

NEWS SNAPS

Man killed in road mishap

UNB, Munshiganj

A man was killed and six others were injured in a road accident at Abdullahpur bazaar in Keraniganj on Dhaka-Mawa highway Saturday.

Witnesses said the accident occurred at about noon when a passenger bus went out of control and hit the people in the bazaar, killing a youth, Amir Hossain, 28, on the spot.

The injured were admitted to various hospitals in the capital city.

Teen commits suicide

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Magura

A teenage girl committed 'suicide' by hanging at village Raigram in Sadar upazila recently.

Police said Mahfuza Begum, 13, daughter of Bakkar Sheikh, took her life on October 27 after her parents prevented her from making love with a youth. Police sent the body to hospital morgue for autopsy. An unnatural death (UD) case was filed.

Body of teen recovered

UNB, Natore

The body of a teenage boy was recovered from a pond in the town Sunday.

The deceased was identified as Ashraf, 14, of Kanaikhali area in the town. He was a worker in a workshop in the town. It was not clear how he met the tragic end of his life. The body was sent to hospital morgue for autopsy. An unnatural death (UD) case was filed with police.

Book fair in Munshiganj

UNB, Munshiganj

A three-day book fair began at the Government Haraganga College here on Saturday.

Local member of parliament (MP) Abdul Hye inaugurated the book fair. Some 16 stalls were set up in the book fair, sponsored by Crown Cement. Chaired by principal Meherunnesa, the inaugural ceremony was addressed, among others, by Prof Khadija Adib Khanam, ADM Shamsuzzaman Bhuiyan and Alamgir Kabir.

Two held with contraband fruits

UNB, Jessore

Paramilitary Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) jawans arrested two people along with huge Indian contraband fruits from a bus on Jessore-Benapole road Thursday.

Acting on a tip-off, the BDR men searched the bus at Laujani on the road and arrested bus driver Abul Kalam Azad and helper Feroj alias Hira along with the Indian fruits worth about Tk 5.53 lakh. Abul Kalam Azad of village Ramnagar and Hira of village Magura in Jhikargachha upazila, were handed over to police.

Sanction for road construction

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Magura

The government has sanctioned Tk 34 lakh for construction of two roads in the current fiscal year under rural infrastructure development and maintenance programme in Magura.

Of the total amount, Tk 14 lakh has been sanctioned for construction of Asba-Barashaloi road and Tk 20 lakh for Berail-Polita-Naliar ghat road. Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) has been implementing the schemes which are expected to be completed by December.

Agri workshop in Gazipur

UNB, GAZIPUR

A daylong workshop was held at the Agriculture Training Centre here Sunday aiming to alleviate poverty through crop diversification schemes.

Some 50 people including Department of Agriculture Extension (DAE) officials, block supervisors and NGO representatives took part in the workshop organised by local DAE. Project director M Lutfar Rahman, deputy director Gazi Ali Asgar, agronomists Abu Yusuf Mia and M Nowsher Mollah addressed the workshop.

Diarrhoea claims 8 lives in Sirajganj

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sirajganj

Eight persons including four children died of diarrhoea which broke out in an epidemic form in the remote areas of Sirajganj Sadar, Kazipur and Shahjadpur upazilas within a week.

One thousand others were attacked with the fatal disease.

The dead victims were identified as Rupban Bewa, 50, wife of Saiful Islam, Hazera Bewa, 40, wife of Juran Ali and Shimuli, 7, daughter of Haider Ali of Roypur in Sirajganj Sadar, Romisa Khatun, 50, wife of Kaicha Mondal of Shalgram in Kazipur upazila, Rahela Khatun, 13, daughter of Abdus Sobhan of village Sajnarbarin the same upazila, Rokon, 2, son of Dilip Kumar of Monirampur, 2-month-old Shaymol, son of Naru in the same area and Rahul, 2, son of Khokon of Shahjadpur upazila.

