

NEWS SNAPS

Brother-in-law 'kills' housewifeUNB, *Shariatpur*

A woman was killed allegedly by her brother-in-law at village Guakhola in Damudya upazila Sunday.

Sha Alam Madbar stabbed his brother's wife Monoara Begum, 25, over land dispute. She was rushed to Damudya hospital where doctors declared her dead. Police arrested two people in this connection, but Sha Alam was absconding. A case was filed.

BCL cadre arrested from CtgUNB, *Chittagong*

Kotwali police arrested a cadre of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) from Nandankanan area in the city.

Police said arrested Ilias is a wanted accused in seven cases

Miscreant arrested with armsUNB, *Chittagong*

Police arrested an alleged top miscreant of Khagrachhari from the city's Sholakbaha area Monday along with a foreign made revolver.

Police also recovered five rounds of bullets from the possession of Rafiqul Alam, 34, at 10.45am. Police said there were a dozen of cases against him.

Forest official, others hurt by banditsUNB, *Mymensingh*

A forest official and five forest guards were injured in an attack by bandits at Balijuri forest in Sribordi upazila of Sherpur district on Sunday night.

Of the wounded, deputy forest ranger Delwar Hossain was admitted to Mymensingh Medical College Hospital.

A gang of robbers swooped on a team of forest guards led by Delwar while they were engaged in guarding the forest at about 11am. Five other wounded were admitted to Sribordi health complex.

Woman receives acid burn injuriesUNB, *Mymensingh*

A woman received severe burn injuries in an acid attack at village Dakatia in Bhaluka upazila here Sunday.

Family sources said one person named Abdul Kader allegedly threw acid on Suriya Begum, 40, over a land dispute with her husband Amjad Hossain. The injured was rushed to Mymensingh Medical College Hospital.

Foundation of two bridges laidBSS, *Narsingdi*

Minister for LGRD and Cooperatives Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan laid the foundation stone of two bridges on the Arial Khan in Belabo upazila on Tuesday.

Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) sources said the 168-metre long two RCC bridges will be constructed at an estimated cost of Tk four crore four thousand. One of the bridges will be constructed at Maratoli ferry ghat to Boat Bazar at an estimated cost of Tk two crore twenty two lakh eighty three thousand while the other at Radha Khali ferry ghat to Domrakandi at an estimated cost of Tk one crore seventy seven lakh twenty one thousand. The construction of these bridges will make communication more easier between Belabo thana sadar and Kuliarchar thana sadar and will also save time without any sufferings of the people. Sardar Sakawat Hossain Bakul, MP, Chief Engineer of LGED Md Shahidul Hassan and General Secretary of district BNP Tofazzel Hossain spoke on the occasion.

Mosque based mass education schemeBSS, *Narsingdi*

A total of 145 Mosque based child and mass education centres set up by Islamic Foundation, Narsingdi unit are functioning to eradicate illiteracy.

According to official sources, 4350 learners are taking lessons on Arabic, Bengali, English and General Mathematics in the centres set up in four upazilas. Fifty five centres in Monohardi, 50 centres in Shibpur, 25 centres in Sadar and 15 centres in Raipura upazila have been set up for the purpose. The learners have also been provided with free text books and other education materials by the Islamic Foundation. Besides the Foundation has set up eight Mosque based Child Mass Education Libraries.

Number of early marriage up in B'bariaBSS, *Brahmanbaria*

The number of early marriage and divorce has been increasing alarmingly in Brahmanbaria, especially in rural areas. As per government rules, a girl is fit for marriage at the age of 18 while a young man at the age of 20. But the girls between the age of 12 and 15 and boys ranging from 15 to 18 have been marrying rampantly in rural areas.

The marriage registrars allegedly record the age of immature boys and girls as 20 and 18 respectively in the registers in exchange for gratification. Fifty per cent of the early marriages are solemnised following love affairs among the immature boys and girls. Fifty per cent of marriages are registered in irregular ways while the rest 50 per cent remain unregistered. In case of unregistered marriages, the divorced wife does not get any legal aid. The married under age girls are mostly subjected to physical and sexual harassment leading to rampant divorces.

110 bags of pistachio recovered in FeniBSS, *Feni*

Police recovered a huge quantity of smuggled pistachio from village Char Gonesh at Nasu Mia's house in Sonagazi upazila on Saturday night.

Acting on a tip-off, a police team led by Siddiqi Tansilur Rahman, ASP (circle) of Feni raided at Nasu Mia's house and recovered 110 bags of pistachio worth about Tk 6,50,000. Police said the smuggled goods were brought from Myanmar by boats in the river way. A case was filed with sadar police station in this connection.

