

NEWS SNAPS

Marwari businessman killed

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Nilphamari

A Marwari businessman was chopped to death by miscreants in the Katgari area of Kishoreganj upazila in Nilphamari on Friday night.

The victim was identified as Hetta Marwari, 50. Police and witnesses said some criminals called Hetta out of his shop at dead of night and chopped him to death. The cause behind the killing could not be known immediately. Bhabesh Marwari, younger brother of the victim filed a case with the local police station. Police already visited the spot.

UP member beaten to death

UNB, Kishoreganj

A union parishad (UP) member was beaten to death in day light by the miscreants at village Char Dehunda in Karimganj upazila following previous enmity on Wednesday.

Police and witnesses said the gang numbering 17/18 led by co-villager Fazlur Rahman abducted the victim Helaluddin, 45, a member of Dehunda UP, on his way to Kishoreganj town in the afternoon. He was taken to Fazlur's house where the criminals beat him to death. On information when Helaluddin's father Abdul Mannan came to his rescue the miscreants also assaulted him grievously. Police later recovered the body and sent it to sadar hospital morgue for autopsy. Police Super of the district visited the place of occurrence. The criminals went into hiding after the murder. A case was filed.

Decomposed body of girl recovered

UNB, Feni

The decomposed body of a young girl was recovered from a canal in Sadar upazila on Saturday.

The victim was identified as Masuda Akhter, 20, daughter of Meer Hossain, of village Satswati.

Police and family sources said some criminals abducted Masuda on Tuesday night when she came out of her house to respond to the call of nature. Later they slaughtered the victim after rape and dumped the body in Sahapur canal. Local people found the body floating in the canal on Saturday. Later police recovered the body and sent it to the hospital morgue for autopsy. Victim's elder brother, Noor Nabi, filed a case with the police.

Housewife beaten to death

UNB, Tangail

A housewife was beaten to death allegedly by her in-laws at East Sakhipur in Sakhipur upazila on Friday night.

The victim was identified as Hamida Akter, 28, wife of schoolteacher Abdul Awal. Police said Hamida's in-laws hit her with hammer and beat her to death over a family feud. Later police arrested Abdul Awal, his mother and sister in connection with the killing. The body was sent to Tangail General Hospital morgue for autopsy. A case was filed.

Gold bars, Bangladesh currency seized

UNB, Chapainawabganj

The Anti-smuggling Task Force seized 23 gold bars and Bangladesh currency amounting to Tk 7.50 lakh from a private car at Dariapur in Chapainawabganj-Rajshahi road Wednesday.

Acting on a tip off, the team led by a magistrate intercepted the car at the point early in the morning and seized the gold bars and currency. The driver, however, managed to disappear from the scene. Earlier, contrabands including electronic equipment, wine, hemp and phensidyl worth Tk 8 lakh seized by the border guards in different raids were destroyed at Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) six battalion headquarters on Thursday in presence of local newsmen.

Two trucks with smuggled goods seized

UNB, Tangail

Police seized two trucks loaded with Indian smuggled goods worth Tk 20 lakh from the Zamuki area in Mirzapur upazila on Dhaka-Tangail road on Aug 22.

Acting on a tip off, they raided the Dhaka bound trucks coming from Dinajpur and recovered unauthorised huge medicine, spare parts, cumin and yarn. The drivers, however, fled from the scene. A case was filed in this connection.

Acid-attack on three of a family

UNB, Kishoreganj

Three members of a family including a female union parishad (UP) member received serious burn injuries in an acid attack by a gang of miscreants at village Sakua in Karimganj upazila on Wednesday night.

Police said the miscreants following a previous enmity hurled acid on Dehunda UP member Ambia Khatun, 30, her husband Roisuddin and son Riyadh, 8, at dead of night when they were asleep. They were rushed to the local upazila health complex and following deterioration of their condition they were shifted to sadar hospital where the condition of Ambia was stated to be critical. A case was filed in this connection accusing five people.

