

NEWS SNAPS

Two killed in separate incidents

BSS, Rajshahi
Two persons including one little boy were killed in two separate incidence in Rajshahi last week, police and hospital sources said.

One school student identified as Sohel, 10, of Hatganopara village in Baghmara upazila was run over by a truck while he was crossing the road at the same village on Sunday noon. Police arrested the driver and seized his truck in this connection. Another person identified as Abdul Momin, 55, a resident of Ahmadpur village in Boraiagram upazila of Natore succumbed to his injuries at Rajshahi Medical College Hospital (RMCH). He was injured as he fell down from a tree near his house on June 26.

Price of rice rises in Narail

BSS, Narail
The price of rice has gone up in different markets in Narail during the last three weeks causing hardship to fixed income group of people.

The prices of condensed milk (baby-food) and sugar have also gone up. Coarse rice available in the market is being sold at Tk 12 to 13 per kg, which was sold at Tk 10 to 11 three weeks ago. Fine quality of rice is being sold at Tk 16 to 17 per kg, which was sold at Tk 13 to 15 a few weeks ago. Sugar is being sold at Tk 36 to 38 per kg, which was sold at Tk 31 to 32 two weeks ago. Flour is being sold at Tk 11 to 12 per kg, which was sold at Tk 9 to 10 in the last month. Soybean oil is being sold at Tk 45 to 46 per kg, which was sold at Tk 38 to 40 one month ago. Salt (without iodine) is being sold at Tk 8 per kg, which was sold at Tk 6 two weeks past. Most essential condensed milk (baby-food) namely Red Cow per tin (2000 grams) is being sold at Tk 590, which was sold at Tk 450 per tin in the last month. Bebelac-1 and Bebelac-2 (450 grams) are sold at Tk 230, which was sold at Tk 215 per tin one month ago.

Armed robbery in Narayanganj

BSS, Narayanganj
Armed hoodlums decamped with Tk one lakh and 250 tolas of gold ornaments at broad day-light from a house of an industrialist at Kashipur Hatkhola in Fatullah police section.

According to police, a group of armed robbers numbering 10 to 15 wearing suit entered into the house of Nazrul Islam, owner of the Star Fabrics, identifying themselves as his guests. They took food from refrigerator and after taking food they tied up the inmates of the house including Rabeya Islam, 50, wife of Nazrul Islam, her daughter Maria, 15 and maid servant Razia Begum, 45. Then they took the keys from Rabeya Islam and opened the iron safe and looted money and gold ornaments. A case has been registered with Fatulakh police station.

28 workers injured in clash in Rangpur

BSS, Rangpur
At least 28 people were injured in a clash between two groups of Motor Sramik Union recently at Rangpur central bus terminal in Rangpur.

Police and witnesses said the clash started between the supporters of former secretary of Rangpur Motor Sramik Union Hadibuzzaman Shahin and the present Secretary Abul Kalam Azad over forming a convening committee and election committee. A 10-member convening committee and five-member election committee was declared by the general meeting which was opposed by Hadibuzzaman Shahin. Police resorted to baton charge and lobbed 10 rounds of tear gas shells to bring the situation under control. Of the injured, Zahidul 20, Tota, 18, Mithu, 22, Rahmat, 25, and Kaziz 28 were admitted to a local clinic.

Hats, bazaars in pitiable condition

BSS, Chuadanga
Hats and bazaars in all the four upazilas, Chuadanga Sadar, Alamdanga, Damurhuda and Jibannagar, are in pitiable condition causing inconvenience to both the buyers and the sellers.

Almost all the hats and bazaars of Chuadanga has no drainage system and the situation become worse during the rainy season. Absence of public toilets at hats and bazaars in many places causes sufferings to the people. Moreover, filth and garbage are being dumped in the bazaar areas emitting bad odour and helping breeding of mosquitoes. Unplanned building of shops and tin-sheds have been causing untold sufferings to the sellers and buyers. Local people and shopowners urged the authorities concerned for development and proper maintenance of the hats and bazaars immediately.

1 gets 5-year RI for repression on women

BSS, Faridpur
Additional District Magistrate M Mizanur Rahman, in a judgement delivered recently convicted one person named Sapu of East Kohabashpur area of the town and sentenced him to suffer five-year rigorous imprisonment (RI) on charge of women repression.

