

NEWS SNAPS

Two killed in Gazipur road accident

UNB, Gazipur Two people were killed and 10 others injured in a road accident at Nagpara in sadar upazila on the Dhaka-Mymensingh highway Friday. The deceased were Abbas, 20, and an unidentified youth, 30. Police and witnesses said the accident occurred when a Chandana Chourasta-bound tempo from Mirzapur collided with a bus killing the two on the spot. The injured were admitted to Gazipur Sadar hospital and some other local clinics. A case was filed.

Schoolboy slaughtered by terrorists

UNB, Bogra A schoolboy was slaughtered by terrorists in Bogra town Monday night for protesting a toll collection bid. Police said five to seven identified terrorists picked up Zahirul Islam, 20, a student of class ten of Bogra Polytechnic Institute, as he protested their demand for toll from his family. The armed hoodlums took Zahirul to Shahid Chandu Stadium at about 9 pm and slaughtered him there. Police recovered the body and sent it to the morgue for autopsy. One person named Selim was arrested in this connection.

Body of young man recovered

UNB, Barisal The body of a young man who was killed by unidentified miscreants was recovered from Baghdarchar area in Agailjhara upazila on Tuesday morning. Police said the victim, Sananda Baroi, 30, was missing from his village home in Kotalinpara upazila of Gopalganj district since Friday last. The hands and legs of the body were tied with ropes. The cause behind the killing could not be known. Awami League claimed that Baroi was their activists.

Bus accident claims two in Jamalpur

UNB, Jamalpur Two people were killed and 20 others injured at Tikrakandi on Sherpur-Bakshiganj road on Tuesday. Witnesses said a Sherpur-bound bus fell into a roadside ditch while giving passage to a truck coming from opposition direction at about 12 noon. Bus helper Alam, 30, and an unidentified passenger died on the spot. The injured were admitted to Bakshiganj Upazila Health Complex. They include Enamul, Rustam, Rina, Tania, Akbar, Nazrul, Manna, Majid, Shawkat, Shahamoni, Amez, Rumia, Joytunnesa, Bakar, Ashish, Anwar and Amanullah.

Three electrocuted in Satkhira

BSS, Satkhira Three persons were electrocuted by a torn live electric wire near Shyamnagar petrol pump in Shyamnagar upazila on Tuesday night. According to police sources, Nazrul Islam, 30, Afsar Ali, 28 and Abdur Rahman, 35 of village Bongshipur in Shyamnagar upazila were electrocuted while they were illegally cutting roadside trees in Shyamnagar petrol pump area at the night. Suddenly a tree fell on the electric wires passed by the side of the road and one of the wires was torn and fell on them. They died on the spot.

Attack on minority people: 10 injured

UNB, Kishoreganj At least 10 people were injured in an attack on the minority people at Karail village of sadar upazila in Kishoreganj on Wednesday. Police said the terrorists ransacked the house of Promod Chandra Shill and beat up the family members. They also took away the valuables of the house. Critically injured Bimola Rani Shill, 60, and Dilip Chandra Shill, 20, were rushed to Sadar Hospital. ASP (Sadar) visited the spot and a case was filed.

Work on Doarika-Shikarpur bridge going on

BSS, Barisal The construction of Doarika and Shikarpur bridges over the Sandhya river on Barisal-Dhaka highway has been progressing fast. Official sources said, these bridges are being constructed at a cost of Tk 112.76 crore with a foreign exchange component of Tk 90.83 crore. The Kuwait government is providing the foreign exchange. The construction work began in 1997. So far on average 25 per cent work on these projects has already completed. Doarika bridge is 388 metres long and 10 metres wide, and Shikarpur bridge 242.50 metres long and 10 metres wide. Roads and Highways Department has been implementing the projects. A total of 114 acres of land were acquired by the government for these projects earlier.

Two cocktails, some bullets recovered

UNB, Gopalganj Two cocktails and some bullets were recovered from Senerchar village in Tungipara upazila here on Sunday. Police said the cocktails and bullets were recovered from a heap of straw adjacent to the houses of Sukkhan Bala and his brother Rabin Bala. None was arrested in this connection.

Loan distributed among youths

BSS, Narsingdi The Youth Development Directorate has distributed loan amounting to Tk 6,54,000 among 36 trained youths in Narsingdi during the first three months of the current fiscal year, an official source said. The department also distributed an amount of Tk 5.72 lakh as loan under its poverty alleviation programme among the landless people of Polash and Shibpur upazilas during the same period. A total of 98 jobless young men and women were imparted three-month long training on poultry, dairy and pisciculture, and about 235 youths were imparted 'mobile' (short term) training on poultry, dairy, pisciculture and cattle rearing and fattening in Narsingdi during the first three months of the current fiscal year.

