

NEWS SNAPS

Little girl killed in road mishap

UNB, Thakurgaon

A little girl was killed, and her mother and sister were injured in an accident at Bhulli, in the outskirts of Thakurgaon town on Thursday.

Witnesses said the accident took place in the evening when a Dhaka-bound night coach hit them while they were standing beside the road. The dead was identified as Khaleda, 7, daughter of Lutfi Begum of Chhoto Balia village in Sadar upazila. The injured, Lutfi Begum, 30, and her other daughter Aleya, 4, were admitted to Thakurgaon Sadar Hospital.

Baby roasted alive in Thakurgaon

UNB, Thakurgaon

A baby was killed and 11 houses were burnt to ashes in a fire at Baikanthapur village in Thakurgaon Sadar upazila Wednesday.

Locals said originating from the kitchen of Ansarul of the village the fire soon engulfed the adjacent houses. Anjumanara, 2, daughter of Afzul Haq, was roasted alive as she could not be rescued. Valuables worth Tk 50 thousand were also gutted in the blaze.

Madrasa student killed in road accident

UNB, Jhenidah

A madrasa student was killed in a road accident at Fatepur in Moheshpur upazila in Jhenidah on Monday.

The dead was identified as Tito, 12, son of Islam, and a student of Hasadah Madrasa. Police said the accident took place in the morning when Tito was run over by a passenger bus while getting into the vehicle. Later, he succumbed to his injuries on way to the hospital. A case was filed.

Terrorists torch AL supporter's house

UNB, Meherpur

Terrorists torched the house of an Awami League (AL) supporter at Baribaka village in Meherpur.

Locals said a gang of 7/8 Jamaat workers led by Mollik, Azizul and Rafiq set fire to the house of Abul Hasem, 40, in a bid to grab his land evicting him from the house. The terrorists also asked Abul Hasem not to file any case against them.

2 teachers, son held for assaulting AEO

UNB, Narasingdi

Police arrested two teachers and their son from their house in Sadar upazila Thursday for allegedly assaulting an assistant education officer (AEO).

The arrested were identified as Zahurul Haq, assistant teacher of Bhajapara Government Primary School, his wife Minara Begum, assistant teacher of Bazardi Government Primary School, and their son Moafazzal Hossain. Police said the arrested along with 8-10 people swooped on the office of assistant education officer in Sadar Upazila, Asaduzzaman, Wednesday and physically assaulted him for transferring Haq to another school for two months. A case was filed with police in this connection.

Terrorists loot UP chairman's house

UNB, Feni

Terrorists looted valuables from the house of a former Upazila Parishad (UP) chairman at Moti union in Sadar upazila in Feni Monday.

Police said armed terrorists allegedly belonging to ruling Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) ransacked and looted valuables of the house of Shahidullah Harun, an Awami League activist as he refused to pay Tk one lakh as toll to them. They also physically assaulted Anwara Begum, 65, mother of Harun. In another incident, fishes worth Tk 20,000 were looted allegedly by the terrorists of BNP from a pond at Gualia village in Sonagazi upazila Monday. Police said a gang of youths numbering 20 looted different kinds of fish from the pond of Kashem, a banker.



PHOTO: STAR
Female students of Chittagong University (CU) observed a token hunger strike at the central library of the university demanding removal of an assistant professor of Arabic Department for allegedly sexually harassing one of their fellow female student.

Eight killers get life-term RI in Faridpur

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Faridpur

Additional District and Sessions Judge of Faridpur Md Mahatabuddin in a judgement delivered recently sentenced eight persons of village Mathurapur in Madhukhali upazila to suffer life term rigorous imprisonment (RI) and pay a fine of Tk 5,000 each, in default to suffer RI for six months more in the sensational Miru murder

case in 1984.

The prosecution story is that the accused persons beat to death Sirajul Islam Miru of the same village at 9 pm on the night of June 15, 1984. They dumped the body under the running train at Nalia in the same upazila to avoid murder.

