

NEWS SNAPS

Price of fertiliser up

UNB, Brahmanbaria
Price of fertiliser has gone up in Brahmanbaria district due to its short supply affecting irri-boro farming.
Farmers said fertiliser price has marked a rise by Tk 10 to Tk 12 per bag although there is adequate stock of the agri-input in Ashuganj Zia Fertiliser Factory. Fertiliser supply is being hampered due to shortage of polythene bag in the factory.

Indian fertiliser floods markets

UNB, Chapainawabganj
Chapainawabganj markets have been swamped with substandard Indian chemical fertiliser due to unbridled smuggling of the agri-input.
Indian fertilisers are brought into the country through different points of Bholahat and Shibganj frontier upazilas and supplied to various parts of Chapainawabganj district. Many dealers in Monakasha, Khaserhat, Binodpur, Argarhat and Kansat Bazaar in Shibganj upazila are openly selling low quality Indian fertilisers as the law enforcers have become onlookers.

BRAC employee killed in road mishap

UNB, Pabna
A BRAC employee was killed in a road accident at Kashinathpur in Sathia thana on Pabna-Nagarbari Road Thursday.
Witnesses said BRAC employee Abul Kalam, 30, died on the spot when a speeding bus hit his bicycle. A case was filed.

Crackdown on timber lifters sought

UNB, Thakurgaon
Ruhea-Mandaladam forest in sadar upazila of Thakurgaon district is dwindling due to destruction of plants and logging of timbers by a section of people. Witnesses said an organised gang of thieves is pilfering valuable shwal trees from the forest due to inaction of police.
A former chairman of Akcha Union Parishad said villagers had caught a number of pilferers along with timbers and handed them over to police, but police released them for reasons unknown. He said police should launch a crackdown on the timber lifters to save the forest stretching over three acres of land.

UNO assaulted by UP chairman

UNB, Bagerhat
A Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) was assaulted allegedly by a UP chairman Sunday for filing a case against an illegal land occupant. Officials said A Hamid with the help of Rayenda Sadar UP chairman constructed a shop on a khas land at Rayenda Bazar a few days back.
Later, Sharankhola UNO Muhammad Mujibur Rahman filed a case against Hamid with the local police in this connection. Angered by the case filing, the UP chairman rushed to the UNO office and assaulted him. When contacted the UNO confirmed the incident and said he has brought the matter to the notice of the Deputy Commissioner.

Road link snapped

UNB, Sherpur
Plying of buses on six routes between Jamalpur and Sherpur remained suspended from Tuesday following a dispute between the transport owners associations of the two districts. Sherpur Bus-Coach Owners' Association enforced the strike on Sribordi, Boxiganj, Bhayajanga, Decreechar, Sanandabari and Patharerchar routes as rival Boxiganj Bus Owners' Association ransacked one of their buses on Monday demanding toll.
Hundreds of commuters and SSC examinees are facing trouble due to the strike. Most of the passengers are moving boarding on coal and stone-laden trucks risking their lives. When contacted, general secretary of local bus owners' association said they apprised the matter to the Deputy Commissioners of Sherpur and Jamalpur.

Highway robbery up

UNB, Cox's Bazar
Highway dacoits looted goods of five vehicles and cash of Cox's Bazar-bound passengers from Teknaf and injured 8 persons near Kolbazar at 5 am on Wednesday. Armed bandits put up barricade on Teknaf-Cox's Bazar Highway with logs and looted paddy loaded in three trucks, cash and valuables from passengers of a pickup van and a jeep. They also mercilessly beat drivers and helpers of the vehicles injuring 8 of them.
Following the incident, transport workers closed movement of vehicular traffic on the highway from 6 am to 11 am to protest the dacoity. The blockade was withdrawn on assurance of rounding up of the dacoits by Police Super Zahirul Haq who rushed to the spot from Cox's Bazar. Following the dacoity, angry people laid siege to the house of Kashem, a known dacoit in village Kutubbill of Rajapalong union. Kashem fired several gunshots and managed to escape. Later, police raided Kashem's house and arrested his brother and wife. At least ten dacoities occurred on Cox's Bazar-Teknaf highway during the last one week.

VGF rice looted

UNB, Thakurgaon
Some 30 distressed families at Bachore union in Ranisankoil upazila could not avail of VGF rice as six bags of rice were looted from the UP office on March 6. The government allocated the rice to distribute among the poor on the occasion of Eid-ul-Azha.
Witnesses said a band of hoodlums burst into the UP office on March 6 while rice was being distributed and looted six bags of rice. Later on March 12, UP chairman Imanan Ali filed a case against UP member Zaherul Islam and his seven associates.



