

NEWS SNAPS

Mini arms factory unearthed

UNB, Cox's Bazar

Police unearthed a mini arms factory in the residence of their long time source in Nidania village of Ukhia upazila in Cox's Bazar on Monday morning.

Acting on a tip, police raided the house of Ilias, 35, and recovered a gun, two bullets and arms manufacturing equipment. Ilias was taken into custody. Police said taking advantage of close connection with them by virtue of their source Ilias was engaged in arms manufacturing and trading. Once connected with Harkatul Jihad, Ilias got training in arms manufacturing. He was serving as the source of Ukhia police for the last few years and police unearthed Harakat's den in Jhumsia hill in August 2000 through him. A case was filed and police continued to interrogate him.

Four AL leaders, workers sent to jail

UNB, Natore

A court in Natore on Tuesday sent four leaders and workers of Awami League (AL) and its front organizations to jail hajat in a case filed by a BNP leader under Public Safety Act (PSA).

They are Shafiqul Islam Shimul, general secretary of district unit Jubo League, Mustarul Islam Alam, central committee member of Chhatra League, and Jubo League workers Gopal and Ranju. Abdur Rahim Newaj, general secretary of BNP's sadar upazila unit, filed the case against them following a clash between the AL and BNP activists Monday. Meanwhile, 54 lawyers of the local criminal court Tuesday expressed their concern over attack on advocate Hamid Ali Sheikh, general secretary of district AL. They demanded exemplary punishment of those involved in the incident.

Armed pirates loot fish

UNB, Barguna

Armed pirates swooped on a trawler in the Bay in Barguna and looted fish, fishing nets and other valuables worth Tk 2 lakh Sunday night, leaving three fishermen injured.

The injured, Soyezuddin, 50, Sattar, 30 and Nurul Islam, 30, were admitted to Barguna General Hospital. They said a gang of about 20 bandits in another trawler chased their fishing trawler, 'Islam', at night and looted the valuables at gunpoint. To escape their attack, six of the fishermen jumped into the sea and one of them was still missing. Five others were rescued by their fellowmen. Local residents said sea piracy in Barguna has been on the upswing since the withdrawal of naval patrol ships.

Valuables looted from ex-AL MP's house

UNB, Thakurgaon

Masked robbers stormed into the house of former AL MP Romesh Chandra Sen at Collegepara in Thakurgaon town Sunday night and looted valuables.

Police said the bandits broke into Sen's house, tied up his two employees at gunpoint and decamped with a refrigerator and a telephone set. They also damaged other valuables of the house, including the photographs of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and his daughter Sheikh Hasina. Romesh was away of the house during the incident as he went to his village home a day before. A case was filed.

Cash, valuables looted from night coach

UNB, Magura

Road pirates looted cash and valuables worth Tk one lakh from a night coach in Bagat area on Dhaka-Khulna highway Monday, leaving five passengers injured.

Disguised as passengers, the highwaymen boarded the Darshana-bound and swooped on the passengers when it reached Bagat. Witnesses said the bandits beat up those passengers who tried to resist them and decamped with the booty. One of the injured, Rafiqul Islam, 30, was being treated at sadar hospital.

Rajshahi DIARY**Nepali student commits suicide**

OUR CORRESPONDENT

Sounit Rozario, 20, a second year student of Rajshahi Medical College (RMC) committed suicide in his room recently.

He was the son of Guru Proshad Rozario of Shibnagar village in Kapilabastu district of Nepal. He was a resident of room No 117 in the main hostel.

According to police and RMC sources, the roommates of the dead, after returning from class at about 1 pm, saw the door of the room shut from inside. Getting no response after repeated call, they broke open the door and saw Rozario lying dead. In a paper-piece Rozario wrote, "Nobody is responsible for my death."

Rozario failed in his first professional MBBS examination two times. The next examination was scheduled to begin from January 10.

After autopsy his dead body was sent to Nepal. A case of unnatural death (UD) was registered with Rajpara thana in this connection.

Two extortionists arrested

Police caught red-handed two extortionists while they were forcibly collecting tolls at Talaimary crossing in the city at dawn on January.

They have been identified as Milton and Mustafij of Raninagar.

According to police, the two youths intercepted a bus and demanded toll from the conductor. A patrol team of Matihar thana, while passing through the area, came to know the matter and arrested the toll-collectors. They were produced before the court and sent to jail hajat on the same day.

