

NEWS SNAPS

Cop dies in Comilla train accident**BSS, Comilla**

One police constable was killed and three others were injured when Chittagong bound train Mohanagar Pravati ran over a police van at Langalcoot level crossing on Dhaka-Chittagong rail line in Comilla on Monday.

Driver of the police van constable Abdur Rahim, 45, met the tragic end to his life when he suddenly reached the level crossing just before arrival of the train at about 1 pm, police sources said. Three other constables survived the accident by jumping off the vehicle. They were slightly injured and treated locally. However, rail communications between Dhaka and Chittagong were not disrupted due to the accident.

Man, son killed in Barisal truck mishap**UNB, Barisal**

A man and his son were killed in a truck accident on Banda Road in Barisal town on Tuesday.

Witnesses said a speeding truck struck a rickshaw before hitting two pedestrians Akkel Ali, 45, and his son, Karim, 10 at about 8.45 am. Akkel died on the spot and Karim in a local hospital. The two met with the tragic accident while passing through the stadium area to witness the Independence Day programmes at Bangabandhu Udayan. Police seized the truck and filed a case.

Sherpur road accident claims one**UNB, Sherpur**

A man was killed and seven people were injured as a bus fell into a roadside cropland near Hawra Sirampur on Sherpur-Dhaka highway on Monday.

Police said the accident occurred at about 1.45 pm when the driver of the Sherpur-bound bus of Turag Paribahan lost control over the steering, killing his helper Kamal on the spot. Khorsheed Alam Rubel, a teacher of Dhaka B Ed College, was among the injured. He was being treated at Mymensingh Medical College Hospital. The other injured were admitted to Sherpur sadar hospital.

Husband kills wife for dowry**UNB, Mymensingh**

A young housewife was allegedly killed by her husband for dowry at Dhala Namapara village at Trishal upazila in Mymensingh on Friday.

The victim was identified as Saleha, 16. Police said Saleha was married to Abu Hanifa of the same village one year back. But Hanifa used to torture his wife for dowry since their marriage. On the fateful day Hanifa asked his wife to bring Tk 10,000 as dowry from her parents. As she expressed her inability to bring the money from her poor parents Hanifa stabbed her mercilessly and went into hiding. The victim succumbed to her injuries on way to hospital. Police arrested Hanifa's brother-in-law Matin in this connection.

Tk 107cr project to install power lines**UNB, Bhola**

A Tk 107 crore project has been undertaken to install electricity lines over 2600-km rural areas in Bhola.

Jute Minister Hafizuddin Ahmed inaugurated the project work at Char Kachchhapia village in Lalmohon upazila on Saturday. Palli Bidduyati Samity will implement the project.

15 injured by terrorists in Bagerhat**UNB, Bagerhat**

Some 15 people were injured, three critically, in an attack by terrorists at Moreganj upazila in Bagerhat on Tuesday.

Witnesses said a gang of armed terrorists attacked an Independence Day procession of local Awami League in Moreganj Bazaar in the morning. They fled the scene after police fired two teargas shells. Three of the injured Mamun, Humayun and Mostafa were admitted to Moreganj Upazila Health Complex. Awami League leaders blamed BNP for the attack. They also alleged the BNP cadres had captured two offices of Awami League and its youth front Jubo League in the upazila.

Barisal JCD, Jubo Dal offices ransacked**UNB, Barisal**

Local offices of Jatiyatabdhi Chhatra Dal (JCD) and Jubo Dal were ransacked on Sadar Road in Barisal town on Monday night.

Witnesses said the trouble erupted at about 9.30 pm when supporters of Maloy Group and Tareque Group belonging to Chhatra Dal were locked in a clash over intra-Party conflict. Three people, including JCD activist Arif, were injured in the clash. Police arrested two people in connection with the clash. A case was filed with the police.

87 cases pending with courts in Jessore**UNB, Jessore**

A total of 87 cases filed by the Bureau of Anti Corruption (BAC) are lying pending with different courts in Jessore.

Of the total, only 16 cases were disposed of. Sometimes, a section of middlemen try to influence the officials to settle the case giving bribe, it added. An official of BAC, wishing anonymity, denied the allegation of taking bribe and attributed lack of adequate manpower and infrastructure facility to the reasons behind delay in disposal of the cases.

Wheat procurement drive begins**UNB, Thakurgaon**

The wheat procurement drive-2002 has begun in Thakurgaon with a target to procure 45,000 mts of grains.

State Minister for Agriculture Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir inaugurated the drive in sadar upazila food godown on Thursday. Some 70,000 hectares of land were brought under wheat cultivation in the current season with an output target of 2 lakh tons, officials said.

Loan disbursed among maize growers**UNB, Bogra**

Rajshahi Krishi Unnayan Bank (RAKUB) has disbursed loan amounting to Tk 1 crore among 527 maize growers in Bogra in the current season.