PHOTO-STAR

Before the very eyes of members of the law enforcing agencies at Kodda crossing situated on Dhaka- Dinajpur Highway in Sirajganj timber is being smuggled out of border this way every day through trucks.

Chandpur residents deprived of civic amenities

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chandpur

Chandpur Municipality has been beset with manifold problems, including lack of water, drainage and recreational facilities, depriving residents of civic amenities.
Residents have been suffering because of deplorable condition of roads, constant traffic jam, frequent power failure and absence of adequate streetlights and public toilets.
The municipality, which has now a population of about one lakh, was established in 1896 covering an area of 12 square miles. However, the municipality is now enjoying grade A status.
Most of the roads, lanes and by lanes in the municipal area are in a pitiable conditions. These roads have not been repaired for a long time.
Many roads in the newly established ward number 15 are not still metalled. Bishundi, Pankology and Puran Bazar roads, damaged by flood, remain in bad shape.
There is in no proper drainage in the town areas. Most of the roads, lanes, by-lanes are filled with filth and garbage. Water stagnation is a common feature here.
Residents also face suffering, as there are no adequate streetlights. Most of the roads plunge into darkness just after sunset.
Most of the roads and lanes in the town go under

water after slight rains. But there is no drainage in the town to solve the recurrent problem.
Short supply of running water is one of main problems for the town dwellers. About one lakh residents of the town are facing serious problem due to scarcity of pure drinking water.
Violation of traffic rules in the town is a common phenomenon, causing sufferings to pedestrians. Traffic jam is common on Comilla Road, Station Road, Bus Terminal Road, Natun Bazar Road, Pal Bazar Road and Court Road during office hours.
Plying of unauthorised rickshaws is one of the reasons of traffic jam, local people said. According to a private estimate, some 10,000 rickshaws are now plying on the roads. But municipality authorities said some 4,000 rickshaws have registration with the local government body.
Number of public toilets in the municipal area is inadequate. More public toilets are needed. Many respond to the call of nature in roadside areas.
There have been no recreational facilities in the town areas excepting cinemas. There is no park in this town.
Local people have urged the authorities concerned to take immediate steps to solve the problems in the town.

Separate incidents claim 3

UNB, Habiganj

A newly married young man was beaten to death by miscreants at Ranikoot village in Chunarughat upazila of Habiganj district on Saturday.
Police and witness said some 5-7 assailants following previous enmity swooped on Bashir Mia, 25, a carpenter of the village, on his way home from Chunarughat Bazaar.
He was rushed to the local health complex where the attending physicians declared him dead.
The body was sent to sadar hospital morgue for autopsy. A case was filed.
Another report says that a young man finished his life allegedly by hanging at Nisapat village in sadar upazila on March 5.
The cause behind the tragic

death of Zutu Mia, 40, father of three sons, could not be known.
The body was sent to sadar hospital morgue for autopsy and a UD case was filed.
Another message from Jessore adds: A young housewife was beaten to death allegedly by her husband at village Zaljara in Monirampur upazila on Saturday.
Police and locals said the cruel husband Haroonur Rashid beat the victim Shahnaj Begum, 22, mercilessly as she refused to bring dowry money from her poor father. She died on the spot.
Haroon, who took cash, ornament and other goods worth Tk one lakh as dowry during their marriage four years ago, poured poison on her mouth and spread the news of her suicide before he went into hiding.

Police recovered the body and handed it over to her father Shahidul of Churmankathi village in sadar upazila after autopsy at sadar hospital.
A case was filed.
One dies as falls from rooftop in Rajshahi
OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi
A man died as he fell from the rooftop of his house in Rajshahi on Monday.
Yeasin Ali, 48, died when he fell from the rooftop of his four-storey house in Laxmipur area in the town. He was immediately taken to hospital where doctors declared him dead.

One burnt alive, 87 shanties gutted in Ctg

UNB, Chittagong

A six-year-old girl was burnt alive and 87 shanties were gutted in a fire at a slum in the port city on Wednesday.
The girl was identified as Moslema.
The origin of the fire that broke out at about 3.45 pm could not be known.
Fire Brigade sources estimated the loss at Tk 30 lakh.

Abducted youth murdered in Magura

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Magura

Monirul Islam, 20, who was abducted for ransom Tuesday evening, was allegedly murdered in Magura.
Police arrested the mastermind of the murder, Mokrul, along with two of his accomplices. Two other arrested were identified as Rashid and Raju.
Family sources said the victim was son of Shahida Begum, a teacher of Magura Government Girls' High School.
Police said Mokrul gave a confessional statement that they strangled Monirul and dumped the body in the Modhumati River, 15 kilometres off the Magura town. Divers were engaged in recovering the body.
Police recovered a country-made gun from Rashid's residence.