According to prosecution story, in brief, accused Sapu out of enmity seriously injured Sumi, a student of class X, by throwing stone while she was going to school on November 23, 1995. As a result Sumi lost her left eye. Sumi, daughter of Dr Torab Ali of this town, is now a student of degree class having one eye. Accused Sapu is already in custody.

Tk 7.50cr sanctioned for hospital

BSS, Barisal
Government has sanctioned Tk 7.50cr for the development and renovation of Barisal Sadar Hospital during the next fiscal (2002-2003).

This old general hospital is being modernised and upgraded to 200-bed from 100. The hospital will provide quarters to doctors and nurses in addition to extension of the old hospital building for flourishing it into a full-fledged 200 beds hospital. The hospital will be completed within two years, an official source said. Health and Family Welfare State Minister Amanullah Aman inaugurated the extension work of the hospital on May 15.

24 projects implemented at Gournadi

BSS, Barisal
Gournadi Municipality is implementing 24 projects for its development at a cost of Tk 30,18,718 this fiscal.

According to an official source, the projects include construction and reconstruction of roads, bridges, culverts, drainage system, earthwork and construction of an office building for the welfare of Army personnel. Work of the projects is expected to be completed within next two months. The infrastructures of the municipality will be improved to a great extent after completion of the projects.

1,349 projects progressing fast in Pabna

BSS, Pabna
Work on 1,349 development projects at a cost of Tk 79.78 crore are progressing in 9 upazilas of Pabna during 2001-2002 fiscal.

The projects include construction of rural roads, bridge, culverts, community clinic, union parishad complex building, primary school and repairing and renovation. According to Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) sources, 98 per cent work of the projects have already been completed.

Freedom fighter's kidney damaged

BSS, Brahmanbaria
One kidney of freedom fighter Md Amir Hossain (Bir Protik) is totally damaged.

His physician Dr KM Hossain Tawhid, Kidney Division of Community Care Hospital, has suggested immediate transplantation of one kidney. Md Amir Hossain is the father of four little daughters, two sons. He is the only earning member of his family. It will not be possible on his part to bear the cost of such expensive treatment. He has appealed to the benevolent people of the country and also local and foreign organisations to extend their helping hand to save his life. Any person or organisation willing to help him has been requested to send donation to the following account, SB No-1396 Janata Bank, Tanbazar Branch, Brahmanbaria.

146 unnatural deaths reported in 10 dists

UNB, Jessore
Some 146 unnatural deaths, including 33 murders, were reported in 10 southwestern districts.

According to police record district-wise killing incidents are: Jessore 9, Jhenidah1, Magura1, Chuadanga-7, Kushiha-3, Meherpur1, Sathkhira2, Khulna-5, Bagerhat-3, and Narail1. Besides, four people were cut under train, three in fire incidents, 50 people in road accidents, 41 committed suicide and 15 others in various incidents. The highest number of rape incidents was also reported from these districts during the month of February. Of them, two women were raped in Bagerhat, four in Khulna, three each in Sathkhira and Jessore and one in Kushiha.

86 schemes undertaken for irrigation

BSS, Gopalganj
Gopalganj O&M Division, BWDB, has taken up 86 schemes including excavation and re-excavation of canals to expand irrigation facilities in Gopalganj.

A total of 5,000 tons of wheat under World Food Programme (WFP) has been allocated for the schemes to provide irrigation facilities to 10,000 hectares. Concerned officials has termed the allocation insufficient as it would not fulfill the requirement of food necessary to complete the projects.

Eviction drive in Moulvibazar

500 illegal structures demolished

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

Over 500 unauthorised pucca and kutcha structures constructed by influential groups or individuals on the land of Moulvibazar Road Division from Sherpur to Bhairab Bazaar area in Moulvibazar have been demolished, says on official of the district road division office.

Lands worth about Tk 200 cr have also been recovered. The drive started from June 19 and is still continuing.

The district road division is conducting the drive with the help of district administration.

However, evicted people and owners of the demolished buildings are alleging that the eviction drive

started without prior notice. But an engineer of the Moulvibazar Road Division said they have already served the eviction notice to occupants.

The drive is being conducted with the help of a huge contingent of police led by first class magistrates. A team of Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) is on alert to respond to the call of the authorities concerned.

A magistrate told newsmen at the eviction site that there has been no untoward incident during the drive. People of all walks of life are cooperating and the drive was peaceful, he informed.

