

NEWS SNAPS

One killed in Barisal road accident

UNB, Barisal

A man was killed and his younger brother injured in a road accident at Rahmatpur on Dhaka-Barisal highway Sunday.

Witnesses said Malek Gayen and his brother Sentu Gayen were critically injured as a medicine carrying covered van knocked them while they were repairing their tractor on the highway. Of them, Malek Gayen, 45, died on way to sadar hospital and his brother, 35, was admitted to the same hospital in a critical condition. A case was filed.

Body of jewellery salesman recovered

UNB, Gazipur

The body of a jewellery salesman was recovered from Hanghata area in Gazipur Municipality on Saturday.

The deceased was identified as Khokan Chandra Bhoumik, 22, salesman of Tomalika Jewellery in the town. Locals said Khokan, nephew of owner of the jewellery shop, was missing since Friday night when he went out for his Rathkhola house after closing the shop. A case was filed.

Afforestation drive in Joypurhat

BSS, Joypurhat

Bangladesh Scouts, Panchbibi upazila unit launched a massive fruit tree plantation drive in the upazila under assistance of the Department of Agriculture Extension (DAE) here recently.

On the occasion, a launching ceremony was organised on the premises of Baromanik High School. Commissioner of the Panchbibi unit of Bangladesh Scouts Mamtaz Uddin Ahmed presided over the function while the Upazila Agriculture Officer of DAE Nuruzzaman Mandal inaugurated the drive as the chief guest. Abdul Hye, General Secretary of the unit, 40 students from different educational institutions of the upazila and 15 teachers were present on the occasion. A total of 70 saplings of various kinds of fruit trees were planted on the inaugural day.

Good output of Boro in 16 dists

BSS, Joypurhat

A bumper production of winter crops has been achieved in 2001-2002 in the northern region of the country, official sources said.

According to official sources, over 42.62 lakh tons of Boro paddy from 12.54 lakh hectares was produced in 16 northern districts during the period. Twenty five lakh tons of potato was produced from 2.20 lakh hectares, 0.78 lakh tons of wheat produced from 4.66 lakh hectares, 16 lakh tons of winter vegetable from 80,000 hectares, 71.542 tons of maize from 6,600 hectares, 1.06 lakh tons of sweet potato from 10,600 hectares. 1.29 lakh tons of mustard seed was produced from 1.29 lakh hectares, 19,200 tons of groundnut from 9,600 hectares, 2.13 lakh tons of onion from 21,300 hectares and 71,150 tons of garlic from 12,200 hectares in the northern districts during the 2001-2002 winter season of crop farming.

Town service starts in Bandarban

BSS, Bandarban

A town service bus started in operation in the Bandarban hill district town from Friday to the great relief of dwellers.

Bandarban Hill District Council Chairman Mamyacang inaugurated the town service at Bakidhara Mukh in sadar upazila. Deputy Commissioner Hafizur Rahman Bhuyian, Bandarban Paurasabha Chairman Alhaj Ayub Chowdhury and Local Press Club President Professor Osman Gani were present as the special guests on the occasion. Convenor of the Management Committee Abdul Quddus presided over the function. Among other, Private Transport Association Secretary Nasirul Alam and Khurshed Alam Chowdhury spoke on the occasion. With the commissioning of the town service, the long-standing demand of the local people has been solved.



A participant speaks at the half-yearly conference of the Janata Bank (JB) managers of Pabna and Sirajganj region. Managing Director of the bank Murshid Kuli Khan was present as the chief guest at the conference at Pabna recently.

Relief distributed among distressed

BSS, Rajbari

Rajbari District Relief and Disaster Management Department has allocated Tk 95,000 and 35 metric tons of rice, among the river eroded distress people of sadar upazila, Baliakandi, Pangsha, and Goolondo upazilas.

According to official sources, of the allocation Tk 20,000 and 10 metric tons of rice, for Sadar upazila, Tk. 30,000 and 10 metric tons of rice, 50 sarees and 50 lungies for Goolondo upazilas, Tk. 30,000 and 10 metric tons of rice for Pangsha upazila and Tk 15,000 and 5 tons of rice for Baliakandi upazila have been allocated.

