

Miscreants set afire 11 houses

A CORRESPONDENT, Shariatpur

Unknown miscreants set afire 11 houses at village Rudrakor under Sadar upazila of the district Sunday night.

The houses belonged to local Awami League (AL) leader Shamsul Huq Baperi, Abdur Rab Dhali, Mozu Baperi, Amir Hossain Dhali, Hafez Abdul Jalil, Halan Baperi, Mannan Khan, Tota Sheikh, Parvin Madbar, Taher Ali Madbar and Hossain Dhali, locals and police said.

The miscreants poured kerosene oil on the houses at dead of night before setting them afire, said locals but could not say if the incidents were linked to each other.

Two persons, Shamsul Huq Baperi and Abdur Rab Dhali received burn injuries as they tried to bring the fire under control.

The fire-fighters from Shariatpur rushed to the spot but in the meantime the houses were burnt to ashes.

RU fine arts students go on rampage

RU CORRESPONDENT

Students of fine arts department of Rajshahi University (RU) yesterday ransacked classrooms and put the chairman's room under lock and key demanding immediate withdrawal of additional examinations.

About 200 students of the department also took out a procession on the campus and formed a human chain in front of the administrative building.

They later submitted a memo containing some other demands to the authorities.

The demands include immediate holding of the postponed examinations, withdrawal of additional admission fees and opening of a separate faculty for fine arts department.

The agitating students gave a two-day ultimatum to the RU authorities to meet the demands. Otherwise, they threatened to call a strike.

Gaibandha protesters besiege power office

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gaibandha

Hundreds of people including farmers, traders and students yesterday laid siege to Saghata Upazila Rural Electrification Board Office demanding regular power supply.

A protest procession brought out against erratic power supply also paraded a road in the upazila.

Demonstrators said irregularity in power supply has continued for a month in Saghata upazila and the situation worsened during

the last five days when there was no power supply from 7:00am to 11:00pm.

As the electricity-run irrigation equipment remained inoperative for want of power, prospect of Boro crop in the area seems bleak, said local farmers.

Power supply in the region is much below the amount required for irrigation in Boro fields, they said.

Once power supply is snapped, it takes two hours or more to get it again, said Abdul Gafur, a trader of Saghata upazila.

Students, especially the SSC candidates, are facing serious problem due to the power shortage. It is also affecting trade and commerce in the area.

Normal life is badly disturbed as erratic power supply is causing sufferings to people with rising temperature.

Gaibandha Power Development Board office source said 15MW power supply is needed to meet the demand in the district, but at present only 5 to 6 MW power is available from national grid.

Five Ctg youths get life for killing woman

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

The Divisional Speedy Trial Tribunal yesterday sentenced five youths to life imprisonment for killing a woman in the city's Halishahar area on January 25, 2007.

The convicts are Zahidul Islam alias Rony, Azizur Rahman alias Biplob, Masud alias 'Kana' Masud, Md Zafar alias Abu Zafar and Shahidul Islam Munna.

Of them Zafar has been absconding since filing of the case while the rest are

now in jail.

Tribunal Judge Shafikul Karim fined the convicts Tk 1000 each, in default they are to suffer another year in jail.

According to the prosecution, the five entered a rented house in the city's Halishahar A-Block at around 12:30pm on January 25, 2007 and slaughtered Nur Afroze as she was alone in the house.

Victim's son Md Abdur Rob filed a murder case with Halishahar Police Station the same night accusing Zahidul Islam Rony. Police arrested

Rony and on the basis of his statement, they later arrested the rest three.

Police pressed charges against the five on September 2 the same year.

Md Azizur, one of the convicts, gave a confessional statement under 164 on August 29, 2007, saying that Rony hired them to kill Nur Afroze over a land dispute.

Special Public Prosecutor (PP) Kamrul Islam Chowdhury appeared for the state while advocate Abdus Sattar for the defendants.

5 children rescued, trafficker held

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

Villagers at Shekhpura of Muladuli union in Ishwardi upazila caught red-handed an alleged woman trafficker while fleeing with five school children Sunday afternoon.

The children rescued from China Khatun are Nadira

Jahan Putul, Antora, Tania Khatun, Rajib Hossain and Shima Khatun, all students of class four in Shekhpura Primary School.

Police and locals said, China allured them with biscuits and kidnapped them from the school premises after school hours. She forced

them to get on to an autorickshaw and tried to flee but

the locals chased and intercepted the three-wheeler.

As the woman failed to give satisfactory reply, people informed the matter to Ishwardi police who rushed to the spot, recovered the innocent children and arrested the woman.

Later, police produced her before a court yesterday from where she was sent to jail.



Many patients are forced to stay on the floor as Jessore 250-bed General Hospital fails to cope with increasing number of visitors from different areas of the district.

Horrific!

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Khagrachhari

A four-year-old indigenous girl was violated by a youth at Maidda Boalkhali under Dighinala upazila in Khagrachhari on Sunday.

The ill-fated girl faced the horrific incident on the day when International Women's Day was observed in the country as elsewhere in the world.

Police said they arrested the culprit, Mohammad Mostafa, from Maidda Betchhari area under the same upazila with the help of villagers yesterday.

The arrestee was produced before the Chief Judicial Magistrate's Court, who sent him to jail, said Sub-Inspector Khokon Chandra Das of Dighinala Police Station.

A case has been recorded under Children and Women Repression Prevention Act, he said.

The victim is now undergoing treatment at Khagrachhari Sadar Adhunik Hospital.

Dr BK Tripura, Resident Medical Officer of the hospital, said they have completed examination. He, however, declined to disclose the report.