Rat killing drive in ThakurgaonBSS, *Thakurgaon*

A month-long rat killing drive began in Thakurgaon Thursday to protect standing crops especially growing aman paddy from destruction by the mini but dangerous creature.

The drive was opened by Deputy Commissioner, Jalal Ahmed as the chief guest. District BNP Vice President Shahed Kamal Chowdhury and General Secretary Samaun Haque Sanu were present as special guests. Presided over by Deputy Director of DAE Abdus Salam it was attended by Upazila Agriculture Officer, Mohammad Belayet Hossain, Plant Protection Specialist (DAE), Haripada Ghosh, and Mohammad Zel Haque. Last year, farmers in Thakurgaon killed a large number of rats. The best performing farmers in killing rats are given awards every year.

Problems grip Sailkupa Health Complex

DELWAR KABIR, *Jhenidah*

Sailkupa Upazila Health Complex in Jhenidah is beset with manifold problems.

As a result the patients are being deprived of proper healthcare facilities. The health complex was established in 1967 with a view to providing healthcare facilities to one and a half lakh people. But now the population rose to about three lakh here.

The problems include dearth of sufficient number of physicians, other staffers, medicine, food including the problem of accommodation and other facilities.

Out of total, 11 posts of physicians including the posts of administrative officer, Resident Medical



PHOTO: STAR

The damaged ceiling of Sailkupa Upazila Health Complex. It has created great panic among the patients. It should be repaired soon.

Officer (RMO), Junior Consultant in the Surgery department, one medical Officer (MO) and maternity and child health (MCH) specialist are lying vacant. Shortage of pharmacist, health inspectors (HI), assistant health inspectors (AHI), technologist and ward boy has multiplied the sufferings of the patients.

Everyday 50 patients take admission in the health complex on

average while the capacity is 31 beds in male and female wards. But there is crisis of space in both the wards. Many patients do flooring. No bed facility is provided to the additional patients.

Usually the visitors are allowed between 3pm and 5pm. But the health complex authorities are not in a position to control the visitors. The visitors roam about round the clock. Sometimes the visitors sleep on the beds of the patients. Excess visitors create trouble in providing proper treatment to the patients here.

Shortage of drug has been hampering proper treatment of the patients. Insufficient quantity of medicine like Amoxicillin, Ampicillin, Phenoxi Methyl Penicillin, Cotrimoxazole, Tetracycline, and Oral Rehydration Salt (ORS) are supplied to the patients. Even saline, which is most essential for life saving, is not provided to the patients as required.

Food supplied to the patients is quite inadequate. Other patients have to manage food from outside. The poor patients are seen begging on the streets to purchase medicine or food.

Six out of total 12 ceiling fans, and a number of lights have gone out of order long ago. Those were not replaced in last couple of months. The patients suffer much due to various problems.

About 300 patients including male, female and children rush to the outdoor of the health complex for treatment. But for want of sufficient medicine, they are provided with Tetracycline, Cotrimoxazole, Paracetamol, Iron, Vitamin B Complex and Antacid brands of medicine.

The defective chair in Dental section has been hampering the treatment of patients. Instruments are not available for proper treatment of patients here.

The patients who need opera-

tion leave the hospital, as there is no general surgeon in the health complex. But the general physicians of this health complex conduct operations in the local clinics. Physicians working here are doing a brisk business of clinics at Sailkupa town.

The only ambulance in the health complex almost remains idle, as the local fuel supplier has stopped supplying fuel to it. The fuel suppliers supplied fuel to the health complex amounting to at least Tk 50,000 on credit. Moreover, the Power Development Board (PDB) claims Tk five lakh from the authorities of the health complex as arrear due.

Because of fund shortage, the health complex authorities could



PHOTO: STAR

A ceiling fan of the health complex without any blade. The patients suffer a lot due to absence of fan in the male ward of the complex.

not pay the arrear electricity bills. Night soils overflow the roads and passages of the complex due to defective sewerage system and for want of maintenance. It has been creating health hazard and polluting the environment.

A drain leading to the nearby river has broken down long ago. It has been hampering water waste management. A drain has damaged a residential quarter of

the health complex.

A boundary wall on the south bank of the Kumar has collapsed long ago. But the authority is quite indifferent to reconstruct the wall. It has become a direct threat to the health complex as the health complex may be eroded by the river if immediate measures are not taken immediately. Moreover, wastage is not cleaned regularly form the complex.

