

SNAPS

Businessman killed

UNB, Gazipur
A businessman was stabbed to death allegedly by his neighbours at Chhoto Dewra here on Wednesday night.

Police told UNB the businessman, Abdur Rouf, 36, was killed following a land dispute. Police arrested Ramijuddin and his son Firoz.

Unidentified man found dead

UNB, Rajshahi
An unidentified man was found dead at Koidanga beel in Sadar thana on Wednesday.

Police rushed to the spot and recovered the body. It was sent to hospital for autopsy.

Filling station ransacked

UNB, Barisal
Miscreants ransacked a filling station here early Thursday, leaving two of its employees injured.

According to police, the culprits went to Rabbi Filling Station at Kashipur in the city shortly after midnight and asked for fuel for their motorbike. As the employees refused to sell fuel after 10 pm, they got angry and beat them up.

109 health projects implemented

UNB, Rajshahi
One hundred nine projects, aiming to ensure healthcare facilities for rural people, have been implemented in Rajshahi, Naogaon, Chapainawabganj, Natore and Pabna districts.

Health and Family Welfare Ministry has implemented the projects at a cost of about Tk 24 crore.

25 fined for travelling without ticket

UNB, Rajbari
A mobile court here Wednesday fined 25 passengers of train for travelling without ticket.

Railway sources said the court, led by commercial officer of Pakshey Railway Department, realised Tk 3,060 in fine from the passengers.

Five with arms arrested

UNB, Bandarban
Five youths were arrested along with firearms from Hafejghora in the town on Wednesday night.

A joint team of police and army arrested Faridul Alam of Cox's Bazar, Jahangir at Chiringa, Soheli of Fatikchhari, Yusuf and Azam of Chittagong along with the arms.

Valuables looted

UNB, Sirajganj
Road pirates swooped on a group of fish traders travelling in a truck and looted cash and valuables worth over Tk one lakh on Hatikumul-Bonpara highway here on Thursday.

Police said the armed bandits, numbering 15-20, boarded the truck in the guise of passengers and swooped on the fish traders when it reached Cross Bridge area in Solonga thana, leaving five of the fish traders injured.

Preservation of Zainul's works demanded

CU CORESPONDENT

Speakers at a discussion meeting demanded preservation of works of Shilpacharza Zainul Abedin, left uncared at Chittagong Government Public Library for long.

They appealed to the ministry of culture to take necessary steps in this regard.

They were speaking at a discussion on 'Fine Arts in Bangladesh and Contribution of Zainul Abedin', held at Chittagong Government Fine Arts College auditorium on Thursday on the occasion of Zainul's 27th death anniversary.

Among others, Rezaul Karim Sumon, SM Nayem, Ashraful Hasan, Taufiqul Islam took part in the discussion with Moin Hasan in the chair. Abu Naser Rabi presented the key note paper.

Heroin seized at Rajshahi, two held

BSS, Rajshahi

Detective Branch (DB) of police seized 460 grams of heroin worth about Tk 46 lakh from two bus passengers here on Wednesday.

Acting on a tip-off, a DB team arrested Alamgir Kabir alias Joy, 26, and Ansar Ali, 28, from a Naogaon-bound bus at Muraripur in Paba upazila and recovered the heroin after searching their bags. They were handed over to Paba police.

Alleged sale of bullets by Ansars to criminals stir Khulna police

QUAZI AMANULLAH, Khulna

Alleged pirates Wahab Akand and his younger brother Habib Akand, arrested on May 25 from Khalishpur industrial belt, confessed to police that they had purchased rifle bullets from Ansars.

The six bullets recovered from their possession are among the 600 looted from the store at Daulatpur Jute mill on the night of April 24, they told Khulna Metropolitan Police (KMP) detectives.

DB police recovered 13 illegal arms, six rifle bullets and 16 live gun cartridges from their possession on May 26. They are now in Khulna Jail. They hail from Dhanashagor village in Swarankhola upazila.

The alleged sale of bullets to criminals by Ansars has created sensation in the police department.

Investigation has been started to ascertain whether the six bullets recovered from pirates were

among those looted along with 20 rifles by PBCP outlaws allegedly with the help of two on-duty Ansars at Daulatpur Jute mill.

