

SNAPS

Man held for selling dead animal's meat

UNB, Comilla
Police on Friday arrested a man from a meat market at Chakbazar in the town for selling meat of a dead animal. A team of Kotwali police raided the market and arrested Subol Mia red-handed for selling beef of a dead cow. The law enforcers also seized 72-kilogram of meat from three shops of the market and sent it to laboratory for test. Cases against four meat traders including Subol Mia were filed.

Body recovered

UNB, Bagerhat
The body of an unidentified young man was recovered from the Bhairab river in Fakirhat upazila on Friday. Police suspect that the victim was killed following a previous enmity. The body was sent to the upazila health complex morgue for autopsy. A case was filed.

Negligence in duty alleged
Borkol UNO showcaused

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangamati

The Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) of quake-hit Borkal, Mohammad Illias Bhuiyan, has been served with a show-cause notice for alleged delay and irregularities in distribution of relief among people affected by the July 27 tremor and after-shocks. Rangamati Deputy Commissioner Zafar Ahmed Khan said the show-cause notice has been issues following complaints by local people and public representatives.

As the UNO was virtually inactive, he asked Additional Deputy Commissioner (General) Mohammad Karim Gazi to rushed to Borkal for relief distribution, he said on Friday.

Directive have been given to distribute 27 tonnes of rice among the affected people

An amount of Tk 5000 will be distributed among people in each union and an additional amount of Tk 2000 in Aimachhora, Bhushanchhora and Chhoto Harina villages, hard hit by the quake, the DC added.

Local leaders and affected people alleged that the UNO took money from quake affected people in the name of transportation cost, the DC said.

Guards attacked by timber thieves

26 hurt in gunfight in Chokoria govt forest

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar

At least 35 people were injured, 21 of them bullet-hit, in gunfights between forest guards and timber thieves at a government forest and between rival groups at a shrimp farm in Chokoria upazila Thursday night.

According to police, forest guards and armed thieves exchanged over 100 bullets during a

gunfight at Ringvong government forest, leaving 26 people including two guards injured. The gunfight lasted about two hours.

Eighteen bullet-hit persons including guards Abdur Rouf and Nurul Islam 42) were admitted to Chokoria Upazila Health Complex and some local clinics. The injured

thieves could not be identified immediately, police said.

Divisional forest officer visited the spot.

In another incident on the same night, at least nine people were injured when two rival groups clashed at a shrimp enclosure at Charandip Baluchira in Chokoria upazila.

Amir Hossain, 40, Mir Kashem, 27, and another person were admitted to Chokoria health complex with bullet injury.

Troops deployed in Naniarchar

Crimes by PCJSS, UPDF stopped, villagers say

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangamati

Troops have been deployed in Naniarchar upazila following appeals by villagers to protect them from rampant extortion, killings, kidnappings and other crimes allegedly by activists of Parbatyana Jana Sanghati Samiti (PCJSS) and its rival UPDF (United Peoples Democratic Front).

The two rival bodies want to keep the area under their control.

Villagers said extortion has virtually stopped in the area after troops' deployment on Wednesday.

They said troops now guard all roads and markets in Naniarchar, Kutukchhari and Gilachhari. Shops

have reopened and trading begun at the markets. People can move freely in the area, they said.

Earlier, local people, led by tribal leaders and public representatives, submitted memoranda to the authorities several times to protect them from crimes by the PCJSS and UPDF. They also barricaded roads to press their demand.

Chairman of Rangamati Hill District Council (RHDC) Maniklal Dewan and Ranagamati Deputy Commissioner Zafar Ahmed Khan had visited the area recently and assured of security measures.

They told the local people that all necessary measures would be taken to ensure security.

The DC had also held a meeting with the chairmen of Kutkchhari and Ghilachhari Union Parishads at Kutukchhari bazaar on Tuesday last. Village headmen also joined the meeting.

Earlier the district administration held a meeting with PCJSS and UPDF to persuade them to stop crimes in the area, but to no effect.

The two rival groups clashed in the area frequently, claiming lives. On July 26, three persons were killed in a shootout between the rival activists.

They imposed 'tax' on people. Many villagers fled homes failing to meet their demands.

Agitation against grading system in exam

CU students firm on abolition, authorities reluctant

SHAHADAT HOSSAIN RIAD, Ctg

Stalemate over grading system in examination persists at Chittagong University (CU) as students, now on movement for its cancellation, are firm on their demand while the authorities are reluctant to revoke it.

CU Vice-chancellor Prof AJM Nuruddin Chowdhury at a workshop on Friday on the campus said, "If we revoke the system, students will suffer in the long run because the system is international and has already been introduced in almost all the universities and even at SSC and HSC levels.

"We are trying to revamp the system as per recommendations to be submitted by deans (of faculties). We are cautious regarding future of our students".

On the other hand, the students, backed by student fronts of political parties, held rallies, processions and are boycotting classes and examinations to realise their demand.

Amid the student movement, the CU authorities at an emergency meeting on Tuesday formed an advisory committee to report on the issue by 10 days.

But the students, ignoring this, declared a four-day programme which includes a 'grand rally' tomorrow on the campus where they will announce their next course of action.

When contacted, Shihab, one of the movement organisers, said

they will lay 'an indefinite siege' on the campus to realise their demand.

Students boycotted classes and examinations on Thursday. A dean of a faculty preferring anonymity said most of the teachers prefer the grading system. Some of the teachers however said they are not well aware of the system.