Two Hazari bahini cadres arrested

UNB, Feni

Police in separate raids arrested two cadres of Hazari bahini from the Sahdebpur area in the town on Friday-Saturday.

The arrested were identified as Dildar of Dhumsadda village in Sadar upazila and Anil Chandra Banik of Sripur village in Fulgazi upazila. Police said they nabbed them along with a gun from the Sahdebpur rail crossing area. Both were wanted in a number of criminal cases, they added.

Cotton farming may fall short of target

UNB, Magura

The target of cotton cultivation this season may not be achieved in Magura due to heavy downpour and water logging.

Cotton Development Board sources said a target was set up to bring 5300 hectares of land under cotton cultivation and they provided high yielding cotton seeds, fertiliser, insecticides and loan to the cultivators. But many cultivators could not sow the seeds due to water logging and heavy rainfall at the beginning of the season. The seeds which they sowed have been damaged due to the same reason.

Polythene shopping bags still on sale in Brahmanbaria

BSS, Brahmanbaria

Banned polythene shopping bags have flooded different markets in rural areas in Brahmanbaria, posing a threat to environment.

A section of polythene manufacturers in connivance with some dishonest traders, are supplying environment hazardous polythene bags to the shopkeepers at cheap prices.

Polythene bags are on display for sale at different markets at Nasirnagar, Sarail, Nabinagar and Annanda fish market in the town.

Shopkeepers, as well as, consumers were found using polythene bags in the markets, especially in the cloth markets.

When asked some consumers told newsmen that they prefer using polythene shopping bags as they are cheap. A polythene shopping bag costs Tk 1 to Tk 2 whereas a jute or cloth bag is sold at Tk 6 to Tk 12.

Vegetable and fish traders said

that they find it very difficult to sell kitchen items without polythene shopping bags as most of the customers come to the market, without shopping bags and demand bags.

A section of unscrupulous polythene traders are still engaged in marketing the banned item by confusing small traders, hawkers and even the villagers that there was no ban on white and coloured polythene bags.

Although using polythene shopping bags is a punishable offence, the concerned authorities have not yet taken any measures to stop the sale and use of polythene shopping bags in Brahmanbaria.

The environment conscious people urged the authorities concerned to take strict measures against the manufacturers, sellers and users of polythene shopping bags to stop this hazard which has done serious damage to the environment.

Rains damage crops on 1,000 hectares in Jhenidah

DELWAR KABIR, Jhenidah

Standing crops on 1,000 hectares of land have been damaged in Jhenidah due to recent continuous rainfalls.

Vegetable on 500 hectares have been damaged while crops on both the banks of the Nabaganga in Jhenidah, Chitra in Kaliganj, Kapatakha in Kotchandpur and Mohespur upazilas have also been affected by rains.

When contacted, the Department of Agriculture Extension (DAE) sources said that transplanted Aman on 2500 hectares of land have been affected in the beel (water body) areas of Jhenidah.

Not only the agricultural plots but Jhenidah town areas have also been affected badly because of continued rains. People of Jhenidah town suffered a lot due to lack of proper drainage system. Hundreds of families in the town remained marooned in their houses during rains recently.

Some town dwellers alleged, they did not get proper solution to the problem of water logging even after



A submerged land in the Barobazar area of Kaliganj upazila in Jhenidah. Crops on at least 1,000 hectares of land have been damaged in the entire district because of recent continuous rainfalls.

repeated appeal to the municipal authorities.

When contacted, the local municipal

authority failed to give any satisfactory answer to this correspondent.

Speedy Trial Act

14 BNP, front organisation leaders in Pabna chargesheeted

UNB, Pabna

Police submitted chargesheet Monday against 14 local BNP and its front organisation leaders and workers in a case under the Speedy Trial Act (STA) for creating a reign of terror in the town.

