

NEWS SNAPS



Two hundred students of Rahimanpur Government Primary School of Sadar upazila in Thakurgaon recently collected 60,000 harmful polythene bags and destroyed those in a drive launched by them with the slogan "Save Agricultural Land and Environment from Harmful Effect of Polythene."

Youth strangled in Narayanganj

UNB, Narayanganj
A young man was strangled by unidentified assailants at Isapur in Rugganj thana in Narayanganj Friday night. The victim was identified as Zaman Mia, 25. Police recovered his body from a poultry farm adjacent to Isapur Bazaar Saturday morning. Zaman is believed to have been killed following a land dispute.

Young carpenter killed by miscreants

UNB, Bandarban
A youth was killed by miscreants in front of Islamic Charitable Dispensary in Bandarban municipal area Thursday night. The dead was identified as Arif, 22, a carpenter, hailed from Lama upazila. The cause behind the killing could not be known immediately. Police recovered the body from the spot Friday and sent it to the hospital morgue for autopsy.

Bodies of 2 unidentified men recovered

UNB, Bagerhat
Bodies of two unidentified men were recovered from separate places in Bagerhat Friday. The body of a middle-aged man was recovered from a fish enclosure at Karari village in Sadar upazila. The decomposed body of another youth was recovered from the Pashur River in Mongla. The bodies were sent to hospital morgue.

Two bodies found floating in river

UNB, Pabna
Decomposed bodies of an unknown youth and a girl were found floating in the Gumani River of Bhangura upazila on Wednesday.

Unidentified woman killed in road mishap

UNB, Noakhali
An unidentified woman was crushed under the wheels of a speeding bus on Chatkhil-Sonaimuri road in Begumganj upazila in Noakhali Friday morning. Police and locals said a Chittagong-bound passenger bus hit the 30-year-old woman near Amikbazar at about 10am killing her on the spot. The body was taken to general hospital morgue for autopsy.

Boy escapes from clutches of abductors

UNB, Magura
Yusuf Hossain, 14, a student of class VIII and son of Abul Hossain of village Shyamnagar in Mohammadpur upazila in Magura, managed to escape from the clutches of his abductors on Sunday after three days of his missing. Family sources said Yusuf was abducted by two miscreants on June 13 on his way back home from school. Later, they demanded Tk one lakh ransom.

Five-day art exhibition in Noakhali

UNB, Noakhali
A five-day mobile art exhibition began in Noakhali Friday. Noakhali Shilpakala Academy has organised the exhibition in collaboration with Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy. Noted artist Abu Taher inaugurated the exhibition while Deputy Commissioner (DC) Mostafa Kamal Haider presided over the inaugural function. The exhibition will remain open for all from 3pm to 8pm daily.

Four fugitives arrested

UNB, Jhalakati
Police in a drive arrested four fugitive accused Ramchandrapur union in Jhenidah Thursday night. Two of the arrested were identified as Mizanur Rahman, 31, and Ashok Das, 28. Assistant police Super Muhammad Golam Rouf Khan conducted the drive after local people complained that the culprits of 'Kana' Badal bahini are torturing them. In another raid, police arrested Sabuj along with a knife from Taltala bazar in Nalchhiti thana on the day.

Seminar on investment promotion

UNB, Feni
A seminar on "Investment Promotion in Export Processing Zones (EPZs) of Bangladesh" will be held at Feni Community Centre at 10am on Sunday. Feni Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FCCI) and Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority (BEPZA) have jointly organised the seminar. Major (ret'd) Sayeed Eskander MP will be present as the chief guest in the seminar where BEPZA executive chairman Brig Gen (ret'd) M Mofizur Rahman will present the keynote paper. VP Joyal Abedin MP will also attend the seminar as special guest.

Health camp at Manikganj

UNB, Manikganj
A day-long "Blood Donation and Free Health Camp" was held at a girls' high school in Sadar upazila in Manikganj recently. Disaster Management and Relief Minister Chowdhury Kamal Ibne Yusuf attended the function, organised by Education and Rural Development Foundation, as chief guest. Over 150 youths donated blood in the camp and doctors gave prescriptions to the poor patients after examining their health at free of cost. Chief Whip Khondoker Delwar Hossain, Head of the Department of Physiotherapy of People's University Dr Altaf Hossain Sarkar, Director of the Red Crescent Society K Jakaria Khaled also attended the function.

Construction of 2 UP complexes going on

UNB, Brahmanbaria
Two union parishad (UP) complex buildings are being constructed in Ashuganj upazila in Brahmanbaria in the current fiscal year. Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) is constructing the building at a cost of Tk 50 lakh. Construction work on Talshahar Union Parishad Complex building has already been completed while the work on Sharifpur Union Parishad Complex building is progressing fast. With the implementation of the schemes the long felt demand of the people of two unions would be met.

