He stood sixth in the SSC examination in 1997.

Shahin Reza, Cadet number 1641 stood fifth in the combined merit list securing 814 marks and letters in Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry and Statistics this year.

His hobby is reading of books. He usually read for eight hours. He intends to join the Armed forces in future. His father Sahidul Islam is a businessman at Kaliganj in Jhenidah and mother Hosnara is a housewife. He also stood 19th in the combined merit list in the SSC examination in 1997 from Jessoro Board.

Iftekhar Alam jointly stood 5th in the combined merit list. He secured 914 marks with letters in Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry and Biology.

He is a cultural activist. He used to read for nine hours a day.

His father Sariful Alam is a service holder in Dhaka. He also stood first in the Science group in the SSC examination in 1997.

Nasim Iqbal Suman stood fifth in the Humanities group securing 865 marks in the HSC examination.

He wants to join the Army. His hobby is playing cricket. Nasim read for eight hours daily. His father Ziauddin Ahmed is a businessman in Kushtia.

He also stood 15th in the Humanities group in the SSC examination from the same board in 1997. He secured letter marks in Islamic Religion, Statistics and Geography.

Ashik Sobhan stood eighth in the combined merit list bagging 903 marks. He got letter marks in Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry and Engineering Drawing.

His hobby is reading books. He wants to join the Army. Usually he read for eight hours daily.

His father Rabbus Sobhan is a service holder in Dhaka. He stood 13th in the combined merit list in SSC examination from the same board in 1997.

Syed Walid Reza stood eighth in the humanities group in the HSC examination from securing 853 marks. He scored letter marks in Statistics, Geography and Mathematics. His hobby is enjoying songs. He desires to take higher education in Economics. He usually read for eight hours daily.

His father Syed Khalid Reza is an engineer in Mymensingh and mother Kaji Afroza Reza is a housewife. Walid also stood second in the combined merit list in the SSC examination in 1997.

Rezwanaul Haque Khan stood 10th in the combined merit list securing 896 marks this year. He scored letter marks in Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry and Statistics. His hobby is enjoying songs. He wants to join the Air Force. He usually read for eight hours daily.

His father Fazul Haque Khan is an advocate at Gopalganj and mother Jiaunnahar is a teacher in a high school.

Saif stood 11th in the combined merit list securing 893 marks in the HSC examination this year. He scored letter marks in Mathematics, Statistics, Chemistry and Engineering Drawing.

His hobby is reading books. He wants to join the Army. He read for eight hours a day.

His father Mohammad Qamruzzaman is a farmer at village Dumain in Faridpur district.

Rezaul Islam stood 13th in the combined merit list in the HSC examination this year. He secured 889 marks and letters in Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry and Engineering Drawing.

His hobby is reading of books and he wants to join the Army. His father Sahidul Islam lives at Daulapur in Khulna district.

Maruf Hossain stood 14th in the combined merit list securing 880 marks in the HSC examination this year. He bagged letter marks in Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry and Statistics.

His hobby is singing songs. He desires to join the Army. Usually he read for eight hours daily.

His father Mohammad Ali serves at the Eastern Jute Mills in Khulna. They are inhabitants of village Afra in Narail district. His mother Sabera Begum is a housewife.

Sohanur Abedin stood 15th in the combined merit list securing 881 marks in the HSC examination this year. He got letter marks in Physics, Chemistry and Statistics. His hobby is postage stamp collection. He usually read for eight hours. He wants to join the Army. Sohan also secured the 9th place in the Science group from the same board in 1997.

His father Joyntal Abedin is an assistant professor in Jhenidah Degree College and mother Anwara Begum is also a service holder.

Sheikh Sahin Islam jointly stood 16th in the combined merit list in the HSC examination securing 880 marks. He scored letter marks in Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry and Statistics. His hobby is enjoying music. He wants to join the Army to



Top to bottom (1st row) Shahed, Tanvir, Iftekhar, Shahin (2nd row) Nasim, Ashik, Walid, Rezwan (3rd row) Saif, Reza, Maruf, Sohan (4th row) Shahin, Jahid, Arif and Shams.

— Star photo

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Jahid jointly stood 16th in the combined merit list securing 880 marks in the HSC examination this year. He scored letter marks in Chemistry, Physics and Biology. His hobby is enjoying songs, recitation and drum beating. He also wants to join the Army. Usually he read for eight hours daily.

His father Kutubuddin Ahmed of village Boalmari in Chuadanga district is a service holder and mother Jannatannur is a housewife.

Arifuzzaman stood 16th in the Humanities group securing 836 marks in the HSC examination this year. He got letter marks in Statistics and Geography.

His hobby is enjoying songs. He wants to join the Army. Usually he read for eight hours daily.

His father MM Akramuzzaman is a service holder.

Shams-ur-Rahman secured the 20th position in the HSC examination in the combined merit list securing 869 marks. His hobby is enjoying songs. He desires to be a computer engineer. He got letter marks in Statistics, Chemistry and Physics.

His father Akbar Ali is a businessman in Satkhira. He usually read for eight hours a day.

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Maliha wants to study computer science

From Staff Correspondent

SYLHET, Aug 30: Maliha Sultana secured the first position in the combined merit list of Science group under Comilla Board this year. She obtained a total of 929 marks including letter marks in 4 subjects.

