NATIONAL

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NEWS SNAPS

Road accident kills 2 in Manikganj UNB, Manikganj

Two businessmen riding a motorbike died when a Dhaka bound BRTC coach hit them from behind at Pachuria on Dhaka-Aricha highway on Thursday morning. Witnesses said Alamin died on the spot while Sharif succumbed to his injury at

Sadar hospital. They hailed from Barangakhola village of Sadar upazila. Police seized the coach and arrested the driver.

One beaten to death in Magura **OUR CORRESPONDENT,** Magura

One person was beaten to death following an altercation over monetary issue in the Stadiumpara area of Magura town on Thursday afternoon.

The victim was identified as Momtajuddin, 40, son of Hossen Kazi in the town witnesses said. Momtai locked in an altercation with a local youngman and demanded his money amounting to Tk 500. At one stage he was beaten up severely. Momtaj was rushed to Magura Sadar Hospital in an unconscious state where he succumbed to his injuries after a while at around 6 pm. No case was filed in this connection till filing of this report on Thursday evening.

Rickshawpuller stabbed to death

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jhenidah

One young rickshawpuller was allegedly stabbed to death by unknown miscreants near Pirojpur in Kaliganj upazila in Jhenidah on Wednesdav night.

The dead was identified as Alam, 27, of village Shakharidah in Harinakundu upazila, according to police sources. He was living in the brickfield area in Kaliganj town. Police said, an unknown miscreant hired Alam's rickshaw from Laxmi Cinema Hall in Kaliganj town at about 9 pm. Later his body was recovered from the spot. A case was lodged with Kaliganj thana in this connection. The body was sent to Jhenidah sadar hospital morgue for autopsy. No one was arrested till filling of this report in the evening on Thursday.

Woman killed in road accident

A CORRESPONDENT, Bogra

One housewife was killed and 12 others injured in a accident on Bogra-Kahaloo road at Damai village in Kahaloo upazila on Wednesday evening.

The deceased was identified as Jarina Khatun, 50, wife of Jabed Ali of Haturpara in the same upazila. Police said the accident occurred when a Kahaloo bound passenger driven shallow engine van coming from Bogra town turned turtle on the spot as its driver lost control of the steering. The critically injured Jarina was rushed to Bogra Mohammad Ali Hospital while others 11 took first aid from Kahaloo Health Complex. Jarina succumbed to her injures on Thursday morning. A case was filed.

Tk 34 cr loan distributed among farmers

UNB, Madaripur

Four state-owned banks distributed farm loan amounting to Tk 34 cr among farmers of Madaripur in the last fiscal.

The banks are Sonali, Janata, Agrani and Bangladesh Krishi Bank. The farmers took the loan for paddy and sugarcane cultivation, officials said.

Massive afforestation programme

UNB. Rangamat

Rangamati District Council has undertaken a massive afforestation programme in the Under the programme, over 50,000 saplings will be planted, officials said. The

council has already started planting saplings on Kathaltoli embankment. Forest Department is supplying saplings to the council.

Renovation of educational instts

goes on

UNB, Madaripur

Over a hundred educational institutes in Madaripur are being renovated under a Tk 1976 cr project

Facilities Department of Education Ministry is implementing the project, officials said. The project is likely to be completed by December next.

Rural electrification programme progresses

UNB,Madaripur

The rural electrification programme of Madaripur Palli Biddyut Samity (PBS) is progressing in five upazilas of the district. The upazilas are Rajoir, Kalkini, Shibchar and Madaripur Sadar

The Samity launched its programme in 1982-83 fiscal and gave 51,162 power connections installing distribution lines over 1776 km areas. The power connections vere given to houses, shops, factories and irrigation projects in 350



Unabated erosion by the River Tetulia in Sreepur of Barisal. The river already devoured many homesteads and croplands making hundreds pauper.

15 murdered in six months in Magura

HOSSAIN SERAJ, Magura At least 15 people were murdered in

six months from January 2 to July 5 Shalikha upazila. in four upazilas of Magura, showing deterioration of the law and order timber-trader Rejaul Islam, 35, of village Ruijani was chopped to situation Of the murders, five were comdeath while he was returning from

mitted in Sadar upazila, five in Sreepur, three in Shalikha and two in Mohammadpur upazila. On January 2, an outlaw was

demand toll from a villager.

Doarpar area in Magura.

On April 8, a house wife identified as Phooli Begum, 25, of village killed by his rivals at village Bishnupur in Sadar upazila was Moshakhali in Shalikha upazila. He strangled allegedly by her husband was identified as Majidul, 35. On the on the same day. Golam Rosul, 32, night of January 10, another notoriof village Chargoalpara was hacked ous outlawed party leader Nazmul, to death in a clash between two rival groups of villagers. 40, was beaten to death by angry

headquarters.