A case was lodged with Madhukhali thana in this connection accusing 10 persons. Police on investigation submitted

chargesheet against them, two of whom Israel Mridha and Abdur Rahman died during the trial.

The convicts are Mikai Mridha, Majed Sheikh, Hashem Mridha, Alauddin Mridha, Syed Mannaf Mistr, Habibur Rahman Sheikh and Yusuf Sheikh.

The judge, after examining the witnesses and relevant papers pronounced the judgement.

Three housewives 'beaten to death' by in-laws

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Three housewives were beaten to death allegedly by in-laws in Jamalpur, Benapole and Chaudanga on Thursday.

UNB reports from Jamalpur: A housewife was allegedly beaten to death at her in-law's house at Charbola village in Madarganj upazila Thursday.

Locals said Nurul Islam of the village married Mazeda Begum, 24, of the neighbouring village four years back.

Nurul Islam used to torture his wife for dowry since the marriage and on that night he and his relatives beat Mazeda to death.

Police recovered the body on the following day.

Another report from Benapole adds: A housewife was beaten to death at her in-law's house for dowry at Basatpur colony in Sharsha upazila Thursday.

The deceased was identified as Rabeya Begum, 25.

Police said Rabeya's husband Joynal and mother-in-law used to torture her to bring Tk 20,000 as dowry from her parent's house.

Her hands and legs were broken at one stage of torture on that day and she died on the spot.

Members of her in-law's house fled away soon after the incident.

A case was filed.

Another report from Chaudanga says: A housewife at a village in Sadar upazila was beaten to death allegedly by her mother-in-law over dowry on Thursday.

Police and locals said Selina Khatun, wife of Santi Mondal of Satgari village, was beaten to death by her mother-in-law Lal Bibi.

Police arrested Lal Bibi while the husband and sister-in-law and brother-in-law of the victim remained absconding.

A case was filed with local police.

In another incident, police arrested two alleged rapists — Sazzad Hossain and Paplu — in separate drives in Sadar and Damurhuda upazilas.

Police and witnesses said a gang of five thieves stole yarn and other valuables from the houses of



PHOTO: STAR

Police intercept a procession of Bangladesh Samajtantrik Dal (BSD) in Chittagong which was brought out recently to condemn the Israeli brutality in Palestine.

Two alleged thieves beaten to death in Sirajganj

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sirajganj

Two alleged thieves were beaten to death at village Katidagatti under Sadar upazila recently.

They were identified as Yasin, 30, son of Mohor Ali of village Islampur in Sadar upazila and Abdur Rashid, 35, son of Delbar Hossain of village Barabhog Sempura in Raiganj upazila.

Police and witnesses said a gang of five thieves stole yarn and other valuables from the houses of

Two abducted in Kushtia

A CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

Two persons were abducted by the cadres of 'Mandar Bahini' from village Buzrok Bakail in Sadar upazila Friday evening.

The victims are Rakib, 16, a schoolboy, son of Mofiz Uddin and Enamul Haq, 25, son of Ahmed Hossain.

Sources said a gang of 10 picked up the two at gunpoint while they were sitting beside a road at about 8 pm.

Kuakata popular among tourists despite lack of basic amenities

AROO TALUKDAR, Barisal

Kuakata, with its 18-kilometre long and two-kilometre wide shining sandy beach and glittering waves of the Bay of Bengal, has become one of the most attractive tourist spots in Bangladesh.

Though increasing number of tourists are crowding Kuakata, yet the seaside resort lacks the basic amenities for the tourists.

Another attraction of Kuakata is the Sundarbans which is very near to it.

The government took up some steps to turn this tourist resort into an attractive one.

Kuakata is situated in the lap of the Bay of Bengal with its scenic beauty and natural landscape. It is rare opportunity from where both the sunrise and sunset can be seen.

