

SNAPS

AL leader gets death threat

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

An Awami League (AL) leader got a death threat from extremists. She is Chhabi Rani Mandi, a leader of Rampal Upazila unit of the party. The threat was given through cell phone for her refusal to withdraw a case she filed against some BNP leaders and activists. According to a General Diary (GD) filed in Rampal Thana, Bagerhat on Saturday, Chhabi received the threat on Friday by extremists for not giving her consent to withdraw the case. She sought security of her life from police. Chhabi Rani Biswas was abducted at arms point by some leaders of Rampal Upazila BNP on August 21 in 2002 while she was going home from her fish farm. Abductors took her to the BNP office where she was stripped and beaten. They took photograph of her nude body. She was also molested there. On receipt of information, Rampal Thana police rescued her from BNP office the same night.

Dacoity at B'baria village

OUR CORRESPONDENT, B'baria

An armed robbery was committed at Kalikatcha Nandigram village in Sarail upazila on Saturday. According to eyewitnesses and hospital sources, a gang of bandits numbering 20 to 25 attacked three houses belonging to Janto Das and Juba Raj Das at the village at night and committed the robbery.

Mysterious disease kills 2,000 cattle in Kurigram

Several hundred cows attacked with the disease in a month

RAFIQUE SARKER, back from Kurigram

About 2,000 animals died and several hundred cows were attacked with mysterious disease in Kurigram district last month.

The disease is spreading fast in Kurigram Sadar, Roumari, Rajibpur and Rajbari upazilas. Every day hundreds of the sick cows are being brought at the upazila livestock offices for treatment, but to no effect.

Some small farmers who are dependent on ploughing land of others are facing tough days after the death of their cows.

Abul Hossen, a small farmer of Nairia in Kurigram Sadar upazila said that one of his two cows died of mysterious disease three weeks back. The two cows were his only sources of income, he said. One of the cows of Mahabub, a neighbour of Abul Hossen also died of mysterious disease.

Fearing possible attack, farmers in nine upazilas are selling their cows at low prices. A number of people also became sick due to intake of meat of sick cows.

Police arrested Khairul, a butcher at Taghribat in Kurigram Sadar

upazila on charge of selling meat of sick cows.

Alam, another butcher, resident of vocational crossing area in the district town is absconding following police search.

Although experts in the district Livestock Department are trying to identify the cause of the diseases, but they are yet to become successful in their efforts, said a livestock officer.

Abdus Saber, a merchant cum dairy farmer of Baparipata in Kurigram Sadar upazila told this correspondent his two cows worth about Tk 60,000 died within four hours of attack of the mysterious disease.

A veterinary surgeon of the district livestock department carried out examination on the cows, but he could not ascertain the cause of the animals death, said Abdus Saber.

According to police and local people, Shafiqul Islam was in love with Girindra's daughter Champa Rani Roy, 16, Chandra Roy. It might be the reason of the killing, they apprehended.

Police arrested eight persons including Champa Rani. A murder case was filed with Netrakona Thana.

termied the cause of the death to be dehydration. But after application of medicine it was proved to be ineffective, said another official of the department on condition of anonymity.

Teen age boy killed in Netrakona

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Netrakona

One teen age boy was killed by unidentified killers at Kumri village in Netrakona Sadar upazila on Sunday.

The dead victim is Shafiqul Islam Khan, 17, son of Sohor.

Uddin, Killers strangled him and threw the body at the bank of a pond of Girindra Chandra Roy at the same village.

According to police and local people, Shafiqul Islam was in love with Girindra's daughter Champa Rani Roy, 16, Chandra Roy. It might be the reason of the killing, they apprehended.

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PHOTO: AKM MOHSIN
The Padma devoured a vast tract of land in Tongibari and Louhajang areas in Munshiganj district. Many schools, colleges and various organisations went in riverbed due to unabated erosion in the areas. This picture was taken recently from Hasali area.

Deaths in 'crossfire' create panic among criminals in 2 dists

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Magura

Death of 20 top criminals by police and Rab (Rapid Action Battalion) in Jhenidah and Chuadanga districts during a period from May to November 20 has created panic among miscreants, according to their wives and close relatives.

However, sources in police department and Rab told that they were killed in crossfire during recovery of arms after their arrest.

Of the total three were killed in Jhenidah while the rest were killed in Alamganga, Damuruha and Sadar upazila in Chuadanga district.

The latest victims are activists of outlawed Biplobi Communist Party (BCP) Ehsanul Bari alias Baban and Zia of panchkamalpur, Arif of Iswarpur villages in Alamganga upazila in Chuadanga district.

