

NEWS SNAPS

One commits suicide

UNB, Sherpur
One person committed suicide on Tuesday morning in Sherpur.
Gandu Miah, 30, son of Shariatullah of village Surjadi Dakkhinpara hanged himself in his house after he was caught red-handed while trying to steal tomatoes from his neighbour's field early in the morning. An unnatural death (UD) case was filed with the police.

Rice sanctioned for TR projects

BSS, Thakurgaon
Government has sanctioned 277 metric tons of rice for different Test Relief (TR) projects in the project.
It also disbursed 6,100 VGF (Vulnerable Group Feeding) cards for 51 unions and two municipalities for the months of August and September, official sources said. Besides this, gratuitous relief of 750 tons per union and Pirganj and Thakurgaon municipalities and 1800 more units have been distributed.

Winter crops farming scheme

BSS, Tangail
Department of Agriculture Extension (DAE) has taken up an extensive plan for cultivation of winter crops in 11 upazilas.
According to the plan, 25,000 hectares will be brought under boro paddy cultivation, 6,000 hectares under wheat cultivation with a production target of 7,250 tons of wheat and 31,000 hectares under potato cultivation in the ensuing season. Aman paddy has already been sown on 17,500 hectares in the district, official sources said.

Alleged rapist caught by people

UNB, Bangura
Local people caught a youth red-handed while raping a schoolgirl in broad daylight in Betagi upazila Thursday.
The rapist was identified as Mostafa of the upazila. Locals said Mostafa along with his accomplice Shahidul took the class IX girl student of Mokamia Secondary School to an isolated place and raped her. Hearing her screams, local people rushed to the spot and nabbed Mostafa while Shahidul managed to flee.

Bank robbery bid foiled at Srinagar

BSS, Munshiganj
An armed robbery bid at the Hashara branch of Krishi Bank in Srinagar upazila of Munshiganj was foiled on Saturday night.
Police said the bandits forcedly entered into the bank by breaking open the doors at dead of night. The night-guard of the Bank was absent. They tried to break the vault, but in vain and also failed to trace out a cash of Tk. 17,179 kept in a drawer outside the vault. The disappointed bandits departed leaving the papers and documents of the bank ransacked. A case was filed with Srinagar thana in this connection.

Life-term convict arrested

BSS, Noakhali
Local people nabbed Nizam Uddin, a life term absconding convict of a murder case while committing armed robbery at village of Batoya union in sadar upazila on Sunday.
They handed over Nizamuddin to Sudharam Police, who said the culprit was awarded life-term in absentia in a murder case by a court.

Wheat distributed under VGDP

BSS, Jhenidah
The government distributed 1,317 metric tons of wheat among the 3,659 poor and distressed families of Jhenidah under Vulnerable Group Development Programme (VGDP) during the last financial year.



(Left) A truck passes through a damaged road running from Magura town to Mohammadpur upazila. The damaged point is near to Kanutia bazaar in Magura while (right) a van pulls through another damaged road in Gaibandha. Many pedestrians are also seen crossing a bamboo made bridge on the Gaibandha-Balashi road which has been damaged badly due to recurrent floods this year.



PHOTO: STAR

Working women's hostel yet to be constructed in Gopalganj

ALIMUZZAMAN MIAH, Gopalganj

The construction work of Gopalganj Karmajibi Mahila Hostel, a hostel for working women, is yet to be started due to non-acquisition of land.
Despite government sanction amounting to Tk 1 cr 38 lakh, work on the project could not be started. Mirja Abu Taher, executive engineer of the Public Works Department (PWD), Gopalganj told The Daily Star that the amount sanctioned for the project in the last financial year remain unutilised.
The site for the hostel was initially selected on 33 decimals of khas land in the Manikdah mouja at the northern side of the Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) office.
Subsequently executive engineer of PWD, Gopalganj sent a

letter to the Deputy Commissioner (DC) of Gopalganj for Khas land. In the 2000-2001 fiscal year the contractor was selected through a lottery against a tender invited by PWD. The amount was fixed at Tk one cr.

The DC prayed to the Ministry of Land for allotment of khas land for the Gopalganj Karmajibi Mahila Hostel project. But till filing of this report no decision regarding allotment of khas land has been taken by the Ministry of land. As a result the construction work on the project remain stalled.

During the Awami League regime, a plan for construction of one hostel for working ladies in each and every district of the country had been taken.

Working women all over the country have been facing an acute

accommodation problem. Under the plan the authorities concerned invited tender amounting to Tk 1 cr for construction of the main hostel building, boundary wall, sanitary and sewerage system and land development as well as electrification.

However, there is a rumour that this hostel is going to be transferred to Faridpur. This is due to continuous lobbying and strong recommendation of the influential quarters.

The people in Gopalganj have become frustrated. Jatiyo Mahila Sangstha, a national organisation for working women, including other political parties in Gopalganj have slated the decision. They have appealed to the Ministry of Land for taking necessary steps immediately to sanction khas land for the project.

Bandits loot house, hurt six in B'baria, UNB, Brahmanbaria

Armed robbers looted a house and injured six people at village Monipur in Sadar upazila Sunday night.

Police said a gang of about 10 robbers stormed into the house of Haider Ali and took away valuables, cash and ornaments worth Tk 2 lakh.

They also hit and injured housewife Nasima Akhter with sharp knife. The robbers opened fire and injured five villagers while they were chasing them. Injured Korban Ali, Haider Ali, Maidor Ali, Ziaur Rahman and Dulal Mia were admitted to Sadar Hospital.

A case was filed with the police.

5 imprisoned for torturing housewife UNB, Panchagarh

A special tribunal here has sentenced five people including a husband to life-term imprisonment for torturing his wife.

