

NEWS SNAPS

Rickshawpuller killed in truck accident

UNB, Feni

A rickshawpuller was crushed under the wheels of a speeding truck at Mohipal area in Feni town on Friday.

Police and witnesses said the truck coming from opposite direction hit the three-wheeler of rickshawpuller Kamal Uddin, 45, killing him on the spot. After the accident the killer truck run away.

Old man killed by fellow villagers

UNB, Bagerhat

An old man was killed by his fellow-villagers at Barosinga in sadar upazila of Bagerhat Wednesday night.

Police said a group of youths beat Tarif Hossain Tarif, 54, to death at about 12.30 am, as he was opposed to holding a 'Lathi Khela'. On information, police rushed to the spot and arrested one of the youths, Atiar Hossain. Murad Hossain, son of the victim, filed a murder case against seven people.

Body of unidentified man recovered

UNB, Faridpur

Police recovered the body of an unidentified man from a wheat field at Satrosi village in sadar upazila of Faridpur Wednesday.

Police said the body of the 45-year old aged man was slaughtered and the face was burnt. A case was filed.

Alleged human trafficker held in Pabna

UNB, Pabna

Police arrested an alleged human trafficker along with a little boy in Sadar upazila Sunday night.

Residents of Patkebari village caught the woman along with the boy, Habib, 4, and later handed over her to police after giving a mass beating. The Hindi-speaking woman, who identified herself as Anjali Devi, 24, daughter of late Madan Pashma of village Jamta in Jamalpur thana of Saharsha district of India, was admitted to local general hospital with critical wounds. Police said Anjali might be a member of trans-border human trafficking gang.

Alleged smuggler with gold bar arrested

UNB, Jessore

Two alleged gold smugglers were arrested Friday from Ashram Road in Jessore town along with four gold bars weighing 40 tolas.

Kotawali police arrested Abdul Kuddus Sardar of Pulkhali in Benapole and Prasanta Biswas of the town when they were going to the bordering area riding a motorbike at about 9.30 am. Police searched them and found the gold bars worth Tk 2.8 lakh in their bodies. The motorbike was seized. A case was filed with local police station.

One arrested with counterfeit notes

UNB, Gazipur

Police arrested a man red-handed along with 24 counterfeit notes of Tk 500 denomination from Razendrapur Chowrasta on Wednesday.

Local shopkeepers nabbed the man, Zahirul Alam, 45, at the time of paying a forged note valued at Tk 500 after buying some goods from a stall in the area and informed police. The law enforcers caught him and recovered 23 more forged notes after searching his body. Zahirul Alam, resident of Razendrapur RP gate area, was taken to three-day police remand for interrogation. Meanwhile, a private car of a businessman -- M Nasiruddin -- was stolen from in front of his house in Joydevpur Tuesday night. A case was filed with police.

Armed terrorists active again in SW region

HOSSAIN SERAJ, Magura

Armed terrorists and activists of the outlawed parties in the southwestern region have become active again.

Armed terrorists on March 9 swooped on policemen at Customs ghat no 2 in Khulna town and snatched two firearms with some ammunition from policemen while they were on duty there.

Earlier, from January 1995 to March 2001, the terrorists looted 77 firearms and huge ammunition from different police outposts and government offices in the region.

The terrorists looted four arms from police at Utholi railway station in Chuadanga on January 28, 1995 and seven arms from Baruli police outpost at Pikegachcha upazila of Khulna on August 22 in 1996. The armed

miscreants snatched eight arms from on-duty police in a train at Barobazar in Jhenidah district on August 24, 1997 while five arms from a sea food factory in Khulna on December 29, 1997 and one firearm from Sonali Bank in Bagerhat on December 30 in the same year.

Besides, the armed terrorists snatched 10 arms from a cable factory in Khulna on August 1, 1998, 21 arms from Khulna Collectorate on September 4, 1998 and five arms from the on-duty Ansars of a passenger launch in Bagerhat on May 5, 1998.

An armed gang looted 12 arms from AKij Jute Mills in Jessore on September 19, 1999.

Moreover, the armed terrorists snatched four rifles and 140 rounds of bullet from policemen on March 23, 2001 while they were on duty in Satkhira town.