As a result, sufferings of hundreds of passengers including children, elderly people and women multiplied due to food and drinking water crisis and sanitation problem.

Three ferries-Shahi Parbat, Shahi Ali and Shah Mokhund with passengers and other transport vehicles were stranded mid-stream of the Padma for several hours.

Fog disrupts ferry, traffic movement in two days

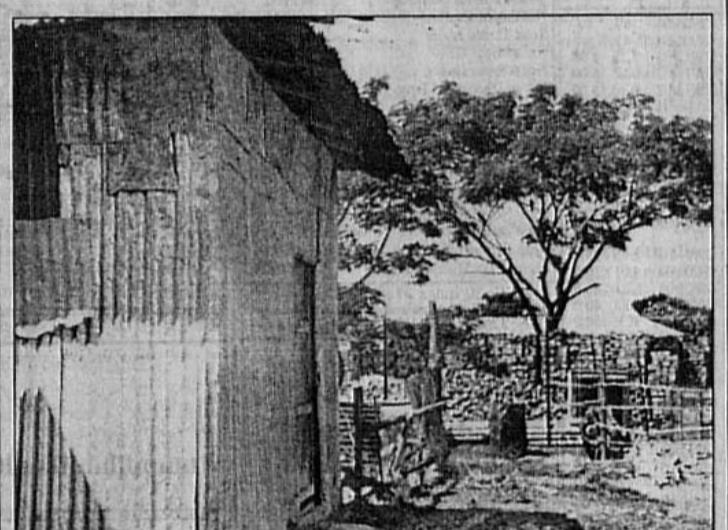
STAR NATIONAL DESK

More than 1,000 vehicles with about 40,000 passengers including women and children suffered a lot as they were stranded on both sides of the Padma at Daulatdia-Paturia point for five hours.

About 400 vehicles from Dhaka lined up at Paturia in Manikganj and 500 vehicles lined up at Daulatdia in Rajbari.

Our Manikganj Correspondent reports: Ferry and launch services on Daulatdia-Paturia-Nagarbari routes were suspended for five hours on Sunday, according to officials in Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Corporation (BIWTC), Paturia.

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Santu Larma's call to help implement CHT accord

21-member new committee of HWF formed

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangamati

A two-day annual council of Hill Women Federation (HWF), an associate organisation of Parbatty Chittagong Jono Sanghati Samity, ended here on Sunday.

A 21-member committee of the federation was formed at the council. Chaitali Tripura became president of the new committee while Mengoaching Marma became its secretary and Shiwashwati Chakma became its organisational secretary for the next one year.

Parbatty Chittagong Jono Sanghati Samity (PCISS) chief and CHT Regional Council

Chairman Jotirindra Bodhipriyo Larma alias Santu Larma opened the two-day council on Saturday.

Santu Larma in his speech urged all to come forward to implement the Chittagong Hill Tracts accord.

Among others, PCISS Secretary Chandrashekhar Chakma, Comrade Rukunuzzaman, renowned women leader and writer Shila Momen and leaders of PCISS front organizations addressed the opening session.

National Tubes Limited

131-142, Tongi Industrial Area
Tongi, Gazipur

Notice of the 24th Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the 24th Annual General Meeting of National Tubes Limited will be held on Thursday, 23 December 2004 (9 Poush, 1411 Bangla) at 11:00 AM at National Tubes Ltd, Tongi, Gazipur to transact the following business:

- To confirm the Minutes of the 23rd AGM held on 21 December 2003.
- To receive, consider and adopt the Audited Accounts and the Auditors' Report for the year ended 30th June 2004 together with the Annual Report of the Board of Directors.
- To declare Dividend on the basis of recommendation of the Board of Directors.
- To elect/nominate Directors in place of those who are retiring by rotation.
- To appoint Auditors for the year 2004-2005 and fix their remuneration.
- To transact any other business (if any) of the company with the permission of the chair.