Each of the convicts Abdur Razzak (husband), his mother Jamila, Nafizuddin, Ainul and Azizul of village Rajaganj in Atowari upazila were fined Tk 7,000. In

default, they have to suffer one year more RI.

According to prosecution, Razzak along with his family members used to torture his wife Aleya Begum, 22, for dowry money of Tk 30,000. He asked her on July 2, 2000 to bring the dowry money from her parents and on her refusal he beat her mercilessly with an iron rod.

Later she was rushed to the local health complex in a critical condition. A case was filed with the police under women and children repression act against seven persons in this connection.

After examining records and witnesses, judge Abdus Samad pronounced the verdict on Oct 10 acquitting two others -Somirul and Dina Das.

Elderly man hacked to death UNB, Bagerhat

An elderly man was hacked to death by unknown assailants in Fakirhat upazila on Sunday evening.

The deceased was identified as Ishaq Sheikh, 75, of village Bhabana in the aforesaid upazila.

Witnesses said Ishaq while returning home from the house of his son-in-law at Botiaghata was intercepted by some miscreants. They beat and stabbed him indiscriminately killing him on the spot.

On information, police recovered the body and sent it to hospital morgue for autopsy. Police suspect that he might be killed as a sequel to past enmity. A case was filed.

Chargesheet submitted BSS, Rajshahi

Chargesheet of the sensational six murder cases in Chhota Bangram area of Boalia thana in the city was submitted to the court on Sunday.

Delwar Hossain, Police Inspector of Detective Branch of RMP, investigated the case and submitted the chargesheet. Only accused in the case Shafiqur Rahman alias Tuhin was chargesheeted. Six members of a family were poisoned to death by the son-in-law of the family Tuhin on June 25.

Kidnappers release one UNB, Joypurhat

Kidnappers released a man on Sunday in Akkelpur upazila after 10 days of his abduction in exchange of Tk 2 lakh as ransom.

Police said armed criminals picked up Azizar Rahman, son of Moslem Uddin of village Koyachobla, who returned from Malaysia recently, from Raikali-Tilakpur road on October 3 and sent a letter to his family demanding Tk 2 lakh as ransom.

Without informing police, the dreadful father Moslem Uddin met the demand of the criminals and secured release of his son.

Valuables gutted UNB, Barisal

A devastating fire at a storehouse in the town gutted valuables worth Tk 5 lakh on Sunday night.

Witnesses said the blaze broke out at 11 pm at the godown of Rangpur Foundry beside the Bogra road and charred tubewell-manufacturing equipment and other valuables. The reason behind the outbreak of the fire could not be known.

5 youths rape housewife in Rajshahi

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Five unruly youths raped a 25-year-old housewife by turn after kidnapping her from her house at Chhoto Bongram Uttarpara in the city on Thursday.

The incident came to light when she was shifted to the One Stop Crisis Centre (OSCC) at Rajshahi Medical College Hospital (RMCH) in a critical condition. A case has been filed with Boalia thana in this connection, but none was arrested till writing of this report in the evening. According to Shahana (not her real name), five youths Mohit, Zakir, Zahangir, Razzak and Sourav of the locality came to their house at around 8.30pm and took her to a vacant place in the Musroil area after kidnapping her at dagger point.

The miscreants first beat her up mercilessly and then raped her by turn the whole night. At dawn when some curious people rushed to the spot hearing her screams, the youths called her as a 'thief'. Local people took her to the Parila UP member and the member released her after taking her signature in a blank paper.

Her maternal uncle admitted her to a local clinic and later shifted to Rajshahi Medical College Hospital (RMCH) where her condition deteriorated.

One shot dead by miscreants in Rajbari UNB, Rajbari

Miscreants shot dead a man in broad daylight near Goutampur Kheya ghat (a terminal for ferry boats) in Pangsa upazila on Friday.

Police and locals said a gang of seven to eight assailants sprayed bullets on Hares Ali, 50, while he was going home at village Satta in the same upazila after visiting his sister's house in Kalikapur union.

He went to his sister's house on Thursday after appearing before the court in a case filed against him. Police recovered the body and sent it to morgue for autopsy.

Police could not unearth the motive behind the killing. A case was filed.

One awarded 12 years' RI under arms, explosives act UNB, Jhalakathi

A court here Monday awarded a man to 12 years rigorous imprisonment (RI) in arms and explosive cases.

Court sources said Kamal Hossain alias Anwar, son of Sekendar Ali of village Rupatoli in Barisal district was sentenced to 10 years under the arms act while two years under the explosive act.

According to prosecution, police recovered a revolver, two rounds of bullet and some explosives from the possession of Anwar at Dapdapia ferry ghat on July 30, 2001.

After examining the records and witnesses, judge Zafrul Hassan found Anwar guilty and handed down the verdict.

The court, however, acquitted five other accused Zahid Hossain alias Azim, Nurul Islam alias Enayet, Md Khalilur Rahman, Mehedi Hassain and Jashim.

Shots from places

Participants at a meeting exchange views on the rights of children with the local journalists in Jamalpur. District Information Office, Jamalpur arranged the meeting recently to mark the Child Rights Week.



Processionists parade the streets of Gopalganj in a colourful procession on the occasion of World Habitat Day-2002. The district administration and the Public Works Department (PWD) jointly arranged the procession on October 7.



A colourful procession in Sylhet town on the occasion of World Tourism Day. The district administration, Sylhet and Parjatan (tourism) Motel, Bangladesh Parjatan Corporation jointly organised the procession recently.



Mahbub Jamil, chairman and managing director of Singer Bangladesh Limited inaugurates the 79th Singer show room-cum sales centre at Chowmuhani in Noakhali. High officials from Marketing and Marketing Services Department, local elite were present at the opening ceremony on October 13.