Nasir Murder Case 4 BCL activists get life term in Khulna

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Four activists of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) were awarded life term and fined Tk 5,000 each in Nasir Murder Case.
The judgement was delivered on Tuesday afternoon by Hasan Imam, Additional District and Sessions Judge (first court).
The convicted BCL activists are Sumon, 24, Khaled, 20, Sentu, 22, and Moin, 20. Moin is absconding.
The case in brief is that S M Nasir, a supplier of brick and sand, was severely injured in an armed attack by the accused at 10:30 am on November 21, 1996. He was admitted to Khulna General Hospital in a critical condition. Nasir succumbed to his injuries at 1:30 pm the same day. The accused used bombs and weapons during the attempt on the life of Nasir as learnt from the FIR lodged by his elder brother Aminul Islam alias Nadim.
The FIR was lodged with Khulna thana naming five people as accused. But one of them named Shajahan, 26, died of diarrhoea few days after getting bail from the court.
Nasir was killed when he refused to pay toll to the accused, IO of the case said.

61 shed blood in Madaripur during Liberation War

BSS, Madaripur

People of Madaripur district like other places across the country shed their blood to win the nine-month long independence struggle against Pakistani occupation forces in 1971.
Local freedom fighters defeated the Pakistani forces in a non-stop battle from December 8 to 10 in 1971 at Kalabari and Samaddar areas of the district and forced to surrender 38 Pakistani forces including a Major and a Captain.
The freedom loving people formed a group of around 400 that was popularly known as 'Khalil Bahini'. The 'Khalil Bahini' named after Khalilur Rahman when a rumour spread that he was killed on way to brining arms from India during the liberation war.
Khalil returned after some days but the name of the force was not changed. Area Commander Alamgir Hossain led the group while Khalilur Rahman acted as thana and operation commander.
Local people roared against the Pakistani forces when they played havoc on civilians in Dhaka and adjoining areas on March 25, 1971. Several hundred local youths took part in freedom fighting along with some guerrillas who got training from India.
Inspired by the epoch-making speech of Bangabandhu on March 7, 1971, valiant son of the soil Alamgir Hossain returned home on March 21 from Karachi where he served for Pakistan Air Force.
Later, Hossain joined with others who were preparing themselves to

fight against Pakistani forces. He served as number one Area Commander. The preparation of fighting intensified when two accused of historical Agartala conspiratorial case Col. (Retd.) Shawkat Ali and Steward Mujib joined with the freedom-loving people.
At the beginning of liberation war, the then district administrator Syed Rezaul Hayat supplied rifles from the treasury to help train the freedom fighters at Nazimuddin College ground.
The first batch of 165 freedom fighters led by Steward Mujib went to India on April 19 for training and later Khalilur Rahman led another group of 20 who returned to the locality in the middle of June 1971. The freedom fighting went on full swing when several batches of trained freedom fighters came back to the district from India. Notorious collaborator Golap Khan trapped the fourth batch of freedom fighters at Kulpaddi area and handed over freedom fighters Sahajahan and Badal to the Pakistani forces.
The victims of Pakistani massacre were, among others, Mofijur Rahman Badra, Sufia Begum, Dr Joinal Abedin, Sarwar Hossain

Bacchu, Jahangir Hossain, Abdus Salam Sheikh, Sheikh Shajahan, Manik Sardar, Saidur Rahman Sadi, Naqibuddin, Harun-or-Rashid, Mohsinuddin Master, Awalad Hossain, Ekramuddin Arif, Moksed Hawladar, Shajahan Matbar, Habibur Rahman Surya, Razzak Hawladar, Mahub Sayed, Emdad Hossain, Shamsuddin Miah, Sabaruddin, Torabuddin, Nurul Alam Panna, Abdus Samad Mollah, Mohammad Shajahan, Giasuddin, Mohammad Alauddin, Abdul Bari, Manik Sharif, Sarwar Hossain Bacchu, Abdul Mannan, Jahangir Matbar, Abdul Khaleq Miah, Mothar Hossain, Mostafa Hossain, Abul Hashem Miah, Nur Islam, Abdus Salam, Aziz Chowdhury, Mojibor Rahman, Pannu Chowdhury, Anil Chandra Mullik, Badiuzzaman Badu, Delwar Hossain, Sirajuddin Laskar, Mosharaff Hossain, Abdul Malke Matbar, Abdus Sattar Matbar, Yakub Ali Chan Miah, Sonamuddin Howladar, Khabiruzzaman, Birat Chandra Bain, Rezaul Karim, Feroz Khan, Ainal Fakir, Nur Islam Miah, Kazi Abdul Mannan, Sofran Miah, Mohammad Hossain Khan and Aminur Rahman Khan.

-Feature

