

NEWS SNAPS

Two persons killed in Alamdanga

BSS, Chuadanga

Two persons were killed in Alamdanga upazila of Chuadanga on Monday.

Police said, Jamir Ali, 32, son of Akbat Mandal was killed in his village Paragpur while another unidentified youngman was killed at village Asman Khali in Alamdanga upazila.

Police arrested three persons. Two separate cases recorded with Alamdanga police station.

Housewife killed by snakebite

BSS, Khulna

A housewife was killed by snakebite at village Chandranath in Rupsha thana Thursday.

Hospital sources said Nandita Rani, 25, wife of Dipok Roy was bitten by a snake at her house. She was immediately shifted to Kushtia Sadar Hospital where she died. An unnatural death (UD) case was filed with Sonadanga thana.

Grant for voluntary organisations

BSS, Rajshahi

Minister for Post and Telecommunications Barrister Aminul Haque has underscored the need for massive involvement of voluntary and non-government organisations in implementing the development activities for socio-economic uplift.

He was speaking as the chief guest at a function here Friday marking the distribution of cheques of lump-sum grant worth Tk 4 lakh among voluntary organisations and individuals, donated by the Bangladesh National Social Welfare Council under the 2001-2002 financial year. Rajshahi District Social Welfare Council organised the function at the local Shishu Academy auditorium.

Aman farming on 31,800 hectares of land

BSS, Chuadanga

A total of 31,800 hectares of land will be brought under transplanted Aman cultivation in the current season in four upazilas of Chuadanga.

Cultivation of paddy on 25,000 hectares of land have been completed in Chuadanga Sadar, Alamdanga, Damurhuda and Jibannagar upazilas, official sources told. Transplantation of Aman seeding on the remaining areas would be completed with in the next 10 to 15 days. About 97,000 metric tons of Aman paddy is expected to be harvested this year, the agricultural officials said.

Massive T-Aman cultivation programme

BSS, Joypurhat

Farmers in Joypurhat have brought more land under T-aman cultivation than the fixed target, officials in the Department of Agriculture Extension (DAE) said.

A target of producing 1,60,625 tons of T-aman rice from 67,500 hectares was fixed in all five upazilas for the current season. But the farmers have already brought 69,200 hectares under cultivation of the crop upto July 31 and plantation is still going on. About 70,000 hectares are expected to be brought under T-aman cultivation during the current season. A bumper production of the crop is expected with surplus production if the climatic condition remains friendly, they said.

Abducted boy rescued in Khulna

BSS, Kushtia

Police rescued a boy from Mollapara area of Khulna town Thursday and arrested two persons in this connection.

Police said Abdur Razzak Shumon, 12, son of Mohibul Haq was missing since August 3 from Shipyard Road of the Loboncaora area, near his house. His father filed a general diary (GD) with Khulna thana in this connection. Later, police arrested Abdur Rob and Mahfiz from the town. On their confessional statement police rescued Shumon from Harintana of Mollapara. A case was filed in this connection with Khulna Sadar Police Station.

Polio vaccine programme in Khulna

BSS, Khulna

Khulna City Corporation (KCC) Mayor Sk Tayebur Rahman on Monday inaugurated the polio vaccine programme in the city by administering vaccine to a child at Khalishpur.

Earlier, a colorful rally was brought out in the morning which paraded different city streets. A total of 487 centres were set up for the programme. Of those, 54 centres were volunteered by local Rotary Club. One hundred and thirty centers and 66 mobile teams would continue to administer polio vaccine for the next four days. City Corporation fixed a target to immunise 1,12,000 under the programme. The district administration has also arranged similar programmes throughout the district to immunise 3,12,000 children.

6 snatchers get 10-year RI each in Nilphamari

ASADUZZAMAN, Nilphamari

A court in Nilphamari on Saturday sentenced six persons to 10 years' rigorous imprisonment (RI) each in a case of snatching.

The court also fined the convicts named Sentu, Noor Uddin, Mou, Abdur Rashid, Sekender and Abdus Salam Tk 5,000 each, in default, to suffer one year more RI.

