

SNAPS

Unidentified woman dies at hospital

UNB, Sirajganj An unidentified young woman who was rescued in an unconscious state from near the Jamuna bridge on Wednesday night, died at Sadar hospital on the following day. Police said they rescued the woman from a bush at 2am and admitted her to the hospital in a critical condition. They suspect that the victim was kidnapped from her house and left at spot after gang rape. A case was filed.

Road mishap kills septuagenarian

UNB, Chandpur A septuagenarian was killed in a road accident at village Madna in Sadar upazila on Friday. Police said M Momin Sheikh was injured when a motorcycle hit him from behind in front of Momin Modna Modina Market. He died at the Sadar hospital. A case was filed.

Robbery at Naogaon

UNB, Naogaon A gang of robbers looted valuables including cash and gold ornaments from three houses in Shibganj bazaar area of Mohadevpur upazila on Tuesday. About 12 armed men stormed into the houses of Lakkhan Sen, Gautam and Hireen at around 1 am and looted goods including Tk 20,000, witnesses said. They beat the inmates of the houses when they cried out for help. Separate cases were filed with the police.

Valuables gutted

UNB, Chandpur Valuables worth Tk 2 lakh gutted in a devastating fire at a house, behind Khachua Pourasava Bhaban on Monday. Locals said the fire originated from electric short circuit at about 11am and soon engulfed the adjacent rooms of the house burning down all its valuables. After two hours of frantic efforts, local people put out the blaze.

Lynching of 13 bandits

Bhaluka villagers feel insecure, fear reprisal

BSS, Mymensingh

Fear of insecurity has gripped the villagers at Kashor where 13 armed robbers were lynched. Villagers are apprehending fresh attack on them by the robbers, many of whom escaped the wrath of mob. Kaiezuddin, a villager and day labourer who was present during the incident told BSS that the big gang of culprits had been committing dacoities in various places since long. Early Thursday while he was on way to his workplace an under-construction mill, he saw at least 30 bandits there. They were trying to conceal something by digging earth under a bridge. At once he raised an alarm. Within a few minutes thousands

of people from nearby villages Mallikabari, Polagaon, Kabina and Gobadiba came out of their houses. Angry villagers beat them including their leader Bidyut of village Bhoradoa in Bhaluka to death on the spot. Six others died in the police van while on way to police station. Two died at Mymensingh Medical College Hospital. Two others were admitted in a hospital and their condition was stated to be critical. Rest one is now in Bhaluka police custody. People who suffered by the robbers previously expressed their satisfaction over killing of dacoits. Two separate cases were filed with Bhaluka police station. Witnesses found a woman in the gang, who was carrying part of the booty along with others who man-

aged to escape. The villagers told BSS that they had been observing suspicious movement of a microbus around the village since the day of the incident. On Thursday midnight, the microbus tried to enter Kashorbazar, but it fled hurriedly in face of strong vigilance by villagers. Mymensingh Police super visited the spot on Wednesday. He told this correspondent that the gang had been committing dacoities in the area for a long time. He said police had conducted several drives to nab other members of the gang. Police informed this correspondent that there had been a number of dacoity and murder cases against the dead dacoits.



(Left-right) Construction materials and fruits have occupied a good portion of roads at two important points in Magura town causing great sufferings to people.

Stolen computers recovered:5 held in Sunamganj

UNB, Sunamganj Detective Branch police with the help of Sylhet district police have recovered stolen computers and discs of a youth training centre and arrested five people.

Three computers, one colour printer and two sets of disc worth of Tk 1.20 lakh were stolen from National Youth Training Centre at Hasannagar College road in the town on June 19, 2002.

Following a case police carried out investigation and submitted chargesheet without recovering any of the stolen goods on April 6 this year. Later the Detective Branch (DB) of police conducted the drives in different areas and recovered the stolen items with the help of police of Sylhet on April 27.

The arrested are Jahur, owners of GM Traders Golam Mostafa, Moimuddin, Abdul Qader and Iqbal Hossain Bipul.

Drug trafficker arrested

UNB, Comilla A drug trafficker was arrested from Suaganj bazaar area of Sadar upazila on Tuesday. A team of Narcotics Control Department caught drug trafficker Amanullah Aman along with heroin and hemp. A case was filed.

Murderer awarded life term imprisonment

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gopalganj A murderer was awarded life term imprisonment last week.

Md Abul Hossain, District and Sessions Judge of Gopalganj convicted Lulu Mollah, 25, son of late Jamir Mollah of village Bedgram in Gopalganj Sadar for murdering his mother Samsun Nahar Begum, 55, on August 18, 2002.