"We are deeply concerned and have taken the matter seriously because many of the Ansars have criminal background", said a senior official of KMP.

According to official records, 42 arms and over 1000 bullets of different kinds were looted from Ansars in Khulna, Jessore and Bagerhat districts in the last seven years.

Of these, five rifles and 30 bullets were looted by outlaws on December 29, 1997 from on-duty Ansars in Rupsha upazila.

On November 22, 1999, outlaws looted 12 rifles and 150 bullets from Ansars at Nowpara Akij Jute Mill in Jessore.

On May 12 in the same year, outlaws looted five rifles from Ansars at a passenger launch at Rampal upazila in Bagerhat.

Besides, 42 arms and eight guns were looted by outlaws in 1998 from Shiromoni Cable Shilpa Ltd where private security guards were on duty.

There are allegations that there is no chain of command in the Ansar department in Khulna division. As a result, higher authorities fail to take departmental action against Ansars.

Besides, many extremists got enrolled as Ansars, taking advantage of the general amnesty in 1999, KMP sources said.

When contacted, District Ansar Adjutant S M Nazimul Islam refuted the allegation, saying there is no scope for Ansars to sell bullet because they have to get their arms and bullets checked by higher authorities every day.

Mentionably, arms and ammunition looted by outlaws in the south-western districts in the last seven years are yet to be recovered and the alleged looters arrested.

Acid thrown on rape victim by rapists on bail

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Alleged papists, released on bail, threw acid on the rape victim and her husband for filing case against them.

The rapists are reportedly activists of the ruling party.

Acid was thrown on the couple Monday night when they were asleep at their house at Deeghokandi village in Natore.

They were taken to Natore Sadar Hospital, which referred them to Dhaka Medical College Hospital for treatment. But they are still at Natore as they cannot afford to go

to Dhaka, their relatives and hospital sources said.

Police had arrested the accused Abdul Gafur, Maynal and Abdul Mannan -- in the first week of April after the victim filed a case with Boraigram thana on February 8, two days after she was gangraped at her house in absence of her day labourer husband.

After their released on bail early this month, they started threatening the victim's family to withdraw the rape case.

Being threatened, the victim filed a general diary (GD) with the thana on May 7.

On May 16, police submitted a prosecution requesting the court to cancel their bail and to issue warrant for their arrest.

Filing of the GD angered the rapists. On the night of May 27, the three alleged rapists along with another man -- Abdul Khalil -- entered the victim's house by breaking the door and threw acid on the sleeping couple.

"The court is yet to issue arrest order", said ASP Ashrafur Islam of Boraigram circle.

Abdul Khalil was arrested after the May 27 incident but the three are still on bail, police said.

Troops reinforced at Kawkhali after PCJSS-UPDF shootout

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangamati

Additional troops have been set to Kawkhali after a shootout between activists of Parbattiya Chattagram Jono Sanghati Shamitya (PCJSS) and United Peoples Democratic Front (UPDF) at Hazachhori village on Monday left one person injured.

The injured, identified as PCJSS activist Govashnath Chakma, 30, is now under treatment at a clinic in Chittagong, Kawkhali police said.

Sources said, a group of 35 PCJSS activists led by Purnanga Chakma and Dharendra Chakma

swooped on the UPDF-dominated village, firing shots.

They torchted the house of local UPDF leader Robi Chandra Chakma and confined four others inside their houses.

UPDF activists replied with shots, leaving Govashnath injured.

On May 21, another shootout took place between the two rival groups at Panchhori village in the upazila that left two UPDF activist bullet-hit. The house of UPDF leader Amolendu Chakma was gutted during the gunbattle.

Relief for remote CHT people

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangamati

Two tonnes of rice, medicine worth Tk 25,000 and lunginis have been supplied to 12000 tribesmen in 15 villages in Raingkhoyong Bortholi area under Farua union in Balaichhori upazila.

These have been supplied on an emergency basis as the tribesmen face food shortage for three months each year as their crops from Jum cultivation become exhausted in May. Rangamati Hill District Council (RHDC) Chairman Maniklal Dewan told this correspondent.

