

NEWS SNAPS

One killed in Comilla road accident

UNB, Comilla

A man was killed and seven others were injured in a road accident at Kapashtola in Laksam upazila on Friday.

Police said eight passengers of a microbus were injured when the Dhaka-bound microbus were injured when the Dhaka-bound microbus collided with a passenger bus. Of the injured, M Shahjahan, 55, died on his way to hospital Begum, 52, Siraj and driver of the microbus Shafiqul were shifted to Dhaka in critical condition. The other injured Mumtaz Begum, 48, M Shah Emran, 26, Shah Ehsan, 12, and Emi were admitted to local hospital. The bus driver, however, managed to flee. A case was filed.

One hacked to death in Magura

UNB, Magura

Police said people of Nannu Khalifa hacked Golam Rasul, supporter of Amir Ali, to death taking him at a field when he was returning home at night. The murder was a sequel to a longstanding rivalry between Nannu Khalifa and Amir Ali over establishing supremacy in the area. On information, police recovered the body and sent it to the hospital morgue for the autopsy. A case was filed.

Outlawed party activist arrested

UNB, Satkhira

Police arrested an activist of outlawed party from Satkhira town on Friday.

Acting on a tip-off, police raided the Rajar Bagan area at noon and arrested Abu Daud, 38, the infamous 'Daud Bahini' chief and one of the top leaders of the outlawed Purba Banglar Communist Party at noon. Police said he was wanted in connection with 50 cases including murder, loot and arson.

Brick-fields endanger ecological balance

UNB, Chapainawabganj

A huge quantum of firewood is being used in the brick-fields of Chapainawabganj everyday defying the government ban and endangering the ecological balance.

There are some 75 brick-kilns in five upazilas of Chapainawabganj. But most of them have no clearance from the Department of Environment. An estimate shows at least 1.5 cubic feet of firewood is being burnt in these brick-kilns everyday. As per law coal must be used for burning bricks, but there is none to implement the law and bring the violators to book. Moreover, the brick-field owners are also using rejected tires of cars in their kilns polluting the environment. Locals said that the brick-fields are causing extensive damage to the adjacent crop fields and mango orchards.

Erosion takes serious turn in Chandpur

UNB, Chandpur

Erosion by the river Meghna has taken a serious turn in Puran Bazaar area and the river engulfed 50 dwelling house and shops in last few days.

Locals said the river is devouring about three kilometer areas stretching from Puran Bazaar to Bhoria belt in sadar upazila. They said 10 dwellings, a temple of Hindu community and a 100-year old Banyan tree were washed away on Tuesday. The people of the affected area have been passing their days in great panic. Meanwhile, the unabated erosion threatens the Chandpur Irrigation Project Embankment at Sakua and Bagadi and Balia unions in sadar upazila. The poor homeless people who have been passing their days under the sky urged the authority concerned to provide them with relief materials and take immediate steps to rehabilitate them for the sake of humanity.

Truck with electric polls seized for toll

UNB, Khulna

A truck laden with electric poles of Palli Bidyut Samity has been seized by an influential quarter of Jhalakati for tolls for several days.

A group of youths led by Mizanur Rahman seized the truck owned by Vice President Sheikh Wahidul Islam of Khulna Truck Owners' Association when it reached Jhalakati town on April 11. They also beat the truck driver and took away his license and other documents and demanded Tk 50,000 as tolls from the owner after calling him over phone. The truck owner said two representatives of Khulna Division Truck Labour Union held a meeting with local association but failed to release the vehicle. A general diary has been lodged, but police failed to recover the truck.

Three get life-term for killing one

UNB, Kushtia

A court in Kushtia has sentenced three people to life term rigorous imprisonment (RI) in a murder case.

The court also fined Hamidul, Akkas and Shariat Tk 15,000 each, in default, to suffer five years RI more. According to the prosecution, the accused strangled Santu to death on May 14, 1998. After examining records and witnesses, the Additional District and Sessions Judge pronounced the judgment on Saturday. In another judgement, another court sentenced one Babul to 14 years RI in an arms case on the same day.

200 colleges in Rajshahi need governing bodies

5,000 teachers, employees not getting salaries

ABDUL WADOOD, Rajshahi

More than 5,000 teachers and employees of about 200 private colleges are not getting their salaries for months together for disputes over formation of governing bodies.

Neither the local administration nor the education board authority could resolve the problem.

According to sources in Rajshahi Education Board (REB), dispute over formation of the governing body is a long lasting and common phenomenon. Somewhere it has created deadlock.

Each and every member of the governing body wants to dominate in the body. Everybody wants to establish his control over fund and appointment of teachers and employees. Thus often the governing body members are divided into more than one rival groups which hampers the normal functioning of the colleges. Teachers, employees and local elite also get involved in the groupings. The rivalry often results in clashes and legal actions making the situation more complicated.