Couple arrested with arms in Patuakhali

UNB, Patuakhali

A couple was arrested with arms from their rented residence in the town on Saturday.

The arrested were identified as Abdul Khaleq Talukder and his wife Farida Yesmin, a trainer of Ansar. The couple had long been living in the B-type flat sanctioned for a police constable. On information, police raided the residence at night and arrested them with a pipe gun and a bullet.

Girl raped by two youths in Gazipur

UNB, Gazipur

A little madrassaa girl was raped by two youths at Mendipur village in Kaliganj upazila Wednesday.

Police said Faruk, Farid and Gaffar stormed into her house at dead of night on Wednesday. They tied up her father and brother and beat them mercilessly and two of them raped the girl, a student of class VI, in front of her father. Police next morning tactfully arrested the culprits and a case was filed in this connection.

Armed robbery at Halholia bazaar

UNB, Sunamganj

Armed robbers looted cash and valuables worth Tk two lakh from Halholia bazaar in Tahripur upazila on Friday night.

Police said masked bandits swooped on 10 shops of bazaar and decamped with the booty at gunpoint. Police arrested two people - Dhon Miah and Ruhul Amin in this connection the next morning. Local MP Ehsanul Haque visited the spot. A case was filed.

Concern over snail trading in Faridpur

BSS, Faridpur

Snail collection and selling has become a new means of seasonal livelihood for a section of poor agricultural labourers of greater Faridpur area.

According to local people, snails, living in the water bodies of Faridpur, Gopalganj, Madaripur and Shariatpur, are collected regularly in large scale and sold to shrimp-cultivators of the district and southwestern region as shrimp feed. During the last few years, shrimp cultivation has also been started in many areas of greater Faridpur.

Hundreds of snail-packed bags are regularly sold to the shrimp cultivators through snail traders. The snail collectors get Tk 80 to Tk 90 per bag.

Snails are mainly collected from Nagarkanda, Fulsuti, Gazna and Belesawar of Faridpur, Matherbazar, Kalkini, Gopalpur, Kadambari, and Amgram of Madaripur, Moksudpur, Kashiani of Gopalganj and from many areas of Shariatpur. About 800 snail-packed bats are regularly sent to the southwestern region of the country to be consumed as shrimp feed.

11 die of cold related diseases in Sirajganj

Thousands affected with diarrhoea in two dists

UNB, Sirajganj

Diarrhoea and other water-borne diseases have broken out in the flood affected areas of Sirajganj and Pabna in an epidemic form.

A report from Sirajganj says: At least 11 people died of cold related diseases so far in the district. About 7,000 people of Chouhali, Belkuchi, Shajadpur, Kazipur and Sadar upazilas have been affected with diarrhoea.

Fever, diarrhoea, dysentery and other water-borne diseases have broken out with recession of waters from the aforementioned flood affected areas

Locals complained that acute shortage of necessary medicine and oral saline has been prevailing in the flood-hit areas.

District Civil Surgeon office sources confirmed the death of 5 people and said 4,000 people have so far been affected with diarrhoea.

He said 19 medical teams are working in the flood-affected areas round the clock to check the spread of the diseases.

Meanwhile, erosion of the Jamuna river in five upazilas has taken a serious turn.

Locals said about 50 houses have been washed away by the river in the last 24 hours.

Another report from Pabna says: Diarrhoea that broke out in an alarming proportion with the receding of floodwaters has taken a serious turn in Pabna afflicting hundreds of people.

According to reports some 826 people mostly children in different upazilas of the district were affected on Saturday.

The worst affected areas are 12 remote unions of Bera, Sujanagar, Iswardi and Sadar upazilas.

District Health Department attributed the acute shortage of pure water to the outbreak of the water-borne disease.

The affected people were undergoing treatment at different hospitals in the district.

Meanwhile, a number of medical teams have been working in the affected areas to combat the menace, Civil Surgeon said.

Four unnatural deaths in Sherpur in a day

UNB, Sherpur

Four people, including two minors, died unnatural deaths in Nalitabari upazila on Saturday.