According to the prosecution, the accused attacked one person named Mominul Islam of Dhalagachha village in Syedpur upazila on April 27, 2001 and snatched away money from him.

Police after preliminary investigation submitted charge sheet against eight persons.

Following examination of witnesses and records District and Sessions Judge of Nilphamari ATM Golam Kibria handed down the verdict acquitting two persons.

Three JU students expelled

JU CORRESPONDENT

Three resident students of Meer Mosharrif Hossen Hall have been expelled for six months on different charges.

The hall authorities, in a notice on Saturday said that they expelled Shahidul Islam a resident student of Room No. 104/B for passing indecent comments and misbehaviour to a female teacher of the Anthropology department. He was a first year student of the Archaeology department.

Meanwhile, RAM Hasan Talukdar Rummon, a second year student of Bangla and a resident student of MMH Hall, Room No. 218/B, has also been expelled for six months for creating, nuisance inside the hall after drinking wine on July 7 night.

Rummon held a party on July 7 night along with four outsiders in Room No 218/B and 236/B.

The hall authorities also expelled Kamruzzaman, a 3rd year student of Bangla and a resident student of 238/B MMH Hall.

The expulsion order will come into effect from August 20, the hall sources said.

2 more state-run jute mills will be privatised

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Privatisation Commission has invited international tenders to sell two more state-owned jute mills named Eastern Jute Mills at Atra and People's Jute Mills at Khalishpur. September 30 has been fixed for dropping tenders.

According to reliable sources, 70.34 acres of land at Khalishpur, 923 looms and unsold products of the People's Jute Mills will be sold to a private party. Established in 1952, the annual production capacity of this mill is 22,950 metric tons. At present it is manned by 5,700 permanent and casual workers and 427 officials and employees.

This jute mill had been facing severe financial loss since the last few years. Over Tk one crore and thirty five lakh are yet to be paid as wages and salaries in the month of July this year.

Besides, the management of the mills have refused to pay Tk 15 lakh to suppliers of raw jute.

PDB has given the final warning to pay their outstanding bills of Tk 21 crore or to face action for being a bad defaulter. An amount of Tk 52 crore of Provident Fund (PF) of workers, employees and officials have been spent for running the mills. Valuation of assets of the mills has been estimated at Tk 650 crore, said a high official.

The annual production capacity of Eastern Jute Mills is 8,868 metric ton. At present, there are 1,600 permanent and casual workers and 164 officials and employees. Arrear bills against wages and salaries since June this year stood at Tk 1 crore and 43 lakh. The mill is yet to pay to PDB outstanding bills of Tk 4 crore while the jute suppliers are still fighting to realise their bills worth over Tk 7 crore. PF Money of Tk 28 crore have also been exhausted.



Gazi Md Zahirul Islam, Deputy Director General of Kuwait Joint Relief Committee (KJRC), Bangladesh office, distributes relief materials among the flood affected people of Jessore. KJRC has been distributing relief goods among the flood victims of various districts since the first week of August.

Non-iodised salt on sale in all markets of Netrakona

UNB, Netrakona

Non-iodised salt is being sold in almost all the markets in Netrakona defying government ban.

Government strictly prohibited the production, storage and distribution of non-iodised salt across the country and its violation is a punishable offence.

Some unscrupulous traders are marketing the commodity with impunity bribing the officials concerned, locals alleged. The innocent people are purchasing the non-iodised salt due to its cheap price.

According to market sources, one Kg of iodised salt is being sold between Tk 10 and 12 while non-iodised one between Tk 8 and 9.

Moreover, some dishonest traders are selling non-iodised salt in lucrative packets of iodised salt cheating the consumers.

According to physicians iodine deficiency causes goitre, deafness, squint-eyes and mental and physical retardation and the government has made it mandatory to convert all the salt factories into iodised ones.

But there is none to look after

the matter. The local administration is showing reluctance to check the malpractice, locals alleged.

The local elite demanded of the authorities concerned to look into the matter and take drastic action against the violators of the government ban on non-iodised salt.