By order of the Board,

MA BAREQUE KHAN

Company Secretary

Date: 18-11-2004

- Share Transfer Register of the Company will remain closed from 09-12-2004 to 23-12-2004 (both days inclusive). During this period no share transfer will be effected.
- A member unable to attend the meeting may appoint a proxy and cast his vote by proxy. The proxy form duly affixed with Tk 8.00 Revenue Stamp should reach the Share Office at Factory premises of the Company at least 48 (forty-eight) hours before commencement of the meeting i.e. before 11:00 AM on 21-12-2004. The Corporation/Company may participate in the meeting through their nominated representatives.
- Change of address, if any, of the shareholders should be communicated to the Share Office of the Company at the Factory premises.
- As per clause 119 of Articles of Association of the Company, one third of the Directors i.e. 3 (three) Directors, out of 9 (nine) will retire in this Annual General Meeting as per clause 120, 2 (two) senior most Directors from Group-A' shareholders and 1 (one) Director (the senior most) from Group-B' shareholders will retire. Directors against vacant post of retiring Directors of Group-A' will be nominated by the shareholders of said Group-A' (BSEC). Director against vacant post of the retiring Director of Group-B' will be elected by the shareholders of the said Group. The retiring Directors are, however, eligible for re-nomination/re-election.
- Shareholders who are eligible and interested in contesting for the post of Director from Group-B' are requested to submit their nomination papers in prescribed form at least 7 (seven) days before the commencement of the meeting i.e. on or before 16-12-2004 by 11:00 AM in the share office at the factory premises of the company at Tongi. Nomination papers can be collected from share office during the office hours free of cost.

15 land grabbers sued in Patuakhali

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

Patuakhali Sadar upazila land office filed a case against 15 land grabbers here for 'grabbing' one acre of land.

Assistant Land Officer Md Harun-Rashid filed the case with the magistrate's court here on Thursday.

Sadar Thana Officer-in-Charge (OC) was asked to investigate the case.

The land grabbers are Chan Baru, Matir Rahman Talukdar, Majibur Rahman, Maksudur Rahman, Azizur Rahman, Adhir Ranjan Datta, Muzaffar Khalifa, Sekander Ali, Abdul Gafur Sikder, Joynal Abden, Priya Bala, Abdur Razzaq and Shah Alam.

They grabbed one acre of land worth about Tk one and a half crore by creating false document and built over 500 unauthorised structures.

An official of the district land office seeking not to be named told this correspondent that influential people had been grabbing lands by creating false document in connivance with a section of unscrupulous officials and staff of the department.

No official or employee attended their office after the incident.

A case was registered with Kotwali Thana and police arrested a Judo Dal leader named Asad.

Land officials told this correspondent if needed the unauthorised structures will be demolished by deploying police.

BWDB engineer roughed up by contractors

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur

Some pro-BNP contractors allegedly beat up the executive engineer of Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB), Rangpur, Moazzem Hossain in his chamber on Sunday.

They also confined BWDB chief engineer Sayed Ahmed for three hours in his chamber.

Sources said the contractors beat the engineer for his bid to issue work order to some other contractors for a Tk 4 crore construction work in an irregular manner on Saturday.

Annoyed contractors requested the executive engineer and the chief engineer to withdraw the work order which they denied to comply with.

A case was filed with Begumganj Thana.

Five robbers nabbed

A CORRESPONDENT, Noakhali

Police on Saturday arrested five robbers in Begumganj upazila here while they were preparing to commit robbery.

The arrested robbers are Mohim, 26, Kalu, 25, Morshed, 28, Kofli, 22, and Rony, 20. Police also seized a light gun, seven rounds of bullets, three daggers and a knife from them. All the criminals are inhabitants of Sonamuri Thana in the same upazila.

On information, police went there. Sensing their presence, the pirates fired three rounds of bullet shots. Police also created panic among the robbers by firing and nabbed the robbers as soon as they tried to escape the scene.

A case was filed with Begumganj Thana.

Minor girl missing

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangamati

A minor girl was missing from the court building area here since Saturday morning.

Police said, seven-year-old Tania Akter did not return home when her father Bachchu Mia sent her to a nearby restaurant to buy something for breakfast at around 7 am.

Bachchu filed a general diary with Kotwali Thana on Sunday.

Myanmar children want to go back home

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bandarban

About 100 Myanmar refugee children on Saturday expressed their craving for going back to their homeland. They expressed their desire while addressing a meeting organised here in observance of the Universal Children's Day.

I would like to return to my homeland to observe the global day along with my friends, said Aung Aung, a 10-year-old boy. Like Aung, many other refugee children echoed the same tone.

Some of the children were born

in Myanmar while some others were born in Bangladesh as their families had to flee from their homeland to evade tyranny of rulers over there.

Mra E Gau, a former guerrilla leader, said, 'Refugee families are passing their days in hardship as their requirements are not met by the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR).'

He said, 'The families are being harassed while getting money from the UNHCR as they cannot open a bank account in Bangladesh.'

While addressing the meeting, the children also demanded release of democratic leader Aung San Suu Kyi.