A physician of Kazipur Health Complex confirmed the

death toll. Eye witnesses alleged that most of the inhabitants of Porjona, Baghabari, Barabeel, Talgachhi, Perkola and Ratankundi in Shahjadpur upazila and Shajnabari and Kumrabari in Kazipur upazila and the municipality area-Bhangabari, Telkupi, Jaanpur, Shahednagar, Dhanbandhi and Dardhanzara in Sirajganj Sadar were attacked by the disease.

An acute food crisis was prevailing across the area and other parts of the aforementioned upazilas. An alarming situation was prevailing in the area, eye witnesses said. Poverty stricken people of the shoal areas were passing days unfed for two to three days or more. They took animal fodder and got attacked with the disease.

When contacted with the civil surgeon of Sirajganj, he told The Daily Star that one person died while 787 others were attacked by the disease within a fortnight. He informed that 94 medical teams were working in all the affected areas.

Cooperative Day in dists

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The 31st National Cooperative Day was observed in Nilphamari and Rajbari in a befitting manner on Saturday.

Our Nilphamari correspondent reports: A discussion was held at the municipality auditorium to mark the occasion. Deputy Commissioner (DC) of Nilphamari Abdul Bari Khan, advocate Anisul Arefin Chowdhury and district cooperative

officer Khademul Haq addressed the meeting.

A colorful procession was also brought out in the district town which paraded the main thoroughfares.

UNB from Rajbari reports: On the occasion a discussion was held at the auditorium of shilpakala academy.

Deputy Commissioner (DC), Rajbari Bijan Kanti Sarker was present in the meeting as the chief guest while upazila nirbahi officer

(UNO) Hamidur Rahman attended as special guest.

Chaired by cooperative union president Abu Yusuf Khan, the meeting was addressed, among others, by Ramzan Ali Khan, Nabokumar Datta and Debobrata Chakrabarty.

Earlier a colorful rally was brought out in the town. The members of cooperative associations took part in the rally.

Cop killed in Rangamati boat tragedy

UNB, Rangamati

A police constable drowned in a boat capsized in the river Kachalong in Baghaichhari upazila on Sunday.

The deceased was identified as Akter Hossain, 32. Police said he was going to perform his duty at the football ground at the upazila headquarters. Witnesses said the boat sank as it carried people beyond its capacity.

Other passengers of the boat managed to swim ashore. The death news of the constable cast a pall of gloom over the local police administration.

Tk 9 lakh BRDB loan for distressed women

UNB, Sunamganj

Bangladesh Rural Development Board (BRDB) has taken up a scheme to disburse loan amounting to Tk 9 lakh among the distressed and unemployed women in the district.

The loan will be given to take up small business, cow rearing, vegetable cultivation, tailoring, embroidery and other income generating activities.

Since 1988-89 fiscal, BRDB so far disbursed Tk 1.22 cr to unemployed women through their 47 associations in the district and realised Tk 1.15 cr which has been termed as satisfactory.



PHOTO: STAR

Rural women at village Zelekhal in Shyamnagar upazila and the adjacent areas in Satkhira district queue for fetching arsenic-free water from the Pond Sand Filter (PSF). Noabeki Ganamukhi Samabaya Samity, a cooperative society in Shyamnagar and NGO Forum for Drinking Water and Sanitation, Khulna implemented the drinking water supply project.

2 trucks with contraband seized

UNB, Jessore

Police in a drive seized two trucks loaded with various imported clothes and other contraband goods worth Tk one crore from the town Saturday night.

Acting on a tip-off, Kotwali police led by Officer-in-Charge Golam

Mostafa and TSI Wahiduzzaman searched the Dhaka-bound trucks from Benapole on Benapole-Dhaka highway and seized the Indian goods.

The goods include synthetic saree, three-pieces, cut-piece cloths and other contraband items. Police said they were examining

the documents of the seized imported goods from India.

They also said they were comparing the goods as per the declaration made by the importers at Benapole port in presence of the first class magistrate and Customs officials.