The charge-sheeted accused are BNP district unit vice president Abdus Samad Khan Montu, organising secretary and Jubo Dal convenor Kamrul Hasan Mintu, assistant organising secretary Nur Mohammad Masum Boga, Sadar upazila BNP joint convenor Anisul Haq Babu, JCD unit secretary Mahmudun Nabi Swapan, his brother Shujan, Siddiqur Rahman Siddiq, Shafiq, Pabna Law College VP Rashedul Islam, Sohel

Chowdhury, Sumit, Shamim, Kalam and Saiful.

The plaintiff Officer-in-Charge (OC), Abdul Quaiyum in his 'ezahar' said when produced the court rejected the bail prayer of BNP district unit Treasurer Saiful Islam Badsha in a case on Aug 19. At this over 100 angry supporters of Saiful in a procession entered into the office of the Deputy Commissioner (DC) and damaged its windowns.

Later they ransacked and damaged some shops, local Sonali Bank branch and the public library. During the attack a pedestrian boy Rafiq, 15, was also injured seriously. The panic stricken shopkeepers were forced to close down their shutters. The plaintiff said none dared to file a case against the unruly supporters.

Police said Badsha was arrested on Aug 18 and the court rejected his bail prayer the next day. The unruly supporters after creating a reign of terror declared dawn to dusk hartal on Aug 21 in a press conference at the local press club, which was observed in the town.

Police said that with this so far six cases have been filed under the Speedy Trial Act in Pabna. Of the total, in a case three people were given five years rigorous imprisonment (RI) and final report of another case was submitted. Besides, chargesheets were also submitted in two cases and two other cases are under investigation, they added.

10,000 protest move to shift bank

UNB, Tangail

About people staged a demonstration protesting the authorities' move to shift the Janata Bank branch from Mogra in Kalihati upazila of the district.

Receiving the shifting news, people of nearby villages started gathering at Mogra Bazaar since the morning and held the sit-in demonstration and protest rally there till noon.

People of at least 22 villages transact in the branch.

Earlier, they submitted a memorandum to Deputy Commissioner not to shift the branch.

UP chairman held in Munshiganj

UNB, Munshiganj

A case was filed against the chairman of Chitracourt Union Parishad in Sirajdikhan upazila on charge of misappropriating Tk 1.19 lakh.

Abdul Mannan, an officer of the Bureau of Anti-corruption, filed the case Monday against chairman Alauddin Alabaksh.

Police said Alauddin received Tk 1.26 lakh from the Sub Register's office as it bought a plot of land of the union parishad in 1999 and pocket the money.

FARIDPUR DIARY

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Faridpur

Six killed in road mishap

Six persons were killed in a road mishap at Madhukhali bus stand on Dhaka-Khulna highway recently.

The accident occurred when a Khulna bound bus from Dhaka collided head-on with a microbus running at a high speed from the opposite direction. "All the dead were passengers of the microbus" according to police sources. Police told that reckless driving of the driver was the cause of the accident.

One of the dead was identified as police constable while five others could not be identified. The bodies were sent to Faridpur Medical College Hospital morgue for autopsy. A case was lodged with Madhukhali police station in this connection.

Remarks against Prophet protested

A series of rallies and processions organised by Touhidi Janata other religious organisations and BNP backed student front Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) were held in the town recently in protest against the alleged objectionable remarks made against the Prophet Hazrat Mohammad (SM) and Ma-Fatema at a drama "Katha Krishna Kaili" staged here recently.

The processionists demanded hanging over to those involved in the stage of the drama.

Faridpur Press-Club, Shahitya-o-Sangskritee Unnayan Sangstha and the post office crossing area

were brick batted by the processionists.

The processionists submitted separate memorandum to the Deputy Commissioner DC and Police Superintendent SP demanding immediate arrest and trial of those responsible for it.

A case was lodged with Kotwali thana in this regard accusing 31 persons. One of the accused and four of their guardians were arrested.