Eight injured in attack by miscreants in Laxmipur

UNB, Laxmipur

Eight people, including three women, were injured in an attack by criminals at Bijoynagar village in Sadar upazila Friday.

Locals said the miscreants attacked the house of one person named Hawlader of the village with lethal weapons over a land dispute leaving the eight people injured.

Six of the injured -- Farhana Dilruba Panna, Roushanara Begum, Amena Khatun, Abdul Hannan, Mahfuzur Rahman Hawlader, Mahmudur Rahman Hawlader - were admitted to Sadar Hospital in critical condition.

Mourning procession

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

Teachers and students of Ananda Mohan (AM) College here brought out a mourning procession in the district town in remembrance of their two students who were killed in a tragic road accident on August 7.

The processionists paraded the main roads of the town.

The victims were -- Rafiqul Islam Manik, a final year student of Botany department and Rajib Bikash Saha, a final year student of Mathematics department.

109 sacks of snatched rice recovered

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

Trishal thana police seized 109 sacks of snatched rice and an abandoned truck from Bhaluka upazila sadar in the early hours of Monday.

Police said, a rice-laden truck bound for Dhaka was snatched away from Raghmara on Dhaka-Mymensingh highway by a gang of highwaymen. Being informed, police seized the truck and the snatched rice from a shop in Bhaluka upazila sadar.

Police arrested two including the driver of the truck. They were identified as Kamrul and Faruq (driver).

Cotton cultivation going on

BSS, Chuadanga

The cotton cultivation in the Chuadanga zone under Bangladesh Cotton Development Board has been progressing satisfactorily in the current season.

The cotton development board has fixed up a target to bring 9,000 hectares of land under cotton cultivation in the Chuadanga zone setting a production target of 21,000 metric tons of cotton.

Shamsur Rahman killing Wife disagrees to appear in CID headquarters

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Selina Akhter Lucky, wife of slain journalist Shamsur Rahman of Dainik Janakantha did not appear in the CID headquarters on Monday.

On August 10, ASP Mowla Bux of CID, Jessore Zone served a notice asking her to turn up at the CID headquarters during office hours on August 12. She was further asked to appear before the Additional IG of CID at his Malibagh office without fail.

The notice seemed to me quite indecorous as it did not mention the exact reason for calling me in the CID headquarters, said Selina Akhter who is complainant of her husband's murder case. She expressed her sharp reaction terming such a notice from ASP Mowla Bux as 'unwanted and motivated' at a time when the case has already been sent to the Judge's Court, Jessore for trial. This is for the second time CID called me without pointing out any reason. The first notice I received from CID when reinvestigation of this case was demanded by the journalists of Jessore in last June, Selina Akhter Lucky said.

Meanwhile, prime accused of this murder case terrorist-cum-Ward Commissioner Asaduzzaman Litu and another accused Mushtaqur Rahman Hiron are freely moving in their private cars in Khulna city. They are often found with a journalist of a Dhaka based daily recently into is posted in Khulna office from original Jessore office. This journalist is also an accused in this murder case.

Patuakhali town partly submerged

UNB, Patuakhali

At least one-third areas of the town went under water in the Saturday's sudden tidal surge disrupting the normal life of 80,000 dwellers.

Official sources said Chakbazaar, Puranbazaar, Sadar Road, Centre Para, Charpara, Natunbazaar, Nobab Para, Shimul Bag, Munsef Para and Jublee High School road went under 4/5 feet water.

Floodwater entered into the shops and the movement of vehicles remained suspended due to the deluge.

Locals said although the town is flooded 25/30 times every year in the monsoon the authority failed to take any protective measures to save the town dwellers.

Local Water Development Board submitted a project involving Tk 17.27 cr to the higher authority for constructing the town protection embankment in 1998.

But no step has yet been taken in this regard.

The town dwellers have urged the authority concerned to implement the project without further delay.

Sweet for some, sour for many



PHOTOS: HOSSAIN SERAJ

Now is the late season of various delicious fruits. Mango, jackfruit other mouth watering fruits are about to vanish from all the markets of Magura. As a result price of the items is much more higher which is beyond the capacity of common people. So, fruits have become sour to them.