

SNAPS

Two brothers drown

UNB, Habiganj
Two brothers drowned in a water body in Bhangerpur area near the town on Saturday.

The victims, Shamim, 9, and Naim, 7, were playing at that time. Separate cases were filed.

Domestic help**electrocuted**

UNB, Sunamganj
A domestic help was electrocuted on Thursday.

Shahin, 16, who worked as a domestic help at the house of Aroj Miah Chowdhury, was electrocuted at Chhatak on Thursday. He hailed from Ichhakal village of Companyganj upazila in Sylhet district.

Body recovered

UNB, Khulna
Police recovered the body of an unidentified young man from Raripara area of Fultala upazila here on Saturday.

The body was sent to Khulna Medical College Hospital for autopsy. A case was filed.

Round the clock IU medical service

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia
The Islamic University Medical Centre (IUMC) will remain open round the clock for health care services to students and teachers and other university staff.

Earlier, the service was available for six hours only. IU Vice Chancellor Prof Mostafizur Rahman at a simple function on Monday declared introduction of the round the clock service.

Six criminals arrested

UNB, Sirajganj
Six listed criminals were arrested from different parts of the town on Sunday night.

They were identified as Bomaru Manik, 35, Kana Rafiq, 36, Kana Ansar, 40, Geda Shahin, 38, Faruq, 32, and Nasir, 41.

6,764 trained in BARD

UNB, Comilla
Bangladesh Academy for Rural Development (BARD) has imparted training to 6,764 people in the last fiscal year.

BARD conducted training for members and chairmen of union parishads (UPs) and for officers of different government, autonomous and non-government organisations.

Cheats continue as 'doctors'!

No action despite Satkhira Civil Surgeon's report

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

The authorities have not yet taken any action against the 12 persons who are cheating patients by impersonating highly qualified doctors despite the civil surgeon's official letter to the Directorate of Health.

Satkhira Civil Surgeon Dr SM Mustafa Anwar in a letter to the Director General, Directorate of Health on May 13 identified the 12 fake doctors and recommended

action against them for cheating patients.

Their forgery was also published in newspapers.

The list was prepared by the Satkhira branch of Bangladesh Medical Association (BMA) and the recommendation followed investigation by upazila health and family planning officers, the civil surgeon's letter (memo no CS/Sat/Sha-5/2003) had said.

The fake doctors and location of their chambers are: Dr B Rahman,

Skylar Medical Centre, Palashapole, Satkhira; Dr Tapan Kumar, Sonali Pharmacy, Thanamore, Satkhira; Dr Abdul Malek Mondal, Khulna Road, Satkhira; Dr. AH Rahman, Sundarban Medical Centre and Hospital, Kamal Nagar, Satkhira; Dr. SK Sarkar, Kalaroa, Satkhira; Dr. Swapan Ganguli, Shyamnagar, Satkhira; Dr. Md. Amjad Hossain, Shyamnagar, Satkhira; Dr. Shahjahan Ali, Shyamnagar, Satkhira; Dr. Pratul Baulia,

Munshiganj, Shyamnagar; Dr. Uday Ranjan Mondal, Abul Pharmacy, Shahipur, Debhata, Satkhira; Dr. Sanjib Chatterjee, Badartala, Debhata, and Dr. SK Biswas, Assassuni.

Though they have no academic qualification, they use degrees like MBBS and MD in their names in professional pads, and have been cheating people for long, sitting in well-furnished chambers.

Interestingly, three of the fake doctors -- Amjad



Loss of public money ... this is one of six groynes built in Dhutichara area on the west bank of the Brahmaputra under the Flood Action Plan (FAP) at a cost of Tk 80 crore to protect the bank from erosion. But soon after its construction, over one kilometre area in the downstream along the bank vanished, rendering several thousand people homeless.

PHOTO: KM REZAUL HAQUE

6 trawlers sink in Bay, Meghna

Four fishermen drown, 60 missing

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar

Two fishermen drowned and at least 60 are missing as five fishing trawlers sank in the Bay on Sunday due to inclement weather, trawler owners association sources said.

Sixteen fishermen were rescued from Moheskhal coast on the same day.