Earlier, Farua Union Parishad member Jacop Tripura had appealed to the RHDC for emergency help, he said.

The food has been supplied to the remote area by army helicopter. "The situation is now under control, they need more food assistance", he said.

Girl gangraped

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Feni

A teenaged girl was gangraped near Mahipal bazaar under Sadar upazila on Tuesday night.

According to police, the girl, a resident of Badda village under Chidhuram thana of Comilla, was kidnapped from Mohipal bus stand on gun point Tuesday evening and taken to one Raju's house where she was gangraped.

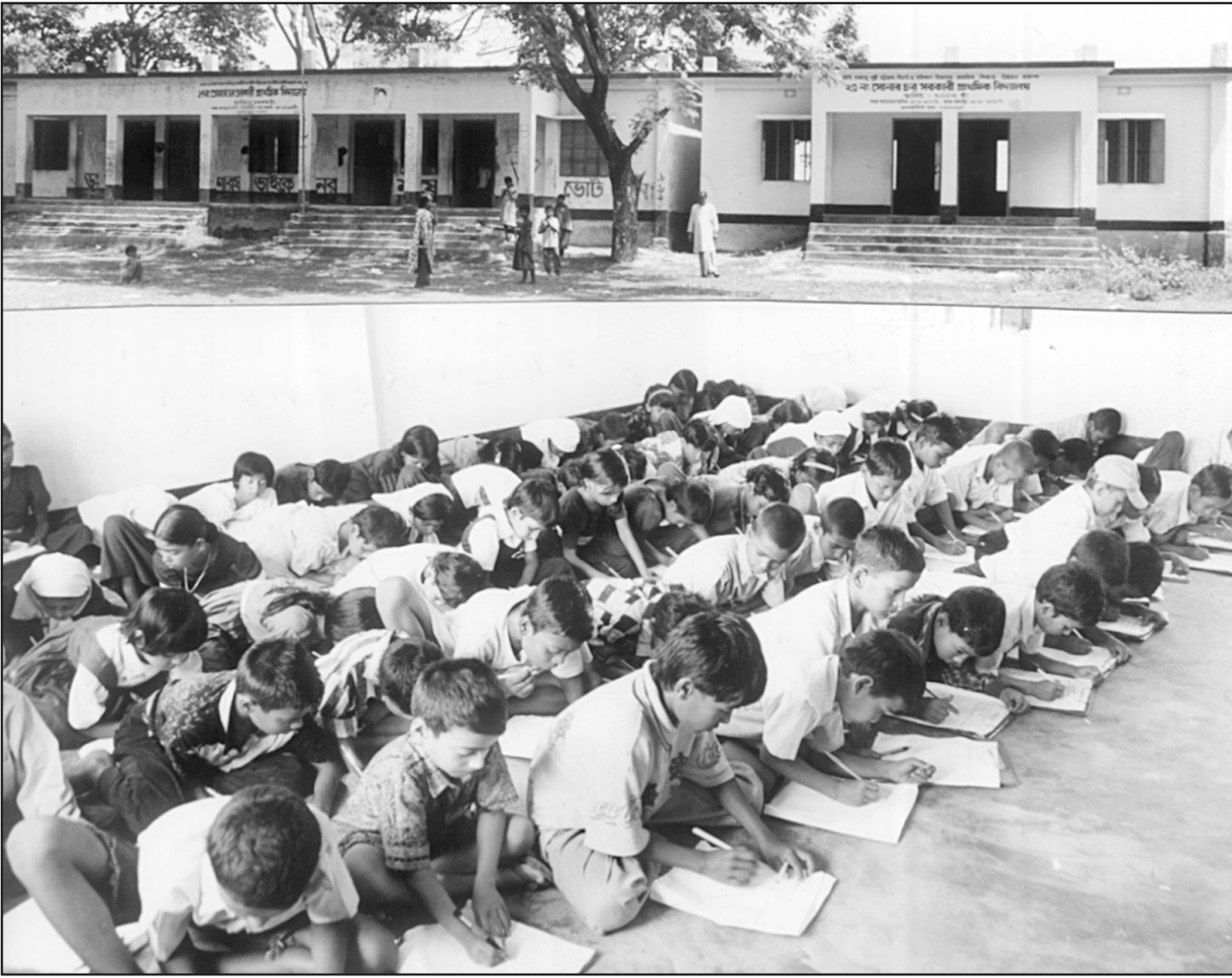


PHOTO: AKM MOHSIN

This is not a painting competition. The tiny tots are visibly serious at examination at No 23 Sonarchar Government Primary School in Meghna upazila in Comilla district but the authorities care a little to arrange benches and tables for them. The school was reconstructed in 1999, but sitting arrangement, also for teachers, are yet to be made. The school authorities said there is no tubewell for supply of drinking water.