'Aman' cultivation on 31,410 hectares

UNB, Brahmanbaria The farmers of Brahmanbaria cultivated transplanted Aman paddy on 31,410 hectares of land this season exceeding the target of 24,000 hectares. According to the Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE), some 15,600 hectares have been cultivated in Sadar, 4,000 hectares in Sarail, 5,600 hectares in Kasba, 1,800 hectares in Nabinagar, 2,600 hectares in Akhaura, 200 hectares in Bancharampur and 1,610 hectares in Nasimagar upazila. Government departments supplied seeds and other necessary inputs to the farmers while banks provided loans. DAE expects that some 70,000 metric tons of Aman paddy would be produced in Brahmanbaria in the current season.

Training programme for BAU graduates

UNB, Mymensingh A two-month training programme for veterinary graduates of Bangladesh Agriculture University (BAU) is going on. A total of 33 veterinary graduates, who obtained their degrees in 1998-99 sessions from Livestock Faculty of the university, are participating in the training programme since Oct 9. Under the programme, the veterinary graduates are being taken to various farms like Proshika, Milk Vita, Aftab Multipurpose Poultry Farm, Nourish Poultry Farm, Kazi Farms, Usha Poultry Farm, Dhaka Hatchery, Bangladesh Hatchery and Apa Poultry Farm.

Nine fugitives nabbed from Savar

UNB, Savar Police in a drive arrested nine fugitives from different parts of Savar on Thursday. Three of them, Shahidul, Jahangir and Jasim, were arrested from Mohammadpur areas in an armed robbery case while three others, Isar Ali, Almas and Qamrul, from Arapara in burglary cases. Two more persons, Kalam and Asad, were arrested from Nawarhat area and Aolad, a drug trader, from EPZ area on other charges.

Smuggled Indian goods seized

UNB, Joypurhat BDR members in separate drives seized smuggled Indian goods worth about Tk 3.5 lakh from Pachibibi and Hili borders in three days till Tuesday. The seized goods included phensidyl, sugar, salt, onion and cumin. The drives were conducted in different frontier areas including Atapara, Cechra, Uchai, Bagjana, Koya and Rambhadrapur. Another report adds: A century-old 'Sanyash' statue and an image of goddess 'Durga' were damaged by unknown miscreants in a Hindu temple of Pathuria village of Sadar upazila on Tuesday. A case was filed.

20 prominent political figures face debacle in N region

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Natore

More than 20 prominent political figures including Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina have suffered defeat in the 8th Parliamentary polls in the country's northern region. The immediate-past prime minister Sheikh Hasina has been defeated by 12,736 votes in Rangpur-6 (Peerganj) seat. Islami Oikya Front candidate JP leader Nur Muhammad Mondol won this seat securing 90,725 votes. Former Home and Post & Telecommunication Minister Mohammad Nasim has been crushed by 29,411 and 30,170 votes in Sirajganj-2 and 3 seats respectively by the four-party alliance (BNP) forces. Nasim, however, won the Sirajganj-1 (Kazipur) seat. Former State Minister for Information Professor Abu Sayeed has been baffled by the four-party alliance candidate Jamaat-e-Islami leader Motiur Rahman Nizami who defeated him by 37,869 votes in Pabna-1 seat. Hasina cabinet's State Minister for Fisheries and Livestock Professor Md Abdul Kuddus was beaten by 32,176 votes in Natore-4 (Gurudaspur-Boraigram) seat which was won by four-party

alliance (BNP) candidate Mozammel Haque. Former State Minister for Education and AL candidate Professor Zinnatun Nesa Talukdar was defeated to four-party alliance (BNP) candidate Md Abu Hena by 35,414 votes in Rajshahi-3 (Mohonpur-Bagmara) seat. In this seat, JP (Ershad) leader Sarder Amjad Hossain secured third position. Arnjad was a full minister of Ershad government. Former State Minister and AL candidate Satish Chandra Roy was defeated to BNP led alliance candidate Lt Gen (ret) Mahbubur Rahman in Dinajpur-2 (Bochaganj-Birol) seat. AL whip in Parliament Mizanur Rahman Manu was also defeated to BNP's Akhtaruzzaman Mia in Dinajpur-4 (Khamsam-Chirirbonodor) seat. Former State Minister of AL government Abdur Rouf Chowdhury was defeated to Jamaat leader Abdullah Al-Qafi in Dinajpur-1 (Beerganj-Kaharol) seat. Jagpa president and Islami alliance front candidate Shafiqul Alam Prodhon managed to secure the third position in Panchagarh-1 (Sadar-Tetulia-Atoary) seat and lost his security money in Panchagarh-2 (Boda-Deviganj) seat.