On May 19, a cruel mother in villagers at Chongachchi in Sreepur upazila, when he went there to village Ghullia of Mohammadpur upazila killed her baby Dukhu Mia of 37 davs

On the night of February 20, a On May 21, an activist of BNP madrassah teacher identified as Mohammad Ali. 50. was stabbed to Zahurul Islam, 40, was stabbed to death by his younger brother Azad, death in a clash between the activists of Awami League (AL) and BNP 22, in a row over monetary issue in at village January in Shalikha On March 8, Shaheb Ali. 50. an upazila

activist of BNP was chopped to On May 30, Moazzem, 40, of death in a clash between two facvillage Goalbary in Sadar upazila tions of BNP at village Koatbagh in was hacked to death by his rivals over precious enmity.

Again on the night of April 10, a On June 6, Kased Ali, 40, of village Char Goyeshpur in Sreepur upazila was shot dead by the outlawed party activists. his working place at the upazila

On June 15, an unidentified woman, 25, was killed after being raped at village Ghoramara in Sadar upazila.

On the night of July 4, outlawedparty activists kidnapped Shamela Begum, 25, a housewife of village dead at a nearby bridge.

upazila.

Zahida Khatun, 18, was strangled after being raped by criminals at a jute field at village Boroichara of Sreepur upazila.

UNB, Jhenidah

A huge anti-drug rally was brought

out at Kaliganj upazila headquarters

including students, teachers, cul-

aware about drug abuse.

Widespread use of rectified spirit as liquor in Gaibandha

Floating vendors of spirit are

found to sell liquor openly from

and later dispose off it to different

Besides the town areas, the

illegal trade of spirit is also found at

the outskirts of the district town like

Badiakhali, Bonarpara, Laxmipur,

districts.

culverts in Suktagarh union.

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gaibandha

A tendency of using rectified spirit as evening to deep night. liquor is sharply spreading among In the Puratan Bazaar area local the addicts in and around people identified five safe spots for

Gaibandha town. the transaction of spirit where the Most often the addicts create addicts gather just after evening. public nuisance and such activities An organised gang of liquor are increasing day by day. traders collect rectified spirit from different distilleries through evil way

According to eye witnesses, Gaibandha railway crossing, public library, old deputy commissioner (DC) office and the judge court premises, Purbopara post office, Purana Bazaar are the dens of both the drug addicts and illegal sellers.

Khagrachhari **Municipality** budget

Khagrachhari Municipality has announced a Tk 3.26 cr budget for 2002-2003 fiscal

Municipality chairman Mongkaching Chowdhury announced the budget Thursday.

4 killed by tigers in Sundarbans The tiger took him into the deep

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

Four persons who went to cut wood in the Sundarbans, were killed by tigers in two days.

Police and eyewitnesses said, Abdul Aziz, 27, son of Jabbar Gazi of village Bhetkhali in Shyamnagar upazila while cutting wood in Tetulgachhi area in the Sundarbans, a Royal Bengal Tiger swooped on him. He died on the spot on July 10. On the same day, in the other incident Shahin, 20, son of Ziad Ali of Tengra Khali village went to cut wood in the Sundarbans while cutting wood in Bayar Sing area, a

body. On July 9, Abdul Gafoor, 40, son of Atiar Rahman of village Dumuria while cutting wood in Ilshamari area in the Sundarbans, a tiger swooped him. The body was recovered by the villagers on the same day Aminur Kyal, 25, son of Hossain Kyal of

forest. Later villagers recovered the

Munshiganj while cutting wood at Katakhali in the Sundarbans, a tiger attacked him. Later the body was rescued by

the local people. All the victims belong to Shyamnagar upazila, allegedly went to the Sundarbans without legal document, it is learnt.

'Misappropriation' of rice by BNP leader in Jhalakati

UNB, Jhalakati

tiger attacked him.

A local BNP leader allegedly misappropriated rice allocated for a project in Rajapur upazila of Jhalakati. President of the project committee and former union parisad (UP) member Anwar Hossain Anu had applied to the Minister in charge of Accordingly, the minister allo-cated the rice for the project. But BNP leader Masum Talukdar

of Ghirra village withdrew the rice of the project bypassing the committee and misappropriated it. Hossain lodged a written com-

plaint with the Deputy Commissioner (DC) office in this the district to repair bamboo-made regard.

Dariyapur. Tin Gachher tala, Kuptola rail crossing and Board Bazaar

At night the drug addicts usually use fifthy language and very frequently attack pedestrians, according to their sweet will.

On the other hand drug addicts also use 'hashish' in Gaibandha. Most villagers in remote shoal lands along the Brahmaputra basin cultivate 'hashish' regularly in their respective homesteads. Everyday 'hashish' is being smuggled out to different districts secretly.