In affected owners of illegal structures held a press conference and expressed their unhappiness over the drive.

Innocents harassed due to BKB's fault

Despite repayment of loan 3 held in loan default case

UNB, Jhalakati

Three elderly brothers were arrested Tuesday in a loan default case filed by Bangladesh Krishi Bank (BKB) although they repaid the loan about a year ago.

Majid Karigor, 75, and his younger brothers Mohammad Ali, 68, and Abdul Goni Karigor, 62, of Noiar village in Sadar upazila were arrested following an arrest warrant issued by a court for nonpayment of the loan their father took from the bank against their names, police said.

However, the three brothers repaid the loan with interest to BKB's Bamanda branch last year.

But the bank failed to issue no-objection certificate to the concerned court after the repayment of the loan. So the court issued the arrest warrant against the three brothers, prompting police to take them into custody.

The arrested were also produced before the court on the day.

Meanwhile, the bank issued the no-objection certificate when relatives of the arrested sought its help.

Barisal Municipality budget announced

UNB, Barisal

The annual budget of Barisal Poursava (municipality) with an estimated amount of over Tk 169.85 cr for the current fiscal year was announced Sunday.

Municipality Chairman Ahsan Habib Kamal announced the budget at the poursava auditorium in the evening without imposing any new tax.

Of the total, over Tk 67.11 cr has been estimated as expenditure in revenue sector while over Tk 101.38 crore in development sector and Tk 1.36 crore in capital sector.

A report from Brahmanbaria says: The new annual Tk 2.76-crore budget of newly formed Akhaura poursava was announced showing a surplus of Tk 19 lakh.

Poura chairman M Nurul Haq Bhuiyan on Sunday announced the budget in which income was estimated at Tk 2.76 cr and the expenditure at Tk 2.57 cr.

A message from Shariatpur says: Over Tk 3.83cr budget was announced for local poursava on Sunday for the current fiscal year.

Sunday for the current fiscal year.

Poura chairman Yakub Ali Hawlader also announced a revised budget of over Tk 1.71 cr for the poursava.

Report from Jamalpur says, over Tk 7.93-crore budget has been announced for Jamalpur Municipality estimating a surplus of Tk 2.68 crore.

Poura chairman Mirja Shakhawatul Alam announced the budget on Sunday without imposing any new tax.

A report from Bogra says: The new annual budgets of Sherpur and Shantahar poursavas of the district were announced on Saturday.

Over Tk 4.44 cr new budget was announced for Sherpur poursava without proposing any new tax while over Tk 2.39 cr for Shantahar poursava.

Another report from Sunamganj says, the new annual budget of over Tk 1.45 cr for Jagannathpur poursava of the district was announced Thursday with a surplus of Tk 5.93 lakh.



PHOTO: STAR
Activists of Narayanganj Zila Chhatra Dal parade the streets of the port town hailing appointment of Tarique Rahman as the Joint Secretary General of the ruling Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) recently.

Human traffickers active in S region

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Human traffickers are very active in the southern region of the country. Barisal town has become the transit point of woman and child trafficking.

A source told on condition of anonymity that an evil racket of smugglers has been running their network with the help of two influential persons. They are allegedly members of the international smuggling racket.

A report of a human rights organisation revealed that this evil racket, in the meantime, has extended the areas of their activity in different areas of Jhalakati, Barguna, Patuakhali, Pirojpur and Bhola districts in Barisal division including Noakhali, Laxmipur, Hatia and Sandweep in Chittagong division.

Men and women of this gang are working in the dwelling houses in guise of servants and maid servants and lower class employees in schools, colleges and madrasahs, particularly around the town and village areas.

It is widely alleged that teenage

girls, women and children are being trafficked to the neighbouring states of India and other countries of the world.

The organised groups send money and false letters to the guardians of the victims for some months with a view to befooling them.

A source close to the evil gang said on condition of anonymity this gang chooses Barisal region as their base and transit point, because Barisal is a riverine area having easy access through river routes and link toward the Bangladesh-India border by land.

The victims are taken to Barisal through river and land routes and later sent to selected destinations in the border areas by road at night.

Brokers of this racket have easy access to the border areas through their own network. They have their own men including the local musclemen at the destinations who manage everything. Even on-duty members of the law enforcing agencies are also bribed by them.