Outlaws kill 38 politicians in SW districts

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Thirty-eight leaders and activists of different political parties were killed in south-western districts by outlaws in the last one year, according to police records.

Over 100 others were injured during the period.

The victims include Jubo Dal leader Abbas Ali Howlader of Rampal upazila and Awami League activist Motalab Shaikh of Chitalmari upazila in Bagerhat. They were killed on May 11 and April 27 last year respectively.

On April 20, general secretary of Phultala upazila unit of BNP Noor Hossain was gunned down by outlaws.

On March 10, outlaws killed Dumuria upazila Chhatra Dal leader Noor Alam Siddiqui alias Bappi.

BNP leaders Haider Ali Ghasi and Jubo League leader Taj Mahmud Raju were gunned down on September 21 last year at Dumuria bazar.

Outlaws killed Chuadanga Sadar upazila BNP leader Ismail Khan on August 30 last year. On November 24 in the same year, Awami League leader Monrej Moulla was slaughtered by outlaws at Alamdanga in Chuadanga district. BNP leader Shamsuzzaman Nannu of Kushtia town was shot dead on December 2 last year.

On September 19 in the same year, labour leader Nazam Sardar of Awami League was gunned down by outlaws at Khalispur in Khulna city.

BNP leader Akhtar Hoosain Khan escaped an attempt on his life on last May 6 at Rupsha bus stand.

Man killed by son-in-law in Barisal

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

A son-in-law killed his father-in-law and injured four others including his mother-in-law and her three sons at Shakbunia village in Bakergang upazila during a clash over a disputed land.

Motahar Boati tried to plough the disputed land on Tuesday. His father in law Akram Howlader, 70, mother in law Aleya Begum and her sons resisted.

In a fit of rage, Motahar beat them, killing his father in law on the spot. The injured Aleya, Alom, Jahangir, Ruhul and Altaf are now being treated at Bakergang health complex.

Nor'wester hits 25 villages in Sirajganj, 100 injured

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sirajganj

At least 100 people were injured as a nor'wester lashed 25 villages in Belkuchi and Chowhali upazilas Wednesday night.

Official sources and local people said the nor'wester damaged 800 houses and some schools, madrasahs, mosques. Many trees were uprooted and crops on a vast tract of land damaged.

Deputy Commissioner Ibadot Ali visited the spot and assured the affected people of relief.

3 murdered in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Chittagong

Three persons were killed in separate incidents at Patenga and Baizid Bostami in the city and in Banshkhal in 28 hours till Friday afternoon.

Police arrested five persons for their alleged involvement in those. Mamtazur Rahman, 50, an employee at the divisional commissioner's office, was beaten in Steel Mill Bazar area near Patenga thana soon after he filed a case. He died while being taken to Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH), police said.

Police arrested Tajuddin, Joyнал, Jamal and Shah Alam from the spot.

The victim's brother Jasimuddin filed a case accusing 10 people including Mokhtar Hossain, cousin of Mamtaz, as the prime accused. Police said land dispute might be the reason behind the incident.

Taxi driver Harunur Rashid, 30, was stabbed to death by muggers near Amin Jute Mill in Baizid Bostami area Thursday night. Police arrested one of the alleged muggers, Moinul Islam Rumon. Md Saira Islam, 25, killed his father Altaf Meah, 65, and injured his mother Halima Begum, 50, with a sharp weapon at village Baroghona village in Banshkhal upazila Friday afternoon. Quoting family sources, police said Islam was mentally retarded

Bank guard injured as miscreants hurl bomb on him in Khulna

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Security guard of Agrani Bank at Clay Road was injured when unidentified miscreants hurled a bomb on him on Thursday.