Goyeshpur in Sreepur upazila at gun-point. After a while they shot her The same morning, an unidentified man, 40, was strangled at a Jute field in village Baliadanga of Sadar

UNB, Khagrachhari On July 5, a college girl named

Microbus hijacked in day light in Sylhet

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Armed miscreants hijacked a microbus in broad day light on Airport Road on Thursday afternoon. The microbus was on its way to Sylhet town when it came under the attack by a gang of armed miscreants at about 4 pm. The miscreants, on motorbikes laid siege to the microbus. Some of them boarded on it at gun point. Then they asked the driver to follow them. The microbus is owned by Moula Baksh-Karim Baksh brothers, a cigarette agency here. The vehicle was on its way to the town from Companygani upazila. It was carrying cigarettes and money in cash worth over Tk 4 lakh, the owner claimed.

Police was immediately informed about the matter, but the microbus is yet to be traced.

Little girl raped in Bogra

A CORRESPONDENT, Bogra

An eight-year-old girl was allegedly raped by a brute youth Farid, 22, at Mathpara village in Dhunat upazila of Bogra on Tuesday morning.

Villagers said when the victim was playing with others near their house then Farid, son of Moser Ali of the same area took her in a maize field alluring him to give chocolate and raped. Hearing his scream the rushed to the spot and rescued her in unconscious state and caught Farid red-handed. The neighbours arranged an arbitration meeting and fined the youth Tk7 thousand and insulted him across the village with black mark on his face.

Alleged miscreant arrested

A CORRESPONDENT, Bogra

Police arrested an alleged miscreant Forkan, 22, from Fultala on the outskirts of Bogra town on Wednesday evening.

Police said Forkan, member of the ferocious Shaheen group and son of Abdus Sattar of the same area was arrested when he was beating a day labourer of Fultala. Hearing his scream locals rushed to the spot and caught him red-handed and handed him over the sadar thana police. He was wanted by police in different cases.

Four extortionists arrested in Ctg

UNB, Chittagong

Four extortionists were arrested while demanding tolls from the owner of a shoe factory in Purba Madarbari area in Doublemooring thana on Thursday.

They are Abdullah Al Mamun. 25. Nizamuddin. 22. Mohammad Khorshed. 26. and Mohammad Shahid Alam, 24. Police said the extortionists went to the shoe factory at 7 am and demanded Tk 1 lakh from its owner Mohammad Yunus. Being informed, police rushed to the spot and arrested the four.

2 schoolgirls raped in Sirajganj

UNB, Sirajganj

Two schoolgirls were raped in Kamarkhand and Tarash upazilas of Sirajganj on Wednesday and Tuesday.

Police and hospital sources said miscreants picked up a class X student of Jamtoil Dopakandi High School in Tajurpara village in Kamarkhanda Upazila as she came out of their house Wednesday night to go to toilet and raped her in a nearby bush.

She was rescued in an unconscious state the following morning and sent to sadar hospital

In another incident, a youth of Santana village picked up another schoolgirl on her way to school Tuesday morning and raped her in a pump house.

Hearing her screams, local people rescued the girl, but the rapists fled the scene. Separate cases were filed.

Because of river erosion

UNB, Jhalakati

Having failed to endure the shock of river erosion, an elderly man at Aorabunia in Kathalia upazila allegedly committed suicide Wednesday.

Police said Bankim Chandra Gayen, 70, hanged himself from a tree as the Bishkhali river devoured his house and property making him a pauper.

Relief for flood victims in Mymensingh

cient. Vulnerable Group Feeding OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh (VGF) cards allocated for the flood

World Vision Bangladesh Mymensingh ADP (Area Development Project) has distributed relief goods for the flood victims of seven unions of Dhubaura upazila in Mymensingh recently. According to World Vision

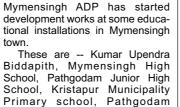
These are -- Kumar Upendra Biddapith, Mymensingh High Mymensingh ADP sources, 17,500 kg flattened rice, 3500 kg molasses, School, Pathgodam Junior High 3500 packets of biscuit, 3500 kg School, Kristapur Municipality Primary school, Pathgodam salt, 3500 packets of candle light, 6500 pieces of match, 3500 packets Government Primary School. The of Oral saline, 3500 pieces of lungi, organisation will also construct nine 3500 pieces of sari, 3500 sets of community bath-rooms for women children's dress, water purification in the town.

tablets, containers and plastic sheets have been distributed Mymensingh ADP Martin Singh told among the flood victims of The Daily Star they have trained up Dhubaura Sadar, Purakandulia, 1161 persons in 11 unions of sadar Goatala, Maigpara, Goshgoan, upazila on disaster management Gamaritala and Baghber unions. last fiscal

District Lawyers Association, Of the trainees, 766 were male Boy Scouts, Caritas and some other while 395 females. "We have also organisations also distributed relief taken a map of Wealth and Risk of three unions", the official informed.