3 imprisoned for possessing illegal arms

Three persons were sentenced to rigorous imprisonment (RI) for 10 years and to pay a fine of Tk 10,000 each in default to suffer RI for one year more for possessing illegal arms.

Md Sirajul Islam Rani, Joint-District-Judge delivered the judgement recently.

The prosecution story, in brief is that the convicts, Rafique, Sumon and Uzzal attacked house of Kuddus Sheikh at village Sadipur in Kotwali thana on the night of February 25, 2000 and demanded a huge amount of money from the house owner Kuddus Sheikh who had just returned to his house after staying for a long time in Malaysia. At one stage of mediation of fixing the amount, Kuddus Sheikh and his wife caught one convict with arms and the other two convicts Sumon and Uzzal managed to flee with two pipe guns. Police, later arrested them following a case filed with Kotwali thana by Kuddus Sheikh.

'Sculpture of Nazrul to be built in Sitakunda'

UNB, Chittagong

A sculpture of Nazrul would be built up at Eco-park in Sitakunda upazila in commemoration of National Poet Kazi Nazrul Islam.

State Minister for Environment and Forest Zafrul Islam Chowdhury said this while addressing a meeting at the auditorium of Shilpakala Academy here on Friday.

Nazrul Shilpi Sangstha organised the meeting marking the 26th death anniversary of the national poet.

Speaking on the occasion, the state minister said a song written by Kazi Nazrul Islam would be engraved on a stone at Eco-park.

Terming National Poet Nazrul Islam as one of sources of struggle of our independence, he called upon all to make a qualitative change in the society with the spirit of Nazrul.

Chaired by Vice-president of Nazrul Shilpi Sangstha Mrinal Bhattacharya, the meeting was addressed, among others, by CTV General Manager Rezaul Karim and General Secretary of Shilpi Sangstha Omar Farooq.

Expulsion withdrawn

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

Bangladesh Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) has withdrawn the expulsion order on four leaders of Moulvibazar district unit of JCD.

Kazi Abdullah Al Mamun Pervez, general secretary of the district committee of JCD informed that Jakir Hussain Ujjal -- organising secretary, Swagata Kishor Das Chowdhury -- publicity secretary, Fuad Zaman -- office secretary and Javed Ahmed -- member of the district committee of JCD were expelled from the organisation on May last due to anti-social and anti-party activities.

After their expulsion, the district JCD had investigated the allegations brought against the four JCD leaders. But all allegations proved to be false during the investigation. So, the expulsion order against them was withdrawn and all of them will enjoy the privileges of their previous rank and status in the party, the general secretary added.

Shots from districts



Adee, Head of the Natural Resource and Poverty Alleviation Department, SIDA International and Johan Norquvist, First Secretary of the Swedish Embassy in Bangladesh exchange views with the group leaders of SAMATA, a major development organisation at Habashpur union in Rajbari during their visit there recently.



Vice Chancellor of Jahangirnagar University Dr Jasimuddin Ahmed addressing a publication ceremony of a book titled: "Syed Abdur Rob" written by Dr Abul Ahsan Choudhury under the patronage of Bangla Academy which was held recently at Kabi Jasimuddin Hall in Faridpur.



A partial view of Shukanta Hall of Ananda Mohon University College in Mymensingh which is in dilapidated condition. The hall may collapse at any moment resulting in loss of valuable lives of its resident students. It needs immediate repair.



A procession with a difference at Sailkupa in Jhenidah where at least 2,000 people took part on the occasion of the Anti-drug Day recently. (Left) Pintu, a blind person was in the forefront of the procession (right) arranged by Sailkupa Upazila Parishad. He was holding a different type of placard where it was written "Mad amay andha korechhey" (wine made me blind). Following the procession at a discussion meeting at Sailkupa Upazila Parishad he disclosed that 10 years back he became addicted to wine. After a decade he lost his eyesight completely while two of his associates lost eyesight partially. The procession moved some addicts present there who promised from the dais to shun the bad practice once for all.