Father, son get life term imprisonment in murder case

A father and his son were sentenced for life term rigorous imprisonment (RI) and a fine of Tk 20,000 or two years more rigorous imprisonment (RI) in case of failure to pay the fine in Ayejuddin killing case.

Additional district and sessions judge Abdul Majid announced the verdict on January 9.

According to the proceedings of the court, Ayejuddin and Mohsin Ali of Fakirpur village in Charghat upazila had a long-lasting dispute over land. On February 23, 2000, Bulbul, being ordered by his father Mohsin Ali hit Ayejuddin with an iron rod on his head. Ayejuddin succumbed to his injuries at Rajshahi Medical College Hospital (RMCH) the next day.

AL leader's sugarcane 'reaped' by BNP cadres

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Natore

The ruling BNP's 'Bhasan Bahini' allegedly reaped sugarcane from three bighas of land of an Awami League leader at Islampur in Lalpur upazila on Friday night.

The BNP cadres led by Bhasan Ali allegedly reaped sugarcane of Mazammal Haq, general secretary of Changdhpouil union AL.

The matter leaked out when the reaped cane, loaded on five lorries, was sent to North Bengal Sugar Mills for selling. Abul Kalam Azad, general secretary of cane-growers' samity held up the bills of the sugarcane.

Meanwhile, Bhasan Ali and three others, arrested last month for extortion were released on bail on Thursday. The three others are Saiful, Delbahar and Zakir.

Exam centre shifted

A CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

The centre of Honours and Masters last part examinations have been shifted from Kushtia Government University College to Jhenidah KC College on Saturday.

A team of Jhenidah KC College came to Kashtia college and took the question papers, exercise books and other examination related matters in the morning, according to direction of National University. The action was taken due to massive unfair means in the examinations.

A delegation of National University visited Kashtia college to observe the Degree examinations on the first day of the examinations. They observed that the examinees had adopted massive unfair means in examination halls.

According to their reports, National University shifted the centre to Jhenidah KC College.

Illegal drugs destroyed

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sirajganj

The district administration of Sirajganj on Saturday demolished a total of 5,468 bottles of phensidyl, 278 kilos of liquid phensidyl and country made wine and 119 kilos of marijuana in front of the district Collectorate building.

The drugs were seized from different areas of Sirajganj during the last 100 days.

In presence of the state minister for power Iqbal Hasan Mahmud the drugs were destroyed by a bulldozer at around 2 pm on the day.

Massive rabi crops cultivation scheme in Gopalganj

PHOTO: STAR

A mustard field with golden crops at Bedgram in Sadar upazila of Gopalganj. A bumper production of mustard is expected here this year.

ALIMUZZAMAN MIAH, Gopalganj

A massive rabi crops cultivation programme has been taken up in five upazilas of Gopalganj.

A total of 6,000 hectares of land have been brought under wheat cultivation and production target has been fixed at 13,860 metric tons.

Upazilawise break-up is as follows. As many as 710 hectares in Gopalganj sadar upazila with a production target of 1,640 metric tons.

A total of 4,000 hectares in Maksudpur upazila with a production target of 9240 metric tons.

Nine hundred fifty hectares in Kasiani upazila with a production target of 2,175 metric tons.

Ninety hectares in Kotalipara upazila with a production target of 208 metric tons.

Two hundred fifty hectares in Tungipara upazila with a production target of 577 metric tons.

A total of 500 hectares of land have been brought under potato cultivation with a production target of 5,710 metric tons.

Maize is being cultivated on 200 hectares of land in Gopalganj with a production target of 874 metric tons.

A total of 350 hectares of land have been brought under sweet potato cultivation and the production target has been fixed at 3,500 metric tons.

Mustard is being cultivated on 9,000 hectares of land in Gopalganj with a production target of 9,000 metric tons.

A total of 2,000 hectares of land have been brought under ground nut cultivation and with a production target of 4,000 metric tons.

six thousand hectares of land have been brought under lentil cultivation with a production target of

4,300 metric tons. Two thousand hectares of land have been brought under gram cultivation with a production of 1,400 metric tons.

Three hundred hectares of land have been brought under green-gram cultivation with a production target of 220 metric tons.

About 1,500 hectares of land have been brought under pea cultivation and production target has been fixed at 1,100 metric tons.

Seventy five hectares of land have been brought under pigeon-pea cultivation and production target has been fixed at 38 metric tons.