The authorities further said that for a reasons unknown the hospital could not be turned into a 50-bed one.

Comprehensive Emergency Obstetric Care (EOC) has been installed here on November last year, but no separate building has been constructed so far to provide proper service to the patients.

Showing some small and big cracks on the ceiling of the buildings of the complex and residential quarters, the authority said to this correspondent that they have brought to notice of the higher authorities time and again. But no effective measure has been taken so far. The patients are passing their days in great panic.

One killed in road accident

BSS, *Khulna*

A van driver was killed when a bus ran over him at Baliakhali in Dumuria thana of Khulna recently.

The van driver was identified as Abdur Rahim Khokon, 35, son of Abul Hussein. Police and local sources said Khokon met the accident when a Paickgacha bound passenger bus collided with his van on Khulna-Paickgacha road, killing him on the spot. The body was sent to hospital morgue for autopsy. The bus driver managed to escape. A case has been lodged with Dumuria police station.

Influentials grab land 200 aboriginals in Sirajganj unsafe

UNB, *Sirajganj*

Some influential miscreants allegedly captured about 15 acres of land of aboriginals at village Telipara in Ullapara upazila recently.

Police said over 200 aboriginal inhabitants of the village had long been living on 15 acres of land, but influential culprits grabbed the land on September 22.

Police did not take any case when the aboriginal inhabitants went to the police station to file a

case in this regard.

The aboriginal inhabitants are passing their days in insecurity.

Although the land grabbers started erecting houses on the captured land for a few days, local administration did not take any action against them for reasons unknown, locals alleged.

Later, riot police were deployed on the spot on September 25 in a bid to avert any clash between the culprits and aboriginal inhabitants.

Police torture causes death of undertrial prisoner in jail

UNB, *Nilphamari*

An undertrial prisoner died at Nilphamari district jail Monday.

The deceased identified as Fazlul Haq, 40, was sent to jail on September 16 following a case filed by his uncle over land dispute.

Fazlul Haq became sick in the jail on Sunday and he died on the following day before taking to hospi-

tal. Family members alleged that jail officials demanded Tk 10,000 from Fazlu for his release. As he refused to give the money, they used to torture him.

Bangladesh Human Rights Bureau, District Committee protested the incident and demanded proper investigation into the causes of Haq's death in the jail custody.

Death of fellow student protested College students go on rampage at Bhola sadar hospital

UNB, *Bhola*

Students of the local government college on Sunday went on rampage at sadar hospital while protesting the death of a fellow student, who, they said died of "wrong treatment" by a physician of the hospital.

The students damaged the doctors' rooms, an ambulance and emergency room at noon. Later, they in a procession went to DC office where they held a protest rally and submitted memoranda to the DC and SP.

The angry students demanded arrest and trial of Dr Karuna Kanti Dey whom they blamed for the death of Abida Sultana Misty, 20, by wrong treatment.

Misty was admitted to the hospital with measles and fever on Friday. The condition of the girl deteriorated after Dr Karuna Kanti Dey pushed a saline and injection at about 11am.

Her condition further worsened after the on-duty physician pushed another injection.

Later, the doctors advised the girl's relatives to shift Misty to Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital. Misty died on way to Barisal.

Relatives of the girl and college

students alleged that Misty died of "improper treatment" by Dr Karuna Kanti Dey. However, physicians claimed that the patient was not given wrong treatment.

Police were deployed on the hospital compound to ward off further trouble.

50,000 saplings to be planted in a month

UNB, *Magura*

Local municipality has taken up a month long tree plantation programme from Monday as part of national tree plantation drive.

Chairman of local municipality Dr Mahbulul Haque Manju Siddiqui inaugurated the programme.

Under the programme, some 50,000 saplings of various trees will be planted at bus terminal, Shibrampur slum, municipality graveyard, Dekulia and on both sides of the main road in the town.

A children's fair in Tangail



A three-day children's fair sponsored by the district information office, Tangail, as part of "Say Yes for Children" campaign began in the district town on Sunday. State Minister for Labour and Employment Lutfur Rahman Khan opened the fair at Maulana Bhasani Hall premises. (Top left) A dance sequence at the fair, (middle) 'gambhira' is being performed by local singers while 'boyatees' render folk songs there. (Bottom left) a beautiful performance by a group of dancers, (middle) some members of BRAC, Tangail perform a development theatre and (right) a colourfully decorated stall of the sponsor of the fair Tangail District Information Office.