Bodies of the drowned fishermen were found at Ghatibanga Char in Moheskhal in the early hours of Monday. They are Khorshed Alam, 18 and Nazim

Uddin, 20, both from Kutubzom village under Moheskhal upazila.

The survivors said the trawlers sank in the rough Bay near Teknaf coast.

Teknaf police when contacted said they have information that some fishing trawlers sank in the Bay.

Sources said the rough sea forced over 150 fishing trawlers to take shelter in offshore areas of Teknaf, Moheskhal and Kutubdia.

Drawned

A BSS report from Bhola said two fishermen drowned in the Meghna at Monpura on Thursday night.

According to police, a fishing trawler with 12 fishermen capsized in the river at Rizir Khal.

The victims were identified as Alamgir, 30, and Nuruddin, 25.

Two others -- Rob, 25, and Khokon, 20-- were rescued and admitted to the Monpura Upazila Health Complex. The rest swam shore.

Housewife killed for dowry

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

A housewife was beaten to death allegedly by her husband for dowry at Joyrampur village in Daulatpur upazila on Monday.

Police said Safatun Khatun, 21, was critically injured when beaten by her dowry-greedy husband Belal during an altercation Sunday evening.

She was taken to Daulatpur Upazila Health Complex and later shifted to Kushtia General Hospital, where she died.

Quoting local people, police said Safatun, daughter of one Abul Beperi, was often tortured for Tk 30,000 dowry since her marriage two years ago.

No case was filed till Monday noon. Belal is absconding.

Loot of Madaripur Sonali Bank money

Vital clues found, one more held, DB says

A CORRESPONDENT, Madaripur

The detective branch (DB) of police has found some vital clues to the looting of Tk 50 lakh and three rifles of Sonali Bank in Madaripur last year.

The incident took place at Rajor on October 2 when the money was being sent from Sonali Bank's main branch in Madaripur to its Shibchar branch. Twelve Sonali Bank staff were held after the incident.

DB sources here said 12 persons in two gangs, one from Jessore and the other from Madaripur, were involved in the dacoity.

Ashrafur Islam of RN Road at Jessore was the mastermind.

Shahidul Islam Shahid, of Mostafapur union in Madaripur Sadar was the 'second-in-command'. After the dacoity, the booty was distributed among the gangsters in Jessore, the sources said.

These and some vital clues were revealed by one of the dacoits -- Mohsin alias Jashim alias Lala Daku -- arrested from in front of Bahar Confectionery at Gulshan-1, Dhaka on July 25. He made a confessional statement before First Class Magistrate MA Hakim, the sources

said. Acting on his confession, DB police arrested one Momin of Charputia village under Jessore Sadar upazila on Saturday.

Momin, now on remand, is being interrogated, the sources said but declined to give any more details.

On October 6, 2002, three days after the incident, police arrested Ashrafur and Shahidur from Mostafapur area but due to negligence of Rajor police, nothing could be extracted from them.

Ashrafur and Shahidur got bail from the High Court and are absconding now, they said.

Tk 107 cr budget for Sylhet City Corpn

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet.

A Tk 107 crore annual budget of Sylhet City Corporation (SCC) for 2003-2004 financial year was announced here on Monday.

There is no new tax proposal in the budget, announced by Mayor Badar Uddin Ahmed Kamran at a press conference. Ward commissioners and the elite of the city were present.

The budget shows an income of Tk 106 crore 91 lakh and 25 thousand.

It includes Tk 40 crore grant under the annual development programme (ADP), Tk 2.2 crore special grant from the government,

Tk 20.4 crore advance payments from city corporation markets and others sources and Tk 10 crore holding tax.

The budget proposes a development expenditure of Tk 33.15 crore.

Other expenditures include Tk 3.13 crore for education, Tk 20 lakh for tree plantation and maintenance, Tk 1.62 crore for government functions on national occasions, grants for social and religious organizations, sports and culture, Tk 2.22 crore for water supply.

Addressing the press conference, the Kamran said, "I might be a political man, but I always kept the city corporation above politics and will try to do so".