According to people of different places, it is a chain work among all



Bholta Bazaar, Narsingdi's early morning fish market gets busy with hundreds of fishermen arriving to sell fresh catches on auction. The fresh water fish are much cheaper here compared to those in the capital or elsewhere.

Clash over filing case over scandal: 10 hurt by rivals in Brahmanbaria

UNB, Brahmanbaria

Ten people were injured in a clash between two rival groups at Belua village in Nasirnagar upazila Saturday.

The clash ensued following filing of a case with court relating to a scandal.

Five of the injured Marufa Begum, 23, Sayera Begum 28, Deen Islam, 35, Ranu Mia, 74, and Fazal Mia, 32, were admitted to the upazila health complex.

A message from Munshiganj adds: A young man was shot at and critically injured by some extortionists at Satrapara of Champatala in

Sadar upazila Saturday.

The hoodlums swooped on Mohammad Hossain Shyaml, 36, of the area, at night and shot him when he refused to pay them Tk 30,000 as toll.

The victim was rushed to Sadar Hospital and later shifted to Dhaka Medial College Hospital (DMCH).

Body of housewife exhumed seven days after burial

UNB, Dinajpur

The body of a housewife was exhumed seven days after her burial on Thursday following the prayer of deceased's father.

The body of Rozina, 20, daughter of Abdur Rob of Dakkhin

Haripur of Nawabganj upazila was exhumed in presence of first class magistrate Moazzem Hossain.

Her husband Obaidur Rahman and his family members killed three-month pregnant Rozina for dowry at Padumhat village on June

19, but filed a case with the police stating that she committed suicide.

Later when Abdur Rob came to know about the incident he filed a murder case on June 25.

Police sent the body for re-postmortem.

Six-day eye camp concludes

UNB, Khagrachhari

A six-day eye camp, arranged by Khagrachhari district administration, concluded recently.

More than 600 eye patients were given treatment free of cost with the help of National Blind Welfare Association, Chittagong and Pahartoli Eye Infirmary and Training Complex. Besides, a total of 72 patients with complicated eye problems were operated upon during the programme at Khagrachhari Model Primary School.

Tk 10.50 cr development schemes to start soon

UNB, Rangpur

The Rangpur District Council has taken up 24 development schemes in six upazilas involving Tk 10.50 crore in the current fiscal year.

The schemes included road carpeting, construction of passenger sheds, public toilets, dustbin renovation, repair of Zila Parishad Bhaban, Dakbungalow, Rest House, union parishad bhaban, drains, bridges and culverts. Works of these schemes will be started soon, official sources said.



A seminar on "Aptech Internship Programme" organised by the Feni branch of Aptech Computer Education is in progress in the district town. Shudhir Bikash Dev, Principal of Feni Government College was the chief guest while Amir Ahmed, Corporate Communication Head, Aptech Worldwide Bangladesh Ltd (AWBL) was the keynote speaker and Shahraria Sultana Ria, Area Sessine Head of AWBL spoke about the operation of Aptech. Mostafa Aziz Mohammad Babar, Chairman, FIIT Ltd was also present on the occasion on Tuesday.

Young man electrocuted, two hurt in Brahmanbaria

UNB, Brahmanbaria

A young man was electrocuted and two people were injured in Kosba upazila Tuesday.

Witnesses said Pradip Das, 25, of Bhoirab Nagar village died instantly as he came in touch of a live wire when he along with his associates went for fishing at Kurir Patharia Beel.

His associates, Mazu Miah, 28, and Bhajan Das, 24, who suffered wounds in the incident were hospitalised.

In another incident, police arrested a convicted accused, Mobarak Hossain Tuesday.

Hossain of Kalachhara village in Sadar upazila was sentenced to life term in jail by a court here in a murder case.

Telephone bills heap up to Tk 1.2 cr in Magura

UNB, Magura

The dues of local telephone exchange to its subscribers has heaped up to Tk 1.2 crore.

According to competent sources, some 1,000 subscribers out of 1,300 did not pay their phone bills for long.

"Most of the bill defaulters are government officials and political leaders," said an official wishing anonymity.

He said the authorities had taken steps to disconnect the telephone lines of the bill defaulters.

The 1300-line analogue exchange has been converted into a 5,000-line digital one.



Professor M Mustafizur Rahman, Vice-Chancellor of Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU) laying the foundation stone of the extension building of the Faculty of Agriculture recently.