Rakhain tribal people and their strange way of living charm the tourists from home and abroad alike. The Kuakata sea beach is only 70 kilometres away from the Patuakhali district headquarters. It needs only three hours to reach the beach area from the district headquarters by road while it takes sometime more by riverine transport like launch or engine propelled trollers due to zigzag river routes.

In the dormitory, the rent per seat is Tk 150 while some well furnished rooms are being rented at Tk 500 per day. For the accommodation of tourists, there are two Duck Bungalows of the district council, one Duck bungalow of the Revenue

Everyday many tourists come to have a look of the 'Buddha idol'.

With a view to retaining the cultural heritage of the Rakhain tribals the government sanctioned and spent Tk 11 lakh. 'Rakhain Cultural Academy cum Rest House has been constructed rear the Kuakata Duck bungalow. In that complex there are some shops run by the Rakhain girls, from where different sorts of handicrafts, toys and many other thing made of osyter and shells can be bought. Besides, tourists can also buy bed sheets, lungi, wrappers of various design made by the Rakhain women with their own weaving sets.

Meanwhile, after the inauguration of the 'Holiday Homes', many people are showing keen interest to open residential hotels, rest houses or cottages with modern amenities for the tourists around the seashore.

The two-story 'Holiday homes' were constructed on 5 acres of land with an expenditure of 1.34 crore taken by the Parjatan Corporation of Bangladesh (BPC). At the first floor of the Holiday homes there is a 50-bed dormitory. At the ground floor there is a restaurant with modern amenities.

In the dormitory, the rent per seat is Tk 150 while some well furnished rooms are being rented at Tk 500 per day. For the accommodation of tourists, there are two Duck Bungalows of the district council, one Duck bungalow of the Revenue



PHOTO: STAR

A newly constructed Parjatan motel at Kuakata in Patuakhali. Despite various hazards tourists are now coming to Kuakata sea resort in increasing number.

are visiting Kuakata seabeach, specially in the winter season and also during the 'rash' festival.

'Rash' festival is a religious festival of the Hindu community when several hundred members of the Hindu community come here to observe the festival.

The long coconut garden along the sandy sea beach has created a natural heavenly landscape. Many tourists use to sit under the shadows of the coconut trees in the summer to get relief from the sun and for rest. The oldest 'Buddha Bihar' Sree Mangal Bihar at Kuakata is another exciting feature of Kuakata.

Some 70 years ago an image of 'Lord Buddha' with 1.5 tons of weight and seven feet height was set up at Mulpura temple.

Vikku Ukhema set up the image at the temple. But the temple was damaged severely and was almost wrecked during the cyclones in the early sixties. One Bachiu Talukder, as caretaker rebuilt the temple. But unfortunately it was further damaged in the cyclone in 1965.

Afterwards, the image (idol) was replaced from Mulpura to Keranipara at Kuakata in Patuakhali. From then the brass made Buddha idol remained there and is being considered as one of the great attraction for the tourists at Kuakata sea resort.

board, one motel of BPC and a rest house of Local Government Engineering Department (LGED).

Besides, there are some privately owned residential hotels like Hotel Sunrise, Hotel Aman, Hotel Samudra Bilas, Hotel Saikat, Hotel Sharif.

More hotels, cottages, restaurants and rest or guest houses are supposed to be opened during the next winter. Travel from the capital Dhaka to Kuakata has become more easier for the tourists than ever before. A luxury bus of Bangladesh Road Transport Corporation (BRTC) is plying between Dhaka-Kuakata-Dhaka every day and the fair for each passenger is Tk 160.

Besides, there are some more passenger buses which ply between Barisal, Patuakhali and Kuakata. Except there are also launch services between Dhaka, Barisal, Patuakhali and Kuakata at different periods. A double-decker launch departs at 5 pm everyday from Dhaka.

However, during the inaugural ceremony of 'Holiday Homes' at Kuakata, it was assured that a stol air service between Dhaka and Kuakata will start soon, but it is yet to start. Despite various hazards many tourists are frequently visiting Kuakata sea resort.