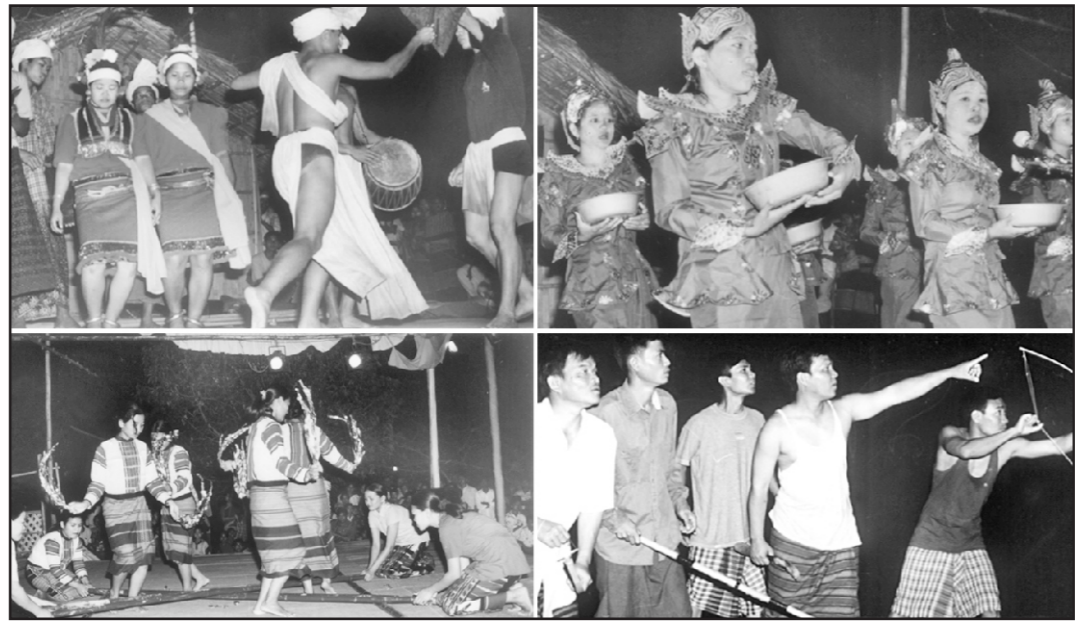
Lulu Mollah demanded some

money from his mother to purchase intoxicant. As his mother denied to give the money, Lulu became furious and stabbed his mother by a sharp knife. She sustained serious injury and died on way to hospital. Advocate Kazi Moorul Islam, Public Prosecutor (PP) conducted the case on behalf of the government, while advocate Abul Hasim Sammader appeared for the defence.

Storm kills two in Madaripur

UNB, Madaripur Two persons were killed in a severe cyclonic storm that swept over Madaripur on Friday. Locals said Tarek Halder, 42, of village Pakhulla in Rajoir upazila died on the spot when a wall collapsed and fell on him. Another unidentified man was killed by lightning during the storm that razed over 800 dwelling houses to the ground, uprooted numerous trees and damaged huge standing crops.

Shots from a cultural fair in Rangamati



PHOTOS: MONIRUL ALAM

Here are some shots from the 7th Indigenous Cultural Fair held recently at Tribal Cultural Institute in Rangamati to welcome the Bangla New Year. Jum Aesthetic Council has been organising such fair since 1977. Thirteen ethnic groups took part this year. This is a scene of Jhum crops harvesting by young Khumi tribal girls and boys, top left, while a traditional dance drama named "Jaieet" is being held by young Marma girls, top right. Traditional bamboo dance is being performed by tribal Bwam girls, bottom left, and a scene from a popular Chakma drama "Dulu Humori" which depicts the life of a restless, but only loving sister of five brothers, bottom right.

1,600 farmers flee home facing certificate cases

BSS, Rajbari

A total of 1,060 farmers have been facing certificate cases for non-payment of outstanding agricultural loan in four upazilas of Rajbari. Official sources said, four nationalised commercial banks including Bangladesh Krishi Bank (BKB) filed the cases against the defaulters to realise outstanding loan amounting to Tk. 235.27 lakh. Most of the farmers who failed to repay their loan have been hiding fearing police action following the cases. Because of this phenomenon family members of fleeing farmers face acute economic hardship. In Rajbari Sadar upazila, 562 certificate cases have been lodged by the four banks to recover outstanding loan of Tk. 98.04 lakh. In Pangsha upazila, 208 certi-

cate cases have been lodged to realise Tk. 53.01 lakh from defaulters. In Gualondo upazila, 41 certificate cases have been lodged to realise Tk. 8.56 lakh and in Baliakandi upazila, 249 certificate cases have been lodged to realise Tk. 95.66 lakh. Defaulting farmers said that they had failed to repay their loan as they could not achieve the production target of their produce due to price-hike of seeds, pesticide and fertiliser. Talking to BSS an accused of a certificate case, Moslem Ali, said he had taken a loan of Tk 2,000 only a few years ago, which now stood at 7,500 including interest. Fearing arrest he has been fleeing. Nuru Mia, another accused at village Kalibari in Sadar upazila said that he had taken Tk 5,000 as farm-loan but he spent the money for his wife's treatment.