About 500 hectares of land have been brought under onion cultivation with a production target of 5,000 metric tons.

Nine hundred ninety hectares of land have been brought under garlic cultivation with a production target of 5,700 metric tons.

A total of 500 hectares of land have been brought under green chilli cultivation with a production target of 1,000 metric tons.

Fifty hectares of land have been brought under ginger cultivation with a production target of 250 metric tons.

A total of 100 hectares of land have been brought under turmeric cultivation with a production target of 250 metric tons.

Three hundred hectares of land have been brought under coriander seed cultivation and production target has been fixed at 660 metric tons.

A total of 3,200 hectares of land have been brought under vegetable cultivation with a production target of 64,000 metric tons.

Third Islamic University convocation March 28

RAHAT AHMED, Kushtia

The 3rd convocation of Islamic University (IU) will be held on March 28.

Chancellor of the university Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia will confer degrees at the convocation. She will also preside over the programme.

This was decided at a meeting held on Sunday with Vice Chancellor Prof Mustafizur Rahman in the chair. Several sub-committees were also formed at the meeting.

The students who completed their honours and masters degrees in 1996 and 1997 are eligible to take part in the convocation. The students also can attend the ceremony whose results of honours or masters degrees were published in 1998.

Convocation fee of Tk 2,000 was fixed for those

receiving Ph D degree whereas it was Tk 1,500 for Mphil, Tk 800 for honours or masters degree and Tk 1,000 for both honours and masters degrees.

The last date of registration in the 3rd convocation for honours, masters, M Phil and Ph D degree holders was fixed on March 10.

Interested persons are requested to contact the Academic Section of the university.

Treasurer Prof Musharraf Hossain, Syndicate members, Deans of different faculties, Provosts of various student dormitories, Chairmen of different departments and Directors of institutes attended the meeting with Registrar Dr Moslem Uddin.

The 2nd convocation was held on December 5, 1999. Degrees were conferred upon 280 honours, 225 masters and eight M Phil and Ph D degree holders.

First round of 10th NID held in Moulvibazar

RAJAT KANTI GOSWAMI, Moulvibazar

The first round of 10th National Immunization Day (NID) was held on Sunday (January 27) in Moulvibazar successfully.

On the day polio vaccine and Vitamin-A capsules were administered to hundreds of children below the age of five years in Moulvibazar.

Dr Shafique Uddin Ahmed, Civil Surgeon of Moulvibazar arranged a press briefing on January 24 at the local Nursing Training Institute to brief the journalists on different rounds of NID held earlier and about the preparations of the first round of 10th NID.

A total of 731 health and family planning workers and 8,164 volunteers were engaged in 1,781 NID vaccination centres across the district to give Oral Polio Vaccine (OPV) and Vitamin-A capsule to children below the age of five to free the country from polio by the year 2005.

There were 206 NID vaccination centres in Rajnagar upazila, 303 in Sadar upazila, 449 in Kulaura upazila, 303 in Baralekha upazila, 231 in Kamalganj upazila, 228 in Srimongal upazila, 37 in Moulvibazar Municipality and 24 centres in Srimongal Municipality.

A total of three lakh 11 children of age group between one month and 59 months were targeted for OPV (Oral Polio Vaccine) and two lakh 56 thousand 284 children of age group between 13 months to 59 months for Vitamin-A capsules.

Of the targeted children, 50,160 for OPV and 42,053 for Vitamin-A in Sadar upazila, 36,306 for OPV and 30,527 for Vitamin-A in Rajnagar upazila, 77,271 for OPV and 65,446 for Vitamin-A in Kulaura upazila, 44,447 for OPV and 35,969 for Vitamin-A in Baralekha upazila, 39,955 for OPV and 35,504 for Vitamin-A in Kamalganj upazila, 39,862 for OPV and 36,600 for Vitamin-A in Srimongal upazila. 7,460 for OPV and 6,412



A motivational campaign in Tangail by the District Information Office to make the first round of 10th National Immunisation Day (NID) a complete success. The NID was held in Tangail and other parts of the country on January 27.

for Vitamin-A in Moulvibazar Municipality and 4,550 for OPV and 3,773 for Vitamin-A in Srimongal Municipality.

The Civil Surgeon informed the journalist that they have fined the targeted number of children of age between one month and 59 months after conducting a survey. Health and Family Planing workers have been conducting the survey. UNICEF has been collaborating in holding the NID, the Civil Surgeon added.