Rina Dewan, district president of Hill Women's Federation, condemned the incident and demanded punishment to the culprit.

RU CAMPUS TENSE Moitree declared 'unwanted' as BCL man stabbed

RU CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) Rajshahi University unit yesterday declared Chhatra Moitree 'unwanted' on the campus after a BCL man was stabbed by Moitree activists in front of Bangabandhu Hall at around 2:00pm.

The critically injured BCL activist, Arifur Rahman Arif, a second year student of Mass Communication and Journalism Department, was admitted to Rajshahi Medical College Hospital (RMCH).

Hearing the news, BCL activists took out a procession on the campus and held a protest rally on the Central Library premises where they declared Chhatra Moitree 'unwanted'.

They also demanded immediate arrest of Moitree activists responsible for stabbing Arif.

Campus sources said Chhatra Moitree activist Ripon and BCL activist Arif had an altercation over a trifling matter in front of Sher-e-Bangla Hall at around 1:00pm.

Later, Ripon along with some Moitree activists swooped on Arif in front of Bangabandhu Hall and stabbed him in the abdomen.

Following the incident, BCL activists, equipped with iron rods and hockey sticks, took position on the campus and set fire to banners, placards and posters of Chhatra Moitree.

A large number of police have been deployed on the campus.

BSF returns body of Bangladeshi

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Thakurgaon

Indian Border Security Force (BSF) yesterday afternoon returned the body of a slain Bangladeshi cattle trader to Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) after a flag meeting.

Body of Shamul, 30, son of late Tamizuddin of village Joyganjoh in Tetulia upazila, Panchagarh, was handed over after a company commander-level flag meeting.

Earlier, BSF at Madanbari camp gunned down Shamul on the same border early Friday.

Boy killed by classmates

A CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

Classmates killed a student of class eight over a trifle matter at Barokhata High School of Hatibandha upazila in Lalmonirhat yesterday.

Rezanul Islam Tareque, son of Mohammad Abdullah Mandol, was allegedly pushed down from a bench and beaten mercilessly by a group of students following a quarrel over quality of 'local' and 'outsider' teachers. Rezanul fell sick and he was rushed to Hatibandha hospital where the on-duty doctor declared him dead.

Housewife acid-burnt

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gaibandha

A housewife sustained severe burn injuries as rival villagers threw acid on her at Ghorerpara in Saghata upazila under the district yesterday.

Following a clash between families of Abul Kalam Azad and Siddiqur Rahman of the village over a trivial matter, the latter threw acid on Kalpona Begum, wife of Abul Kalam, police said. With severe burn injuries, she was sent to Saghata Health Complex.

Siddiqur fled the scene soon after the incident. A case was filed accusing 11 people with Saghata Police Station but none could be arrested.

Look for Thailand's Brand, a logo owned by the Department of Export Promotion under the Ministry of Commerce.

It is an assurance that Thai brand names for products and services are of the very highest quality and meet world-class standards. It allows Thai brands to move forward and enjoy greater success in the global marketplace through better marketing opportunities.

MADE IN THAILAND EXHIBITION, 2009
March 11-14, 2009

at Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel, Dhaka, Bangladesh
www.thaitradebd.com

Mr. Chalerm Pol Thanchitt Ambassador of Thailand to Bangladesh said, The trade value between Bangladesh and Thailand was approaching 600 million US\$ last year, with exports from Thailand accounting for more than 90% of this amount. The Royal Thai Embassy, along with the Thai Trade Center in Dhaka, are doing our utmost to promote our bilateral trade so that it could surpass 1 billion US\$ threshold by 2013. Having said that, it is not only exports from Thailand to Bangladesh that concern us, but we are willing to promote Bangladesh exports in the Thai market as well. And I am glad to inform you that on March 10-16, 2009, a delegation from Thailand is planning to visit Dhaka to look at the possibility of importing 10 million sets of jute sacs from here.

Enhancing Market Opportunities

Thai brands that carry the Thailand's Brand symbol not only enjoy the recognition of international consumers but also benefit from superior marketing opportunities. This includes an comprehensive database that lists Thai manufacturers and exporters and connects them with international importers. Business people and consumers around the globe recognize and have faith in the campaign, created and owned by the Thai government. Thus Thai brands carrying the Thailand's Brand symbol are likely to be the very best of their kind in Thailand and round the world.

Made in Thailand Exhibition 2009
11-14th March, 2009
Trade: 10 am - 3 pm • Public: 3 pm - 8 pm
Grand Ballroom, Pan Pacific Sonargaon, Dhaka

Ms. Usa Wijarun, Director of Thai Trade Center, Royal Thai Government has said, "Made in Thailand Exhibition 2009 on **March 11-14, 2009 at pan pacific sonagaon, Dhaka, Bangladesh** have much more than 55 stalls of about 45 Thai Exporters who produce high quality and diversified products including Food & Beverage, Gift & Decorative, Health & Beauty, Garments & Fashion, Gems & Jewelry, Household, Stationary, Electrical, Construction & Machinery, Chemicals, Auto parts & Accessories and service trade like tour operation"

The inaugural program of this Exhibition at Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel will be kicked off on 11 March 2009 at 11.00 am by Lt. Col (Rtd.) Muhammad Faruk Khan, The Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Commerce, Bangladesh Government who has already kindly consented to inaugurate the Made in Thailand Exhibition 2009 as Chief Guest and H.E. Mr. Chalerm Pol Thanchitt, Ambassador of Thailand in Bangladesh will be present as special guest at the opening program and Ms. Usa Wijarun, Director of Thai Trade Center, Royal Thai Government will be present in the occasion"