However, relief materials supplied by government are very insuffi-

goods among the flood victims



Meanwhile, World Vision

victims are yet to be distributed.

tural activists, elite, political leaders, government and non-government officials and journalists joined the rally. After the rally, a discussion Local coordinator of World Vision

chair.

meeting was held at Showaib Nagar Madrassaa with Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) Faruq Hossain in the The meeting was addressed, among others, by DC Shahjahan,

Principal Golam Mostafa, ASP (circle) Mahfuzur Rahman, Abu Taher and Selina Hag.



The flood victims of seven unions in Dhubaura upazila in Mymensingh receiving relief materials from the officials of World Vision Mymensingh ADP.

Ward commissioners, officials, loca Rally to make elite and journalists were present. In the budget, Tk 1.10 cr was people aware earmarked for the development sector. about drug abuse

RAKUB to disburse Tk 600 cr farm loan UNB, Rajshahi

Sunday, aiming to make the people Rajshahi Krishi Unnyan Bank (RAKUB) will disburse farm loan Deputy Commissioner of amounting to Tk 600 cr in the coun-Magura ABM Shahjahan led the try's northwestern region during 2002-2003 fiscal to give a boost to rally organised by the upazila farm output. administration. Hundreds of people,

The bank disbursed Tk 479.07 cr among the farmers in 2001-2002 fiscal and earned Tk 26.22 cr ir operating profit during the period breaking its previous records.

Official sources said RAKUB made a profit of Tk 2.43 cr in 2000-2001 financial year.

The bank realised its outstanding loan totalling Tk 473.67 cr, including Tk 100 cr default loans, during the just concluded financial year.

Islamic Foundation implementing mass education programme UNB, Magura

Islamic Foundation has set up 135 Madrasah-based education centres in four upazilas of Magura under the government-sponsored mass education programme.

Of the centres, 50 have been set up in Sreepur and Mohammadpur, 25 in Sadar and 10 in Salikha upazilas, officials said.

Some 4,050 people have enrolled in the centres to read four subjects: Bengali, English, Mathematics and Arabic.

Islamic Foundation is providing education materials free of cost.

Vegetable fair in **Brahmanbaria** UNB.Brahmanbaria

A daylong `summer vegetable fair' was held on the premises of Ashutosh High School in Nasirnagar upazila Thursday.

Save The Children (USA) organised the fair to make the rural people aware about nutrition value of vegetables

PHOTO: STAR

A free eye camp is in progress in Chittagong. Presidency Lions Club and Mamata Leo Club jointly organised the camp recently and treated many poor patients free of cost.

Kumar now a dumping place of garbage

gers of Faridpur Municipality always dump rubbish into the river caring less for the consequence. Moreover, there are hundreds of

kutcha latrines used by slum dwellers living on either bank of the river. As a result the river water is being contaminated which is still used by a lot of people for various purposes who ultimately fall prey to various diseases

The authorities concerned should take steps to clear up the water hyacinths and stop dumping or throwing waste or rubbish into the river to ensure healthy atmosphere for the people.

Because of its strong current the two important markets of the town on either side of the river were badly New upazila threatened. So to protect the markets and the town, a sluice gate was may be formed constructed near the C&B Ghat nearly two decades ago regulating the inflow of water from the mighty in Sylhet Padma. When the sluice gate failed UNB, Sylhet to control the strong flow of water from the Padma it caused serious

The government is considering to form a new upazila comprising nine unions of south Surma in Sadar upazila

People of the nine unions have long been demanding that a separate upazila, comprising the unions, be declared for them.

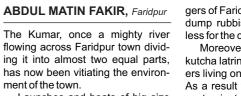
During the October 1 election campaign, local Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) leader Shafi Ahmed Chowdhury had assured that their demand would be met if BNP voted to power

The PM office was learnt to have instructed the concerned ministry to take necessary measures to form a separate administrative unit comprising the nine unions.

erosion threatening the markets. A strong embankment preventing the entrance of water from the Padma was erected at Ambikapur, the main gateway of water from the Padma to the Kumar a decade age. As a result the strong flowing

round the year.

the rainfall.



Launches and boats of big size used to ply through this river round the year, carrying passengers as well as commodities in between Faridpur, Madripur, Goplaganj, Brisal and Khulna. During rainy season the current of the river was

so strong that small boats could not go upstream without the help of at least three boatmen.

river has now turned into a stagnant

water body full of water hyacinths

In dry season, water level falls

This stagnant water is being

abnormally, but in rainy season it

swells upto a great extent only for

constantly polluted by waste of two

markets indiscriminately thrown into

the river water. Besides the scaven-