Politics is also a reason behind the deadlock. Local ruling party leaders often try to change the old committee to place their partymen in the governing body.

Meanwhile, the government recently took an initia-

tive to resolve the problem. According to sources in REB, the Ministry of Education sent a circular on January 28 to the education boards saying that the government itself would form the governing bodies of the private educational institutions. The chairman of the governing body will be selected from among the Member of Parliament (MP) of the concerned area, the Deputy Commissioner (DC) of the concerned district, retired government officials, local educationists and social workers of the locality. In case of ad hoc committee, the convenor will also be appointed in the same way.

"But it has not been said in that circular who would recommend the name of the chairman of the governing body. So we could not follow the directive of the ministry", said an official of REB on condition of anonymity.

The REB authority has sought explanation of the circular, but it is yet to reach them.

Meanwhile, the REB authority, after receiving the circular, imposed an unwritten ban on formation of new governing bodies of the colleges which have no committee at present or the term expired colleges.

There are about 200 colleges which need to form new governing bodies. More than 5,000 teachers and employees of these colleges cannot place their bills of salary.



PHOTO: STAR

A physician examining the patients at a camp of free health care organised recently by Hatiya Dwip Samity, an association of the people of Hatiya, where 600 patients were given free treatment.

Jhenidah DIARY

9 killers awarded life-term imprisonment

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jhenidah

Additional Sessions Judge-2 of Jhenidah Mohammad Nurul Haque awarded nine persons life-term imprisonment and fined Tk 1000 for their alleged involvement in a killing case.

In default to pay the fine, the convicted will have to suffer six months more in prison. The convicted are Jasimuddin, Tasiruddin, Abdur Rashid, Liakat Ali, Abed Ali, Abdur Razzaque, Islamuddin, Arab Ali and Shahab Ali of village Hamardanga in Jhenidah sadar thana.

The case in brief, Abdus Sattar, a village matbar (headman) was allegedly beaten and chopped by a group of village men on February 15 in 1998. The incident took place over a trifling matter. Injured Sattar was rushed to Jhenidah Sadar Hospital. But he was referred to Dhaka in a critical condition. On February 24 he succumbed to his injuries there.

Clash leaves 10 injured

At least 10 persons including a woman were injured in a village clash at Lebutala in Jhenidah sadar upazila recently.

Police and eyewitnesses said the clash originated following a women affair at early hours of the day. At one stage both the groups faced each other with lethal weapons. Of the injured Hasia Khatun, 40, Ratus, 35, Ishaque Mandal, 55, Abdur Razzaque, 18, Sadidul Alam, 50, and Shahidul Islam, 35, were rushed to Jhenidah Sadar Hospital.

Saifur forms 101-man new BNP committee in Moulvibazar

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

The new committee of Moulvibazar district unit of Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) has been formed recently.

Finance and Planning Minister M Saifur Rahman has formed the new committee after a series of discus-

sion with local BNP leaders and workers.

M Naser Rahman MP, and Fayzul Karim Mayun have been appointed President and General Secretary respectively of the 101-member new committee of Moulvibazar district BNP.

Finance and Planning Minister M Saifur Rahman MP, and State Minister for Relief and Disaster Management Advocate Ebardur Rahman Chowdhury MP, have been appointed members of the committee.

Other office-bearers are: Senior Vice President Advocate Juned Ahmed, Vice-Presidents Advocate Sunil Kumar Das, Yousuf Ali, Sirajul Islam, Asad Uddin Batal and SM Zaman Motin. Joint General Secretaries Abdul Wali Siddiquee and Muzazzan Hussain Matuk, Organising Secretary Musharraf Hussain Badshah and Treasurer Moudud Alam.

This is for the first time in the history of politics in Moulvibazar that son has become the president while father has become member of the BNP committee. They are M Naser Rahman MP, President while his father Finance and Planning Minister M Saifur Rahman is a member in the new BNP committee.

BNP Secretary General Abdul Mannan and Minister for Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives has approved the new committee of Moulvibazar district BNP, party sources said.

Kuakata to be turned into attractive tourist spot

BSS, Barisal

State Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism Mir Md Nasir Uddin has said that special schemes would be taken for making Kuakata an attractive spot for the tourists.

The state minister, Nasir was addressing as the chief guest of a rally of a cross-section of people which was organised by the local BNP leaders at the tourists' centre at Kuakata on Thursday.

He also assured to take necessary steps for the development of 'Rakhains', a local ethnic groups so that they could lead prosperous lives.

Presided over by BNP General Secretary Prof Abdus Salam Hawlader, the function was also addressed, among others, by BNP local leaders Dr Shah Alam Khan, Prof Noor Bahadur Talukder, Jahangir Alam Talukder, Abdul Mannan Khan and Kabirul Islam.



An IT professional answering to the queries of participants at a seminar on Information Technology (IT) at Rajnagar Degree College. APTECH, Moulvibazar centre arranged the seminar recently.

