

NEWS SNAPS

Imam hacked to death in Sylhet

UNB, Sylhet

An imam of a mosque was hacked to death in Lamakazi area in Sadar upazila in Sylhet on Monday.

Police said imam Azir Uddin was killed at a room adjacent to the mosque. Local people caught a youth suspecting his involvement with the killing and handed him over the police. Reasons behind the killing could not be known immediately.

Wife allegedly killed by husband

BSS, Rajshahi

One middle-aged housewife was chopped to death allegedly by her husband at Sadipur Mollapara village in Charghat upazila on Friday.

Police sources said the victim was identified as Rasheda Begum, 38, wife of Mokshed Ali of the same village. Police quoting eyewitnesses said, the husband, Moksed asked his wife to serve his meal at noon, but due to engagement in other works she delayed to serve the meal. Suddenly, Moksed became furious and chopped his wife with sharp weapon indiscriminately. As a result she died on the spot. Police recovered the body and sent to hospital morgue for autopsy. Police arrested the victim husband from the spot. A case was recorded with Charghat police station in this connection.

Relief distributed among flood victims

BSS, Tangail

Disaster Management and Relief Minister Chowdhury Kamal Ibne Yousuf and Environment and Forest Minister Shahjahan Siraj visited the flood-affected areas of Kalihati, Bhuaipur and Sadar Upazilas of Tangail and distributed relief materials among the victims.

Deputy Minister for Education Abdus Salam Pintu and lawmaker Major General (Retd) Mahmudul Hasan, among others, were present on the occasion. Kamal Ibne Yousuf said relief distribution would continue among the affected people till the next harvest through VGD, VGF and TR programmes.

Two hijackers arrested in Sylhet

BSS, Sylhet

Police arrested two young men from Shahajalal Bridge in Sylhet city when they raided a microbus for hijacking on Sunday.

Police said, at least 4 to 5 young men raided a microbus for hijacking on the Shahajalal Bridge Sunday. At the same time a police team reached the spot and challenged the young men. They tried to flee from the spot. Local people and police arrested two of the young men while others managed to escape from the scene. Police also seized a motor cycle and a mobile phone set. Police identified two arrested young men Propid and Baten. A case was recorded with the concerned police station in this connection.

66 new hand pump tubewells set up

BSS, Chuadanga

A total of 66 new hand pump tubewells were setup in all the four upazilas of Chuadanga in the last financial year.

According to an official source, of the total hand pump tubewells 14 hand pump tubewells were setup in Chuadanga Sadar upazila, 13 in Alamdanga upazila, 21 in Damurhuda upazila and 18 in Jibannagar upazila. The hand pump tubewells were setup by the Department of Public Health Engineering. Of the total hand pump tubewells, 36 hand pump tubewells were set up under the normal programme and the rest 30 hand pump tubewells were set up under special programme. The hand pump tubewells were set up under the scheme "Safe water supply in the rural areas of the government."

Prize distributed among book readers

BSS, Joypurhat

The World-Literature Centre (WLC), Panchbibbi unit distributed prizes among the book readers at Panchbibbi Upazila parishad auditorium in Joypurhat recently.

Organisers of WLC, Panchbibbi unit, journalist and writer Aminul Haque Babul presided over the prize distribution ceremony. Veteran politician and social worker Mir Shaheed Mondal was present as the chief guest and distributed prizes among the best book readers. Among others, president of Joypurhat Press Club Advocate Nanda Kishore Agarwala, Youth Development Officer of Panchbibbi Upazila, Headmaster of Dhubai High School Sohrab Hossain, Co-ordinator of WLC, Panchbibbi unit and President of Panchbibbi Press Club Abdul Hye spoke on the occasion.

The speakers stressed the need for reading more books.

Three heroin addicts arrested in Barisal

BSS, Barisal

Police arrested three heroin addicted Young men from a hotel in sadar road of Barisal city on Friday.

Police said, Sajju Talukder, 24, Habul, 25, and Shipon, 19 were arrested from a hotel on Friday evening when they were taking heroin. A case was recorded with sadar police station in this connection.

Uplift schemes going on in Panchagarh

BSS, Panchagarh

The work on 355 schemes implemented under test relief programme in five upazilas and two municipalities in Panchagarh in the last fiscal.