Students are demanding cancellation of the system as it make them ineligible for jobs although they do well in examinations. Even if CU students secure grade point 3.5, which is equivalent to First Class, they can not apply for jobs.

In some recent advertisements for jobs, grade point 3.5 was considered as Second Class marks and students who passed from Chittagong University under the grading system could not apply, they said.

Grading system was introduced in the university in 1998-99 session.

Dhaka university does not follow the grading system, they said.

Jamal Uddin abduction

Police divided on where to hunt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Abducted Chittagong business magnate and BNP leader Jamal Uddin Ahmed Chowdhury could not be rescued till yesterday.

Joint rescue operation by police and BDR continued in Fatikchhari and adjoining areas, police sources said.

Confusion arose yesterday on where he is holed up by the captors. Chittagong Metropolitan Police (CMP) claimed that the kidnappers were holding the victim somewhere in Fatikchhari while the district police said he was taken elsewhere.

Jamal Uddin was abducted while he was returning to his residence at Chandgaon Residential Area from his business firm at Chawk Bazar under Kotoali thana at around 11pm on July 24. The abductors on July 25 night demanded Tk 50 lakh on phone for his release.

Meanwhile, no more suspect could be nabbed in connection with the abduction and killing of another millionaire businessman Rezaur Rahman alias Zakir.

Boalkhali police said they are interrogating five persons arrested after Zakir's abduction and killing on Minday.

They are local BNP leader Zahir Md Khan alias Shahabuddin, Bangladesh Chhatra League Leader Shah Alam, Omar Gani (MES) College Students' Union Vice-president Wasim Uddin, Akter Hossain alias Kankata Raju and butcherer Abdul Halim.

'Outlaw' Ghazi Kamrul to be quizzed by JIC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Alleged listed terrorist and ringleader of Biplobi Communist Party Ghazi Kamrul will be sent to the joint interrogation cell (JIC) on Sunday, said an official of Khulna Metropolitan Police (KMP).

He was arrested recently and a huge quantity of arms including AK-47 rifle were recovered from his possession.

Acting on his confession, police also recovered a sawnoff rifle, a revolver and some bullets from a pond at Pabla in Khulna on Wednesday.

65 Indians in Jessore jail 2 yrs after expiry of terms

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Sixty-five Indian nationals are languishing in Jessore Central Jail though their conviction terms expired about two years back.

Jail sources said the Indian nationals also observed hunger strike earlier, demanding their release and repatriation, but to no effect.

The jail authorities said they are awaiting government instruction regarding their release.

When contacted, Jailor SMA Jahiruddin Babar said the Indians will be handed over either to their relatives or to any voluntary organisation through the Deputy Commissioner after official orders from government.

But initiative was not taken by the authorities concerned in the last two years to send them back to Indian, he said.

15 hurt in Lalmonirhat, B'baria

STAR NATIONAL DESK

At least 15 people have been injured in clashes during formation of Gram Sarkar in Lalmonirhat and Brahmanbaria.

Our Lalmonirhat correspondent reported that

five persons were injured in a clash between two groups at ward No 4 in Sarpukur union under the Sadar upazila on Thursday over selection of the gannya mannya bakti (elite), a post in the Gram Sarkar. Two persons-- Jhantu and Haider-- were aspirants for the post.

The injured were treated at the local health complex. They are Rashidul, Akramul, Rokeya Begum, Ayesha, and Achhya.

Five others were hurt at ward No 3 in Vadai union under Aditmari upazila and at ward No 7 in Barobari



union under the Sadar upazila on the same day.

Three of the injured--Morshed, Khaibar Ali and Malek were treated at a local clinic.

In Brahmanbaria, five persons were injured in a clash between two groups at Chaoai village under Binauti union in Kashba upazila on Thursday, our correspondent reported.

Witness said Upazila Education Officer Md Mahbubur Rahman, who represented the Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO), was announcing the Gram Sarkar at a gathering at Chapati government primary school.

At the fag end of the meeting, a group of people came to the venue and said they do not approve it. A clash ensued.

One of the injured-- Suman Chowdhury, 35 has been admitted to Kashba Upazila Health Complex, police said.

UNB from Bagerhat reports: A total of 59 gram sarkars in 11 unions of Morelganj, Chitalmari, Mollahat, Mongla and Rampal upazilas were formed till Thursday.

Official sources said 675 gram sarkars in 75 unions of nine upazilas in the district will be formed phase by phase.

Deputy Commissioner (DC), Bagerhat office sources said that formation of gram sarkar started in the district from August 9.

PBCP claims responsibility for Ullapara AL leader murder

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Siranganj

Outlawed Purbo Banglar Communist Party (PBCP) put up posters in Siraganj town yesterday claiming responsibility for the killing of Ullapara Awami League leader Motiaur Rahman alias Moti.

Unidentified miscreants hacked and shot jute trader Moti, 46, and two others at his office in the town on the night of August 6 and left in an engine boat. He died at hospital. Ullapara police arrested one person from Purnimaganti bazaar.

Awami League activists and supporters enforced a half-day hartal in the town and traders held a rally protesting the killing and demanding arrest of the killers.



As part of a tree plantation campaign, Khulna Regional Manager of British American Tobacco Bangladesh Ishtiaq Ahmed handing over a sapling to General Manager (admin) of Khulna Shipyard Capt MA Samad Khan recently. Khulna Shipyard got over 5,000 saplings from BATB.