6,400 bottles of phensidyl recovered

UNB, Tangail
Some 6,400 bottles of Indian phensidyl were recovered from near the crossing at the eastern end of Jamuna Bridge in Tangail recently. Acting on a top-off, police raided a Dhaka-bound pickup from Bogra and seized the drugs. They also arrested pickup driver Muhammad Lokman and his helper Jewel Mia. A case was filed.

Low-lying areas in Patuakhali, Pirojpur inundated

Flood claims 4 children in Rangpur, affects 7 unions in Mymensingh

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Thousands of people were affected in Rangpur, Mymensingh, Patuakhali and Pirojpur districts due to flash flood created by incessant rains and onrush of hilly waters coming from the bordering areas of India. UNB reports from Rangpur: Several hundred flood stricken people who took shelter in Rangpur town on Saturday demonstrated in front of the Deputy Commissioner's (DC) office demanding relief. Four children were drowned or taken away by strong current of the water. The victims are Shamin, 8, of East Mistrypara, Batashe Begum, 6, of Mahiganj, Shakil, 7, of Dimla and Arjuna Begum, 3, of Char Chatuya in Kaunia upazila. Low lying areas of Rangpur town were flooded while a number of roads linking upazilas went under knee deep water disrupting communication. Hundreds of people affected by the flooding have taken shelter in educational institutions and highways. Diarrhoea broke out in some camps from where four people were admitted to Rangpur Medical College Hospital (RMCH) on Saturday. District officials said about one lakh people in 50 unions of eight upazilas have been affected by the flash flood caused by heavy rains and onrush of waters from hilly areas across the border. Standing crops, seedlings and seedbeds in the areas have been wholly or partially damaged. Officials said relief ministry has been requested for sending relief materials, which are yet to reach. A number of social organisations were seen distributing dry or cooked food among the inmates of different camps.

Our Mymensingh correspondent reports: Seven unions including four in Dhubaura upazila, a frontier upazila in Mymensingh have been flooded due to incessant heavy rainfalls and onrush of hilly waters from across the border. The heavy rains continued from June 13 to June 16. The seriously affected unions are Goshgoan, Purakandulia, Gamaritola and Goatala. Three other unions have also been affected. These are Dhubaura sadar, Bagbher and Dhakkin Maigpara. Matiul Alam, a resident of Purakandulia union told The Daily Star that following heavy rainfalls and onrush of hilly waters from across the border, the frontier upazila is affected every year as there is no cross-dam to save the croplands from the overflowing of the Netai River during the rainy season. However, the Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) of Dhubaura visited the flood affected areas. A report from Patuakhali says: Low-lying areas in Patuakhali town and shoal areas were inundated Saturday by flood water triggered by incessant rain since Friday night. Hundreds of people were marooned in the areas, including Golachipa. Locals said some 500 boats and trawlers sailed out for fishing in the Bay returned to the coast due to bad weather and took shelter in Mohipur and Alipur of Kalapara upazila. Meanwhile, the district Relief and Disaster Management office held a meeting and discussed measures to tackle any emergency situation. Another message from Pirojpur says: Low-lying areas in Sadar upazila in Pirojpur were submerged due to heavy shower in last few days. The worst affected areas included Juniar Char, Majher Char and Saudkhali Char.

Injunction on demolition drive at Sylhet market

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Demolition of shops of Sandhya Bazaar constructed illegally over a drain in Sylhet town remained suspended since Saturday afternoon. A Rule Nisi was issued by the division bench comprising Justice Md Abdul Matin and Justice Marjiul-Haque on six respondents-Deputy Inspector General of Police (DIG) of Sylhet range, Deputy Commissioner (DC), Superintendent of Police (SP), Officer-in-Charge (OC), Sylhet Kotwali, Chairman, Sylhet Municipality and Executive Engineer, Sylhet Municipality. The court passed the order after hearing a petition filed by Mukul Ahmed, Secretary of Poura Biponi Sandhya bazaar on Saturday. The court while giving an injunction order also ordered the respondents to reconstruct the portion of the said market demolished by them at their own cost. The demolition of the said market began Friday morning and continued till Saturday afternoon. As many as 233 shops were constructed on the first floor of the market, constructed over a drain years ago. The demolition was as part of the illegal structure demolition drive that began in the town weeks ago. Meanwhile, the officials of Poura Biponi Sandhya Bazar Bayboshayee Samity at a press conference in Sylhet Press Club also called upon the authorities concerned to stop the demolition drive as small vendors had been running their business in the market after taking prior allotment from the municipality authority.