Police said one person named Zamaruddin, 32, of Mayaghashi village, who was injured seriously as his father-in-law mercilessly beat him up following a quarrel over transaction of money on July 28

succumbed at the upazila health complex on Saturday.

Zamaruddin had long been living at the house of his father-in-law, Ali Hossain, of Panihata village in the upazila.

In another incident, a housewife who took poison over a family trouble on Friday died at the same health complex the next morning.

The victim was identified as

Rahima Khatun, 32, of Baghbera Akhrapara village of the upazila.

Two little babies drowned in a pond at Koyrakuri village in the upazila on Saturday.

The victims were identified as Al Amin, 7, son of Mohammad Ali, and Shumi Akhter, 6, daughter of M Mostafa.

Separate cases were filed with police.

16.60 lakh hectares brought under Aman cultivation

UNB, Pabna

The Department of Agriculture Extension (DAE) has set a target to bring 16.60 lakh hectares of land under Aman cultivation in 16 northern districts in the current season with an output target of 36.95 lakh mts of rice.

Of the total land, 12.68 lakh hectares of land will be brought

under high yielding variety while 3.92 lakh hectares under local variety.

Official sources said 36,600 hectares of land will be cultivated in Pabna, 81,100 hectares in Rajshahi, 57,100 hectares in Chapainawabganj, 34,700 hectares in Natore, 193,200 hectares in Naogaon, 53,000 hectares in Sirajganj, 178,400 hectares in

Bogra, 67,500 hectares in Joypurhat district.

Besides, 134,400 hectares of land will be brought under cultivation in Rangpur, 108,000 hectares in Gaibandha, 111,400 hectares in Kurigram, 108,500 hectares in Chapainawabganj, 81,500 hectares Lalmoinrhat, 234,000 in Dinajpur, 98,500 hectares in Thakurgaon, 82,400 hectares in Panchagar.

BDR recovers 593 bottles of Indian phensidyl

UNB, Jessore

Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) troops recovered 593 bottles of Indian phensidyl from a microbus at Dogasia in the town on Jessore-Chowgachha road Saturday.

Acting on a tip-off that some drug traffickers were coming with huge phensidyl in a microbus, the BDR jawans laid an ambush at Dogasia Bazaar in the morning.

When the Jessore-bound microbus reached the bazaar, the driver and the drug traffickers got down from it and ran away seeing the BDR men.

The BDR troops chased the drug traffickers but failed to arrest them. They later recovered the drug from the microbus.



Indiscriminate dumping of garbage in the Surma in Sylhet town causing a serious environmental degradation. But who cares?

PHOTO: IOBAL SIDDIQUEE

Withdrawal of increased court fees demanded

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Members of the Bar Associations in different districts protested the recent government decision of court fee-hike.

Our Gopalganj Correspondent reports: Members of Gopalganj District Bar Association brought out a procession protesting the government decision of court fee-hike.

The Gopalganj District Bar Association brought out a procession and paraded the main streets in the town. The procession led by Din Mohammed and Mohiuddin, President and Secretary of the District Bar Association.

They assembled at the DC office premises and addressed there in a rally. Advocate Nooruzzaman

Khakan, Advocate Iddris Ali, Advocate Jagodis Badyo, Advocate Subash Jayader, Advocate Aminur Rahman Lablu and Advocate Sherajul Haq Khan spoke, among others.

They urged to the government to take immediate action to bring down the court fee.

UNB from Jhalakati reports: As part of the central programme of the Bangladesh Bar Council the district Bar Association boycotted the court Sunday demanding the withdrawal of increased court fees.

A protest meeting was also held at the Bar library with secretary of the association advocate Munshi Abul Kalam in the chair. They also brought out a protest procession in the town.

Among others, Advocate Siddiqui Rahman, Adv A Rasid Sikder, Adv M A Jalli spoke at the meeting.

Different professional organisations also backed the programme of the association.

Another report from Rajbari adds: District Bar Association also observed the boycott programme here on Sunday.

In the afternoon general secretary of the association Advocate Swapan Kumar Shom in a press conference protested the enhancement of the court fee.

They also brought out a protest procession and submitted a memorandum to the Deputy Commissioner (DC) and the District Sessions Judge