50 hurt as cops, examinees clash in Barisal

UNB, Barisal

Some 50 people including five cops were injured in a clash between police and mob during Dakhil examinations at Nolchhiti Islamia Senior Madrassah on Tuesday.

Police and witnesses said the clash erupted over a rumour following the expulsion of an examinee, Tanjila Akther, for adopting unfair means in the examination just before 1pm.

As a rumour was spread that the girl was assaulted by the magistrate who expelled her, several hundred people attacked the examination centre.

They pelted brickbats on police when they

came to disperse the mob. At one stage the agitated people ransacked the madrassah forcing the authorities to suspend the examination.

The mob also damaged the jeep of Upazila Nirbahi Officer of Nolchhiti and a motorcycle of Upazila Election Office parked in the madrassah compound. They set fire to both the vehicles.

Later, additional police rushed to the spot from Sadar upazila and brought the situation under control.

Police Sub-Inspector Mostafizur Rahman was injured critically during the clash. Four other constables received minor injuries. Police Super visited the spot.

New president, GS of Jhenidah Press Club

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jhenidah

The biennial election of Jhenidah Press Club was held at the club auditorium recently.

MA Ansari (The Independent) and Nizamudding Joarder (Ajker Kagoj) were elected president and general secretary of the club for the term 2002-2003.

Others are M Saiful Mabud (Janakantha) -- Vice President, Asif Iqbal Kazal (Dinkal) --Assistant Secretary, Aminul Islam Liton (Manabjamine) -- Office Secretary, M Anwar Ali (Sangram) -- Sports and Cultural Secretary and Delwar Kabir (The Daily Star) -- literary and library secretary.

Mostafa Mazed (Inqilab), Sheikh Selim (Bhorer Kagoj), Nuruzzaman Mantu (Observer), Aminur Rahman Tuku (UNB), and Azad Rahman (Prothom Alo) were elected the executive committee members of the club.

ASM Kabir, District Information Officer, Jhenidah conducted the election of the club as the Election Commissioner.

Price of furnace oil decreased

ABDULLAH AL-MAHMUD, Ctg

Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation (BPC) decreased the price of furnace oil by Tk 3.50 per litre to help flourish small industries in the country. The newly fixed price has gone into effect recently.

BPC, at the directive of higher authorities, raised the price of furnace oil to Tk 12.50 which was almost double the previous price of Tk 6.30 on December 27. The price-hike put the owners of small industries as well as medium ones in trouble affecting their production cost.

Considering the situation BPC has now refixed the price at Tk 9 per litre.

Some big industries such as Khulna Paper Mills, Pakshi Paper Mills, Ceramic industries and brick kilns also use furnace oil in the areas where natural gas is not available.

Furnace oil is also used in the ocean going and inland vessels as well as in the privately installed small power generating units as fuels.

As such the price-hike of furnace oil put them in great troubles.

Furnace oil is the only petroleum product produced at Eastern Refinery Ltd. (ERL) at Potenga in the country and there was an abundance of it.

Influentials grab govt khas land evicting poor in Sirajganj

AKHTERUZZAMAN BABLU,

Sirajganj

Hundreds of poor people who had been evicted recently by some influential persons from the government khas land adjacent to Sirajganj Sadar thana have been leading a sub-human life under the open sky.

The evicted persons have also been tortured by the influentials.

Some marriageable daughters of the evicted poor have been passing their time in great panic of being raped by the miscreants in such a situation.

The evicted people went to Sirajganj Pess Club and submitted a memorandum containing signatures of 29 heads of poor families to the Prime Minister through the journalists there seeking her immediate intervention. They sought her help because the local administration has taken the side of the influentials. The influentials have allegedly bribed the police personnel.

So, the victims sought justice through the local journalists, because they feel quite insecure in the prevailing situation.

The local administration has



A female member of an evicted poor family stands before her makeshift abode. Some influential persons evicted hundreds of poor people near the sadar thana in Sirajganj town recently from government khas land.

turned a deaf ear to their grievances.

It is worth mentioning, since independence of the country dishonest influentials already grabbed government khas lands worth crores of taka from different

parts of the district town.

When this correspondent visited the evicted people, they burst into tears and narrated their plight. They also told this correspondent that they would face death if they do 'excess'.