1,155 held on various charges in 10 districts of Khulna division

UNB, Bagerhat

Police arrested 1,155 people on various charges and recovered five firearms during a weeklong special drive from June 7 in 10 districts of Khulna division. Of them, 17 people including six culprits of the outlawed parties, were arrested under Arms Act. They are Brojen Sikdar and Golam Sheikh of Khulna; Ebadat Khan and Shahadat of Satkhira, Akramuzzaman of Jessore, Shohrab Hossain, Mohammad

Shohrab and Minhajuddin of Jhenidah, Amal Kumar Biswas and Manjila Rani Biswas of Magura, Shahabuddin, Jamir and Mahfuz of Kushtia, and Monir, Mohibul, Golam Rasul and Nurul Islam of Meherpur. Police said separate special teams conducted the raids till June 14 in Bagerhat, Khulna, Satkhira, Jessore, Narail, Jhenidah, Chuadanga, Kushtia, Meherpur and Magura. During the period, police also searched 3,779 vehicles.

Armed robbery at mosque in Barguna

UNB, Barguna

An armed robbery was committed at a mosque at Uttar Nachnapara in Amtali upazila in Barguna Sunday night. Witnesses said the bandits numbering seven broke open the door of Baitul Aman Jame-Mosque and looted valuables, including Tk 1,200 in cash. 'Muazzin' of the mosque Moulana Mohammad Alam was stabbed indiscriminately when he tried to resist them. The robbers fled the scene as local people rushed to the spot hearing the hue and cry of the 'Muazzin'. The injured 'muazzin' was rushed to the upazila health complex in a critical condition.

One arrested with counterfeit notes

BSS, Satkhira

One person was arrested with counterfeit currency notes of 500 taka denomination on April 24 at Goaldanga Bazaar in Assasuni Upazila of Satkhira. The arrested person was identified as Sirazul Islam, 26, son of Akkas Ali of village Parulia in Debhata upazila. Police sources said, Sirazul bought some goods from a shop at Goaldanga Bazaar in Assasuni upazila and gave a note of 500 taka to the shopkeeper. The shopkeeper, being suspicious about the note, caught Sirazul with the help of other shopkeepers.

Road mishaps claim 2 including medical representative

UNB, Joypurhat

Two people, including a medical representative, were killed in separate road accidents in Joypurhat on Monday and Tuesday. Police and witnesses said medical representative of Rasha Pharmaceuticals Ltd Zahidul Islam was injured seriously when his motorcycle was hit by a bus at Khasbaguri-Fakirpara crossing on Joypurhat-Panchbibi road Tuesday morning. Zahid, son of Khondakar Zahurul Islam of village Deor in Akkelpur upazila was rushed to Joypurhat Modern Hospital where he succumbed to his injuries. In another incident on Monday, trader Mahfuzur Rahman of village Duranja in Kalai upazila was run over by a passenger bus at Goadanga Bazaar in Assasuni upazila and gave a note of 500 taka to the shopkeeper. The shopkeeper, being suspicious about the note, caught Sirazul with the help of other shopkeepers.