According to an official source, the government allocated 398 tons of wheat for execution of the schemes. Of the total 88 tons, wheat for 74 schemes in Sadar upazila, 68 tons wheat for 75 schemes in Boda upazila, 84 tons of wheat for 79 schemes in Debiganj upazila, 64 tons of wheat for 57 schemes in Tetulia upazila, 66 tons of wheat for 59 schemes in Atowari upazila, 10 tons of wheat for 10 schemes in Panchagarh Municipality upazila and 8 tons of wheat for 8 schemes in Boda Municipality. The work on the schemes included repair and reconstruction of roads and embankments and earth work in different educational institutions.

Police- raid on video shops in Natore

UNB, Natore

Police, in a drive, seized over 100 porno CDs and Video cassettes from different shops in Natore town and arrested two people in this connection Thursday.

Police said they conducted the drive in different video shops of the town and arrested Shohel and Shaful along with the cassettes and CDs. A section of unscrupulous Video shop owners were carrying out the illegal business in the town for long.

# Wild life faces extinction in Garo hills

**BSS, Netrakona**

Many species of wild animals, which were found abundant in the past in Netrakona, are now facing extinction causing a serious threat to ecological balance.

The illegal cutting of trees, indiscriminate hunting of wild animals, clearing of bushes and hedges are the main causes of fast extinction of wildlife from these areas.

District Forest Department officials have sent reports of extinction of many wild species to the higher authorities in the capital. But, they were skeptics about any action preventing indiscriminate hunting of wild animals and illegal cutting of trees.

According to the local people and officials of District Forest Department, many kinds of wildlife, including tiger, monkey, elephant, hunuman, fox, bear, panther, deer, boar, jackal, rabbit, lizard, vulture, the mongoose, and bear were found

abundantly in the past in the hilly forest areas.

But, nowadays, these wild animals have almost disappeared from the hilly forest areas. Similarly many varieties of wild birds like parrot, peacock, owl, wood-picker, kingfisher have also become extinct from the forest areas.

A small number of wild animals and birds, like monkeys, foxes, owls, and mongoose are now found in the forest areas of the Garo hills.

The total areas covering bushes and jungles have gradually been reduced with the indiscriminate felling of trees.

The areas of bushes and jungles have been reduced due to illegal cutting of trees and clearing the bush land for cultivation and habitation, said local people.

Some people on condition of anonymity alleged that a section of timber traders, in connivance with the forest officials lifted valuable timber trees like 'shal' from the forest areas.

(Left) Kanchibari College in Fulchhari upazila in Gaibandha is still under water though the flood situation marks gradual improvement while (right) unabated erosion by the Karotoa has threatened the national highway at Hawyakkena in Gobindaganj upazila. The Roads and Highways Department has taken temporary measures to protect the highway by dropping brick and sand bags.

PHOTO: STAR

## Flood situation in Gaibandha improving gradually

**OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gaibandha**

The flood situation in Gaibandha is improving gradually. Flood water is receding very slowly while all the rivers except the Brahmaputra at Fulchhari point are still flowing above the danger level.

Flood water has become stagnant at different points due to unplanned construction of embankments where there is no adequate outlet gates to drain out the stored water. The people of Kholahati, Malibari, Kuptola, Gideri in Sadar upazila remain still marooned.

The affected people have cut off a portion of the Ghagot Flood Control Embankment at Hatiya and Pacherkura in Sadar upazila. They have done this with a view to getting rid of stagnant water.

Flood has left a trail of devastation in the affected areas. Jute, transplanted aman, sugarcane on a vast tract of land have been damaged by flood. Village roads

and embankments have been washed away by the surging water. Dwelling huts in almost all the villages of the affected areas have been damaged completely while bridges and culvert on many points have been collapsed.

The government allocated Tk 3,50,000 for house building Tk 1,50,000 as cash grant, 450 metric tons of rice for GR, 2000 pieces of sari and lungi for the distressed flood victims.

Rowshan Ershad, local MP distributed relief materials among 400 flood victims in seven villages of Haldia union. Abdur Rashid Sarker, ex-MP also distributed relief materials in different flood affected areas. District Bar Association, Gaibandha, employees and contractors of Public Works. Department distributed dry food, saline and medicine among the flood victims.

## 8 murdered in Magura in July

**OUR CORRESPONDENT, Magura**

A total of eight persons were murdered in Magura in July showing a downward trend in the law and order situation.

Of them, four were murdered in Sadar upazila, two in Sreepur and two in Shalikhra upazila.

At dead night on July 4, the outlawed party activists kidnapped Shamela Begum, 25, a housewife of village Goyeshpur in Sreepur Upazila at gun point.

On July 5, a college girl named Zahida Khatun, s 18, was strangled after being gangraped by a group of criminals at a jute field at village Boroichara of Sreepur upazila.