Maliha is second among 3 daughters of Dr Mohiuddin Ahmed, Director of the Holy Family Hospital, Dhaka and Nazma Begum, a housewife. Hailing from Borni village of Barlekha thana under Moulvibazar district, Maliha appeared her exam from MC College, Sylhet.

While talking to The Daily Star a happy Maliha said that, she used to study for 7 to 8 hours a day and is highly grateful to her teachers as well as her parents for the brilliant result.

"I expected something very good, but not this much really," she said. She spends her leisure by reading books and listening to music. Sarath Chandra, Jafar Iqbal, Hamayun Ahmed and Shirshendu are her favourite writers while she is fan of singers Hemanta and Manna Dev.

We should get rid of the present trend of student politics which is in fact nothing but terrorism and extortionism, said Maliha. She wants to study Computer Science in future.

New step to curb night coach robbery

From KM Rezaul Haque

GAIBANDHA, Aug 30: A unique method is being applied in greater Rangpur district to curb increasing night coach robbery.

Local transport owners and workers unions have made arrangement to video coach passengers at two points initially for identifying them. The points include Rangpur and Palashbari under Gaibandha district. Through search is also being conducted.

Robbers generally travel in guise of passengers and unmask themselves in convenient time.

This is being done on experimental basis, said transport leaders, adding the use of video recorder in identifying passengers in other points will be extended in phases.

Transport men introduced the method in the first week of this month.

Earlier, two armed guards were posted for each night coach to ensure security of passengers. But latter the guards were withdrawn due to reasons known to inter district bus operators.

Landslides render 2,800 families homeless

BANDARBAN, Aug 30: Over 2800 families were made homeless by landslides caused in 150 hills spreading over seven Kms along Bandarban-Lama road here on August 12, official sources said, reports BSS.

Three hundred dwelling houses were damaged and seven persons buried under mud caused by incessant heavy rains.

Three army rescue and medical teams shifted 300 families to safer places and treated more than 100 injured persons. Three of the seven bodies were dug out of mud while the rest remained still untraced.

The landslides affected areas were mostly inaccessible. Rescue and medical teams reached the affected areas on foot.

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Kishoreganj DIARY

Housewife killed for dowry

From Our Correspondent

KISHOREGANJ, Aug 30: A newly-married housewife was killed by her husband and other inmates of her father-in-law's house for dowry. This incident took place at village Char Hajipur in Hossainpur thana recently.

According to *ejhar* lodged with the local thana, Shahabuddin of the village got married to Khodeza Khatun, 25, daughter of Asiruddin of village Haliura in Nandail thana eight months back. Shahabuddin was then given Taka 10 thousand in cash as dowry. After some days, Shahabuddin and other inmates of the house pressurised on Khodeza for bringing more money and a tape-recorder from her parent. She was tortured off and on as she refused to do so. In the morning of the fateful day Khodeza was beaten mercilessly and at one stage she was strangled to death.

Two convicted for possessing arms

Two youngmen were convicted on charge of possessing illegal arms and ammunition.

Akbar Hossain Mridha, Special Tribunal Judge, court No 5, Kishoreganj in a judgement delivered on May 30 sentenced Samiran Saha alias Falan and Altaf Hossain alias Minto to suffer rigorous imprisonment for 10 years. According to the prosecution, on January 29, 1996, police arrested Samiran and Altaf from the premises of Batrish Government Primary School. Police recovered one revolver from the possession of Samiran and five rounds of ammunition from Altaf.

Two killed in road accident

Two passengers were killed on the spot and at least 15 others injured when a Tarail-bound passenger bus skidded off a roadside ditch near Palahar bazar in Nandail thana on Kishoreganj-Mymensingh road recently.

Of the dead, one was identified as Lal Mia, 65, an ex-UP member of village Banati in Nandail thana. The identity of the other could not be known till despatching the news. Three seriously injured passengers named Abdul Latif, 30, Matiar Rahman, 30, and Dilwara Sayeeda, 30, were admitted into Kishoreganj sadar hospital. The accident occurred when the driver of the bus lost control over the steering. Police seized the bus, but the driver managed to escape.

Rice mill boiler blasts: 8 hurt

Eight persons were injured seriously when the boiler of a rice mill blasted at village Jhalupara in Kishoreganj sadar thana recently.

The boiler exploded at 9 pm injuring Abu Bakar Siddique, 25, Jamal, 10, Harunur Rashid, 25, Mohamam Ali, 17, Hanif, 6, Latifa, 30, Kulsom, 22 and Panna, 20. They were first admitted into Kishoreganj sadar hospital from where they had been rushed to Mymensingh Medical College Hospital (MMCH) as their conditions were deteriorating. The injured persons were the employees of the rice mill owned by Hira Mia of village Banagram in Katiali thana.

Air Pollution

NETRAKONA, Aug 30: Despite hectic campaign by the government and NGOs to create awareness of health and sanitation, about 60 per cent people in rural areas here use *kutcha* latrine, reports UNB.

Kutcha latrines spread putrid smell causing serious air pollution. Besides, rotten jute plants before rating during this time of the year in ponds and tanks adjacent to the homesteads also create air pollution.

As a result of air pollution and use of such water, villagers have been suffering from various diseases like malaria, enteric fever and skin diseases.

Absence of adequate tube-wells and safe drinking water compelled the villagers to use water polluted by jute rotting and *kutcha* latrines.