UNO's removal demanded in Kushtia

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

Local leaders of major political parties and social organisations have demanded removal of Mirpur Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) Shamsuzzaman for his alleged corruption.

The demand was made at a protest rally held on the Upazila Parishad premises on Sunday under the banner of 'citizens committee'.

The rally was addressed by, among others, district BNP leader Matul Haq Khan Chowdhury, Daulatpur upazila Awami League convenor Nizam Uddin, Jamaat-e-Islami secretary Abul Hasem, Chhatra League leader Abdullah Lotus and Chhatra Dal leader Emdad Hossain.

The speakers said goons allegedly hired by the UNO attacked journalist Babu Ranjan Biswas on Friday as he reported on the UNO's illegal activities.

Biswas, a correspondent of national daily Banglabazar Potrika and a staff reporter of local daily Ajker Alo, was beaten at a tea stall at Mirpur. The miscreants also shot at him.

The victim went to Mirpur thana to file a case but police recorded a general diary (GD), sources alleged.

According to the GD, Bablu was attacked by local BNP activists Tutul, Tohirul and Kibria at about 7.45 pm on Friday. They also asked him why he wrote against the UNO.

It is also alleged that the UNO had called Bablu to his office several days ago and rebuked him for the news.

Five 'listed criminals' held

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sirajganj

Five 'listed criminals' were arrested during a special drive in the town on Sunday night.

Acting on a tip of led sadar O/C A. jaffer police raided different areas and arrested listed terrorists Bomaru Manik, Geda Shahin, Kana Ansar, nasir and Faruk.

The raids were conducted by a team led by Sadar thana officer-in-charge A Jaffer.

Acting on a tip-off, police also arrested 10 alleged gamblers from Sirajganj Bazar on the same night.

Diarrhoea: 2 die, 100 attacked in Lalmonirhat

A CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

Two persons including a child died of diarrhoea in the flood affected areas of the district in last two days.

Over 100 others are attacked with the disease.

The dead are Badaruddin, 26, of Bazitari village under in the Sadar upazila and five-year-old Sohag, son of Mohar Ali of Char Gokunda village in the sae upazila.

Diarrhoea and other water borne diseases are spreading due to crisis of drinking water, health officials said.

Illegal truck stand 22 transport workers sent to jail

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

All the 22 transport workers arrested on Sunday during clashes with police over removal of an illegal stand were sent to jail hajat on Monday after they were produced before court.

The clash had ensued when transport workers obstructed police, led by the superintendent of police, during demolition of structures to remove an unauthorised truck stand on the Boro Bazar Road in the town.

Earlier on the day (Sunday), transport workers had snatched the loudspeaker blaring out an administrative order for removal of the illegal truck stand.

The road had long been used by truckers, obstructing traffic and creating inconvenience to people.

Police have been deployed at the spot.

Health service units should be autonomous, minister says

BSS, Faridpur

Health service providing units should be autonomous and government should act as a regulatory body to help improve the service, Disaster Management and Relief Minister Chowdhury Kamal Ibne Yusuf has said.

He was addressing the oath-taking ceremony of the newly elected office-bearers of Bangladesh Medical Association (BMA), Faridpur unit, here on Sunday.

He said the health service infrastructure in the country is good compared to those in other countries in the region but standard of treatment here is of lower level.

State Minister for Health and Family Welfare Mizanur Rahman Sinha said some positive changes will be brought about in this sector in the next three years. He also called upon physicians to be more professional and sincere.

Presided over by BMA Faridpur Unit President Dr Mostafizur

Rahman Shamim, the function was also addressed by, among others, BMA national committee president Prof MA Hadi, BMA Secretary General Dr AZM Zahid Hossain and BMA Faridpur unit Secretary Dr Ali Akbar Halder.

Three rifles recovered

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

Police raided two houses and recovered three firearms and some ammunition on Monday and the day before.

A rifle was recovered from the house of one Sanwar at Maju village in the Sadar upazila. In the other raid, two rifles were recovered from the house of "listed criminal" Palu at Sonatola village under Daulatpur upazila.



PHOTO: STAR

Non-government schoolteachers formed a human chain at Firoj-Jahangir square in Mymensingh town on Friday to press their 17-point demand.