The bomb exploded at the main gate where security guard Abdur Rashid, 48, was on duty. Two miscreants came in a motorcycle and disappeared after hurling the bomb, witnesses said.

Police said it could be an attempt to snatch the firearm from

the security guard. But the attempt failed as a private car at main gate created obstruction for the miscreants to proceed towards the security guard for snatching the firearm.

The incident has created panic among guards and security has been stepped up in all banks in city.

On Wednesday, a grenade went off on the roof of the Arts Building at Daulatpur Govt B L College. It is yet to be detected who exploded the grenade.

Demarcation pillars being smuggled to India

BSS, Barguna

Demarcation pillars made of valuable touchstone and powerful magnet are being stolen from various mauzas in Barguna district and smuggled to India.

The mauzas are in Amtali, Barguna Sadar, Pathorghata, Bamna and Betagi upazilas.

The smuggled pillars are sold at between Tk 2 lakh and Tk 4 lakh each in India, sources said.

The smugglers locate the pillars

with the help of maps procured from land settlement offices and take away those in the guise of land survey department employees.

They also use radio and watch to detect the pillars. A radio stops functioning when they come near the pillars.

The pillars were set up during British period from 1890 to 1905 after an extensive survey.

Local people have urged the authorities concerned to take steps to stop stealing of valuable pillars.

Special allocation for disabled sought

BSS, Rajshahi

NGO officials on Wednesday urged the government to make special allocation for the disabled in next year's national budget to help them become self-dependent.

At a press conference here, they said the state should do something to make them self-dependent through various income generating activities.

Assistant Director of Physically Handicapped Training Centre (PHTC) Abdul Matin Khaleque, Action on Disability and

Development (ADD) Programme Officer Monsur Rahman and others including Jashim Uddin and Shamsul Alam addressed the press conference at Rajshahi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCCI) office.

The NGO officials further said the disabled are not a burden to the society. Special allocations in the national budget can change their lot, they said.

They proposed enhancement of grants for the National Disable Development Fund (NDDP) and micro-credit to the disable.

Bagha upazila Jubo League leader held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Bagha upazila general secretary of Jubo League Toshiquul Islam was arrested on Friday

on charge of criminal activities.

The OC of Bagha thana said Islam is one of the top criminals in the area and there are at least ten cases including some for women repression against him.

He was arrested from a hair-dresser shop at Milikbagha.

Talking to newsmen, Toshiquul Islam alleged that his arrest was "intentional" as he was acquitted in nine cases out of the ten and the rest one was being tried.

Wild elephants rampage village, kill woman

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangamati

A woman was killed as a herd of wild elephants swooped on Sofipur village in Bangal Halia union in Rajosthali upazila on Wednesday.

Shajeda Begum, 35, came under the attack when she was procuring firewood from a nearby jungle, police said. Two men--Noushad and Moksedwere also injured. They were admitted to the local upazila health complex.

The elephants also trampled some houses.

Last week, a herd of 30 to 35 wild elephants entered Palarbon village, leaving 10 people injured and destroying dwellings.

On march 25, a fisherman -- Sonah Miah, 32, -- was killed when some elephants entered Boromahilla area in Longdu upazila.

Accord for construction of hospital in Chandnaish

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Chittagong

An agreement for construction a 500-bed hospital at Kanchannagar under Chandanaish upazila was signed on Wednesday.

The hospital, being constructed by Begum Gul Chemonara (BGC) Trust, will be operational in June next year.

The BGC Trust signed the agreement with Indian firm Hospital Services Consultant Corporation (HSCC) for construction and joint management of the hospital. The agreement was signed in Dhaka, according to a press release available here. Founder of BGC Trust University Engineer Afsaruddin Ahmad and Executive Managing Director of HSCC Sanjib Sooth signed the deal. BGC Project Coordinator Md Fazlul Haq, Syndicate Member Tabarak Hossain, Registrar Dr. AMM Minhazur Rahman, Hospital Director Dr Abu Yousuf Chowdhury and HSCC engineer Aman Dip were also present on the occasion. The hospital will be built at a cost of Tk.23 crore, the press release said