On July 8, Reshma Khatun, 30,

After a while they shot her dead at a nearby bridge.

In the same morning an unidentified man aged about 40, was strangled at a jute field at village Balisadanga in Sadar upazila.

a field worker of an insurance company was allegedly strangled and poison was poured into her mouth at village Gopalgram in Shalikhra upzila.

On July 11 Mamtajuddin, 40, son of Hossen Kazi of Standiumpara was beaten to death by his rivals in a row over monetary issue.

On July 12, Abdul Kader, 40, of village Dhonpapa in Sadar upazila was beaten to death by his son following an altercation over family feud.

On July 19, a baby girl identified as Zesmin, 7, was allegedly killed by her step mother at village Monokhali in Shalikhra upazila.

Romecha Khatun, 32, second wife of Akter Hossain of the aforesaid village kicked the victim to death over family feud.

On July 23, a young man identified as Fatik, 30, of village Banga in Sadar upazila was killed allegedly by his friend Shamsher of Jhenidah town.

PHOTO: STAR

A human chain by the members of Gaibandha Zila Samity at the Rajshahi University campus. They formed the human chain on Saturday demanding capital punishment to the murderers of Trisha, a primary school student in Gaibandha who embraced a tragic end of her life recently.

## CID will investigate Haroon murder case

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna**

The Criminal Investigation Department (CID) of police has been asked by the police headquarters to investigate the murder case of Haroon, a journalist.

Shaikh Haroon-or-Rashid, senior crime reporter of Dainik Purbanchal was gunned down in the evening of March 2 at Mujgunni in Khalishpur police station.

them is Mokter Hossain Baby, an armed cadre of Purba Banglar Communist Party (PBCP). He was arrested on April 18 from Jessore by Inspector Shibli Noman of Khulna Metropolitan Police (KMP).

Baby gave a full description to the Detective Branch (DB) of police about the plan of Haroon killing. He also disclosed the names of the killers and other persons who financed and master-minded the plan.

But the IO of the case did not apply to the court for recording the confession of Baby under 164 cr.p.

Finding no progress in the investigation the police headquarters asked the CID to investigate the murder case.

## Eight forest officials sued

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna**

Freedom fighter Yusuf Ali Shikder of Swarankhola upazila has filed a case with Bagerhat Judge Court against eight officials of the eastern wing of the Sundarbans Forest Division bringing corruption charge against them.

The complainant has stated in his petition that the accused helped miscreants to cut down Sundari trees taking illegal gratification. The accused are also involved in smuggling of Sundari wood, tiger and deer skins from the Sundarbans.

The eight accused of the case are DFO Abdul Mabub, ADFO Rafiqul Islam, Swarankhola Range officer Mokhesur Rahman, station officer Lutfur Rahman, Coup officer AKM Mohiuddin, assistant station officers Abdur Razzak and Zafar Khan and forest guard Golam Mostafa.

The complainant has further stated that DFO Abdul Mabud and his accomplices in the eastern wing of the Sundarbans Forest Division have been maintaining close link with organised gangs of poachers, smugglers and criminals of the forest for plundering its resources.

DFO Abdul Mabud, when contacted, refuted all allegations. Rather, I have been trying heart and soul to wife out enrupt practices, he said.

## Youth chased by police, dies in fish enclosure

**UNB, Gazipur**

A young man met the tragic end of his life when he jumped into a nearby fish enclosure apprehending police arrest at Chapulia village in Sadar upazila Saturday.

Alamgir Hossain, 20, son of Akter Hossain of the village was playing cards at a nearby field with his three friends. At that time when two police were passing nearby, they sensing danger, jumped into water.

Later his friends swam ashore, but Alamgir drowned. Some locals said they jumped into water when chased by police.

Joydebpur police said they went to the village to investigate into a case.

## Five killed in separate incidents

**BSS, Joypurhat**

Five persons were killed in separate incidents in Joypurhat in the month of July.

According to police sources, little boy Hashu, 5, son of Dulu Mia of T and T Para area in Panchbibbi upazila town drowned in a pond on July 13.

On July 3, Eskar Ali, 70, was killed when he fell down from the rooftop of a running train in the Teghor Ghumti area in the district town.

On July 16, Bhupen Singh alias Bhutia, 60, of village Baro Tazpur in Panchbibbi upazila was killed by some miscreants. His body was recovered on the next day from the Kashpur area.

On July 20, Horindranath Malo, 55, of Chandpur village in Panchbibbi upazila was murdered by some miscreants near Bazitpur area when he was returning from Joypurhat town after delivering witness of a case.