According to officials, some 3,043 hectares of land have been brought under maize cultivation with an output target of 25,000 mts. Of the total, 50 hectares are in sadar, 1,440 hectares in Dhunot and 1,553 hectares in Sherpur upazilas.

**Bid to assault magistrate
SSC exam centre in
Gaibandha shifted****OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gaibandha**

The examination centre of Secondary School Certificate (SSC) examinations at Shaghata Pilot High School was cancelled and shifted to Bonpara High School following an attempt to assault the on-duty magistrate by the men of local Union Parishad (UP) chairman.

On March 16, when the English second paper examination was going on, the local UP chairman Abul Kalam Azad was seen moving inside the centre undeterredly. Then the on-duty magistrate asked him to leave the centre. Hot exchange of words took place between them. At one stage men of the UP chairman attempted to assault the magistrate. After being reported the Deputy Commissioner (DC) of Gaibandha ordered cancellation of the centre and shifted it to Bonpara High School.

2 terrorists held with arms**A CORRESPONDENT, N'ganj**

Fatullah thana police arrested two terrorists from Dapa area in the early hours of Tuesday.

Police said, Kalu, 30, son of Tara Mia, of Dapa-Idrakpur area, is a listed terrorist.

Acting on a tip-off, police raided the residence at about 3 am and arrested him.

Following Kalu's statement police arrested his accomplice Raju and recovered two revolvers from his possession. Kalu is accused in several cases including rape.

9,000 certificate cases filed**UNB, Comilla**

Some 9000 certificate cases filed to realise default farm loans of four nationalised banks could not be disposed of in years.

The four state-owned banks -- Sonali, Janata, Agrani and Bangladesh Krishi Banks -- filed the cases in 12 upazilas of Comilla to realise their default loan amounting to Tk 40 crore. According to competent sources, the number of certificate cases is rising day by day for lack of proper initiatives by the banks.

3rd IU convocation today**RAHAT AHMED, Kushtia**

The third convocation of Islamic University (IU) will be held today (March 28).

Prime Minister and Chancellor of the university Begum Khaleda Zia will chair the gala ceremony and confer degrees to various degree holders. It is the first convocation in any university after the take-over of administration by the BNP led four-party alliance.

Prof Dr Shomser Ali of Dhaka University will deliver the convocation speech on the occasion.

Earlier, the authorities concerned of the university invited the Secretary General of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) to deliver the convocation address, but because of his busy schedule he could not attend it.

However, he has sent messages wishing success of the convocation.

A budget amounting to Tk 14.42 lakh has been allocated for 18 sub-committees of the steering committee of the convocation, though the university faces an acute shortage of fund of Tk 5.5 crore revenue deficit.

The convocation venue has been selected at the newly constructed auditorium of the Teacher-Student Centre (TSC) at the campus.

A total of 284 various degree holders have registered their names to take

part in the convocation. Of them, 55 for honours degree, 57 for masters degree, 149 for both honours and masters degrees, six for M Phil and 17 for Ph D degrees.

Besides, nine students will get medals for their outstanding results in examinations.

Cadets of Bangladesh National Cadet Corps (BNCC) will give a guard of honour to Prime Minister and Chancellor of the university Begum Khaleda Zia before the convocation procession on the campus.

While talking to The Daily Star correspondent, vice-chancellor of the university Prof Mustafizur Rahman said, 'The university was established as an international university from its very inception under the University Act 1980. From the convocation venue, the university will be declared as an international university', he added.

At present about 8,200 students have been studying in 18 departments under five faculties with 871 teachers and employees.

The first convocation of the university was held on April 27, 1993.

BSS adds: Education Minister Dr Osman Faruq will attend the convocation as special guest.

Vice-chancellor of the university will hand over certificates to the students of 1996, 1997 and 1998 batches who received bachelor and post graduation degrees.

25 injured as police, copy suppliers clash**OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sirajganj**

At least 25 persons including three policemen were injured in two separate clashes among police and copy suppliers recently.

The clashes occurred at the Secondary School Certificate (SSC) examination centres at Talgachi in Shahjadpur upazila and at Jamtai Dhopakandi Bi-lateral High School in Kamarkhand upazila.

Police and witnesses said the clash took place at Talgachi when the copy suppliers encircled the on-duty policemen leaving at least 15 persons including one policeman injured.

Ten others including two policemen were injured at Jamtai Dhopakandi Bi-lateral High School centre.

On the other hand though the

examinations were held peacefully in Sirajganj town, Ullapara and Salanga Madrasa (Rajganj II), but the examinees adopted unfair means at random.

Locals alleged that the on-duty Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) of Ullapara Amit Kumar Baul assisted the examinees in adopting unfair means.

The UNO favoured the students hailing from the influential class and the activists of different political parties. He was tough with the examinees hailing from the poor class.

It is also alleged that the aforementioned UNO gave examinees the opportunity to copy in exchange of a handsome amount of bribe.