Former State Minister of AL government Anisul Haq Chowdhury was defeated to JP leader Md Ali Sarker in Rangpur-2 (Taraganj-Bodorganj) seat by 13,655 votes. Jamaat leader ATMAjharul Islam secured third position in this seat. Ex Army Chief Gen Mustafizur Rahman Beer Bikram was defeated to JP candidate G M Qader by 76,816 votes in Rangpur-3 seat. Former State Minister of AL government H N Ashiqur Rahman was also defeated to JP candidate Shah Sulaiman Fakir in Rangpur-5 (Mithapukur) seat. AL candidate Maj Gen (ret) AM SA Amin was defeated to JP leader Tajul Islam Chowdhury in Kurigram-2 (Sadar-Fulbari-Rajarhat) seat by 16,503 votes. BNP led alliance candidate and minister of BNP government A K M Mayedul Islam was defeated to Islami alliance front (JP) candidate Maolana Motiur Rahman by 4,997 votes in Kurigram-3 (Ulipur) seat. In Bogra-1 (Sonatola-Sariakandi) seat, AL central leader Abdul Mannan was defeated to BNP led alliance candidate Quazi Rafiqul Islam by 45,788 votes.

BNP bags four out of five seats in Netrakona

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Netrakona

The Awami League (AL) has suffered a serious setback in the just concluded 8th parliamentary elections in Netrakona. The BNP led 4-party alliance bagged four out of five seats in Netrakona. Awami League Presidium member Abdul Momen, however, managed to capture a seat from Netrakona-2 constituency comprising Netrakona Sadar and Barhatta upazila bagging 1,00,350 votes. But he tasted defeat in Netrakona-4 constituency comprising Madan, Mohongonj and Khaliajuri upazila. The Awami League had three seats from Netrakona in the seventh parliament while BNP had two seats in the previous parliament. The Awami League got three seats from Netrakona-1, Netrakona-2 and Netrakona-4 constituencies. In Netrakona-1 comprising Durgapur and Kamlakanda upazila, BNP leader MA Karim Abbasi defeated AL stalwart Jalaluddin Talukder, polling 1,03,058 votes. In Netrakona-3 comprising Kendua and Atpara upazila, Nurul Amin Talukder of BNP won securing 1,03,706 votes. On the other M Jubed Ali of AL bagged 93,742 votes. In Netrakona-4 constituency BNP central leader Lutuzzaman Babar defeated AL presidium member Abdul Momin, polling 88,651 votes. Abdul Momin bagged 84,800 votes. In Netrakona-5 constituency comprising Purbadhalain upazila of Netrakona district and Dhubaura upazila in Mymensingh district, Dr Mohammad Ali of BNP defeated AL's Mosharof Hossein bagging 76,969 votes while Mosharof secured 59,732 votes.



PHOTO: STAR

A vast tract of land went into the gorge of river and many families became homeless in Dimla and Jaldhaka upazilas of Nilphamari due to river erosion which took an alarming turn last week.

Erosion takes serious turn in 3 dists

BSS, Kurigram

Some 1,000 families have become homeless in Kurigram, Lamoirhat, Nilphamari and Gaibandha districts in the last one week as river erosion took serious turn. Because of heavy and incessant rainfalls from October 2 last in the area, the water levels in all of the major rivers and tributaries sharply rose with strong currents causing the havoc, local officials said. But the unofficial account of people affected by river erosion is almost double of the official figure. According to local public representatives, the seriously affected areas are Fulbari, Sadar, Rajarhat, Ulipur, Chilmari, Rowmari, Rajivpur, Nagesari and Bhurungamari upazilas of Kurigram, Shaghota and Fulchhari upazilas of Gaibandha, Hatibandha, Kaliganj and Aditmari upazilas of Lalmonirhat, Dimla and Jaldhaka upazilas of Nilphamari districts. River erosion has also affected a few houses in Gangachhara and Kawnia upazilas of Rangpur. At least 3,500 families became homeless and different structures

including flood control embankments, schools and other infrastructures were damaged in the current rainy season.

Prices of essentials, fertiliser up

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sirajganj

Prices of essentials have shot up alarmingly in the last one week in Sirajganj. On survey in the markets it was found that prices of all varieties of rice rose by Tk 50 per maund while prices of onion rose by Tk 160 per maund. The unabated price hike of essentials caused untold sufferings to the low and middle income people of Sirajganj. Meanwhile, a 50 kg bag of urea fertiliser is being sold at Tk 362 to 365 as against its price Tk 280 to 290 in the last week. When contacted with Deputy Director of the Department of Agriculture Extension, he told the correspondent that the price-hike of fertiliser will hamper the production of winter crops. It is presumed that the hoarders created the artificial price-hike of fertiliser.