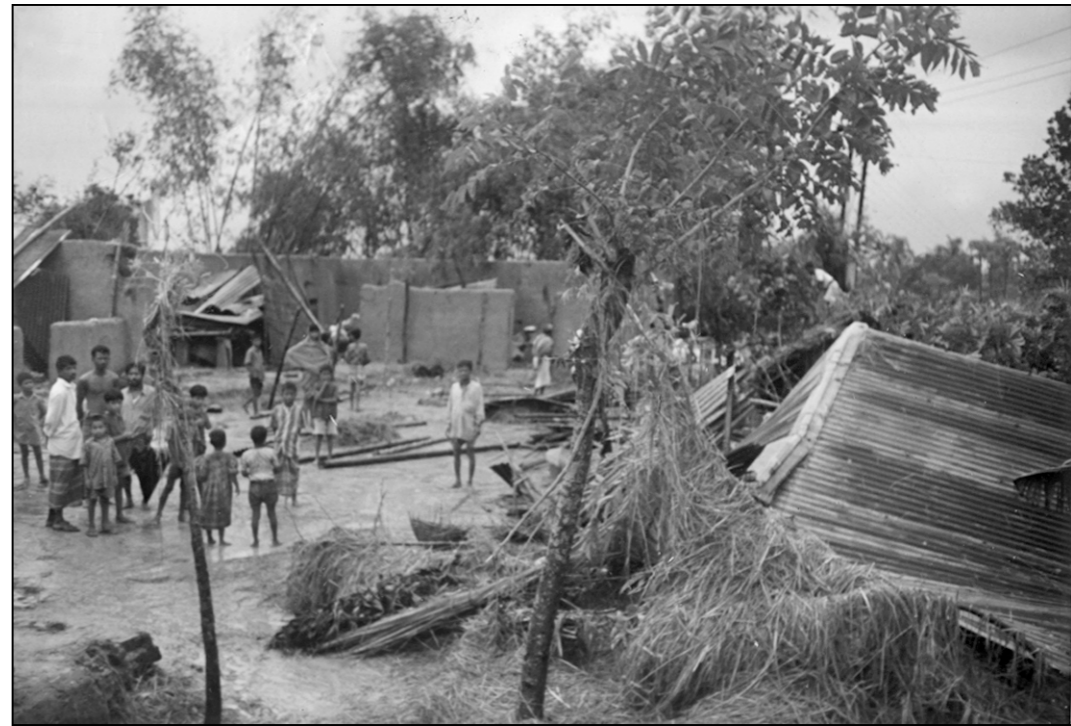


PHOTO: STAR

A tornado affected house at village Bhalukjan of Phulbari upazila in Mymensingh. Inmates of the house are now living under the open sky. They need relief and rehabilitation on emergency basis. The tornado lashed the aforementioned village on June 15.

Several houses damaged by tornado in Mymensingh

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

A tornado destroyed several houses at village Bhalukjan in Phulbaria upazila at 9pm on June 15 that left seven people including women and children injured. Local people said the tornado lasted for two minutes only. It has blown away roofs of several houses at Akanda Bari and Fakir Bari. All belongings of the inhabitants have been damaged. Of the injured, Imran, 6 and Rashida, 35 had been admitted to Phulbaria Upazila Health Complex.

Launch seized on charge of killing vendor

UNB, Munshiganj

Police seized a launch on charge of killing a vendor by throwing him into the river by its employees at Katpatti ghat in Munshiganj on Wednesday. Witnesses said the employees forcibly pushed down Khokon of Mirkadim area from the Chandpur-bound launch MV Bogdadia-7 at 9am. They said the vendor was killed as the river water turned reddish with blood. But the body could not be recovered. Police said the angry people attacked the launch and tried to set fire on it soon after the incident. However, police brought the situation under control.

Sexually abused girl's abortive bid to commit suicide

UNB, Magura

A sexually abused teenage girl in Sadar upazila in Magura took an unsuccessful attempt to end her life recently after being unable to bear the trauma. Locals said when the poor victim, Rokeya Khatun, 14, (not her actual name) of Gungnalia village went to work at a nearby betel-leaf farm (baraj) on May 25 last, local criminal Sushanta Kumar Saha, son of Shambhu Nath Saha, raped her. Later some local touts in the name of arbitration realised a handsome amount of money from the rapist, and of the total amount they gave only Tk 3,000 to the victim and warned her not to go to the police to file a case.

Delay in receiving viscera reports Unnatural death cases on rise

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Magura

Delay in receiving viscera reports from laboratory in Dhaka has been an obstacle to early disposal of a large number of unnatural death cases for a long time. A total of 78 cases have remained pending with courts only because of non-availability of viscera reports, according to official sources. Viscera tests are done on parts of human organs to find out the cause of death. In January this year 78 samples had been sent to the lone viscera laboratory in the country. But the district authorities are yet to receive the reports. Authorities here said the laboratory usually take a long time to send the reports. A reliable source said even reports of some of the samples sent about two years back are yet to be received till filing of this report. Besides, victim circles alleged that local authorities also take time to send samples to the laboratory. Civil surgeon office sources said it is a hard task for the lone laboratory in the country. More laboratories should be set up at least in the divisional headquarters. Delays in sending samples and receiving report are depriving people of justice.

Steps to recover illegally occupied khas lands

UNB, Moulvibazar

Moulvibazar district administration has taken up steps to recover illegally occupied government khas lands and lands of different departments in the town and adjoining areas. A magistrate has already been appointed to evict the illegal occupants from the land with the help of police administration. About 200 acres land of Water Development Board, Roads and Highways Department and Public Works Department and other departments have been occupied by the influential groups in the area for long, official sources said. The market price of these occupied land would be around Tk 300 cr, another sources said. No measure was taken to recover the khas land after 1975.

Jute production may fall short of target

UNB, Magura

The production target of jute in 10 districts of Khulna division is unlikely to be achieved owing to unfavourable climatic condition this year. The agriculture department set a target to bring 1,895 hectares of land under local variety of jute and 1.04 lakh hectares under 'tosh' variety in the current season in the 10 districts, an official said. However, some 444 hectares of land has been brought under local variety and 1.07 lakh hectares under tosha variety. Of the total land, 17,150 hectares were brought under farming in Magura, 16,165 hectares in Jessore, 9,850 hectares in Jhenidah, 7,031 hectares in Narail, 340 hectares in Khulna, 353 hectares in Bagerhat, 6,359 hectares in Satkhira, 16,683 hectares in Kushtia, 17,650 hectares in Chuadanga and 690 hectares in Meherpur.