



Rajshahi city unit of Chhatra Moitree forms a human chain in front of the press club at Shaheb Bazar in Rajshahi city yesterday demanding arrest and punishment to the killers of Sunny, a student of Rajshahi Polytechnic Institute and an activist of the organisation.

93 shops, five houses gutted in five dists

STAR NATIONAL DESK

At least 93 shops and five dwelling houses were gutted in separate fire incidents in Brahmanbaria, Laxmipur, Habiganj, Natore and Chittagong districts yesterday, on Sunday and Saturday.

An infant was burnt to death in a fire incident in Chittagong.

According to UNB, at least 22 shops were gutted in a devastating fire at Birgaon bazaar of Nabinagar upazila in Brahmanbaria district early yesterday.

Witnesses said the fire originated from an electric short circuit at a shop at about 3:00am and soon engulfed the adjoining shops.

Local people extinguished the fire as there is no fire service station in the upazila.

The affected shop owners claimed that goods worth Tk 1 crore were gutted in the blaze.

In Laxmipur, valuables worth Tk 50,000 of eight shops were gutted in a fire incident at Karuna Nagar Bazaar in Kamalnagar upazila on Sunday.

Witnesses said, the fire originated from a tea stall soon engulfed seven nearby shops in the afternoon. Local people after frantic efforts doused the blaze.

In Habiganj, at least 63 shops were gutted in two

separate fire incidents at Madhabpur upazila headquarters and district town early Saturday.

Fire Brigade sources said, the fire originated from a shop of Madhabpur rice market at about 2:00am.

In another incident in Umednagar bus stand area of the town, fire gutted three shops at dead of night.

In Natore, four dwelling houses were gutted in a devastating fire at Malipara village in Boraigram upazila on Saturday night.

Witnesses said the fire originated from an electric short circuit at the house of Abdus Sattar and soon spread to three adjoining houses.

Four villagers sustained burn injuries while extinguishing the blaze.

BSS adds: An infant was burnt to death in a fire incident at Kagozpara under Patiya Sadar upazila in Chittagong in the small hours of Sunday.

Victim Yasmin Akter, 2, was daughter of one Nurul Alam.

The fire originated from an electric short circuit in Alam's house at around 1:00 am. Alam and his wife managed to come out of the house but their girl child was trapped in the fire.

Two fire fighting units with the help of locals brought the flame under control at 1:30 am.

Tk 5.46 cr drugs destroyed in C'nawabganj

OUR CORRESPONDENT, C'nawabganj

Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) of 39 Battalion on Tuesday destroyed addictive substances worth about Tk 5.46 crore at the battalion headquarters in the district.

The border guards destroyed 4.8 kg heroin, 9,372 bottle and 112 litre phensidyl, 271 bottle and 116 litre liquor, 7.58 kg cannabis and 50 ampule injection in presence of Zayed Hossain, commanding officer of 39 Rifles Battalion, executive magistrate Amirul Kaiser, narcotics and other BDR officials.

BDR recovered the drugs during its drives conducted across the district from October 19, 2009 to January 11 this year.

Our Staff Correspondent in Khulna reports: Coastguards recovered 1404 bottle Indian phensidyl from a private car at Mongla bus stand in Bagerhat district on Monday.

A team led by Lieutenant Lokman Hakim searched the car and found the bottles in it. However, none was arrested.

According to coastguards, an organised gang of drug traffickers brought this huge quantity of phensidyl bottle to Mongla port from India through unauthorised river routes. Sensing raid, they fled the scene.

The seized phensidyl and the private car were later handed over to authorities of Bagerhat narcotics control

department on Monday evening.

Police in November last seized over 2000 bottle Indian phensidyl from the port area.

Mongla port is probably being used as a safe transit route for smuggled Indian phensidyl, said OC Jalaaluddin of Mongla police station.

UNB from Sherpur reports: Two suspected drug peddlers were arrested along with narcotic substances on Monday.

The arrestees are Mizanur Rahman alias Mister, 45, of Satanipara village in Sadar upazila here and Bedana, 39, wife of Yunus Ali of Lauchapara village in Baksiganj upazila of Jamalpur district.

Acting on a tip-off, a joint team of Rab personnel and officials of narcotics control department raided Satanipara and Kornajhora Bazaar areas in Sribordi upazila and arrested the drug peddlers, Rab sources said.

Twenty-five gram heroin, three packs of opium and nine fake Tk 100 notes and 20 kg ganja were seized from their possession.

UNB from Savar adds: Rab personnel held a drug peddler along with 334 bottle phensidyl syrup at Soybaria in Dhamrai municipal area on Sunday.

The driver of a Pajero jeep tried to flee away as the members of Rab-4 challenged the vehicle at Barobaria bus stand on Dhaka-Aricha highway.

MOB SETS RANGPUR FAIR VENUE AFIRE 65 hurt as police try to stop stall looting

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur

Around 65 people including five policemen were injured as police tried to prevent unruly mob from looting stalls at the trade fair at Rangpur Zila School ground Tuesday night.

The mob, angered by the fair committee's decision to postpone distributing prizes of a raffle draw, set fire to the fair venue and looted goods worth about Tk 50 lakh, eyewitnesses said.

Organisers of the trade fair held a raffle draw on sold tickets Tuesday night and the people who had visited the trade fair on ticket earlier, started gathering on the fair premises.

Hearing the announcement that the raffle draw would be held on that night but the prizes would be distributed later, the people became agitated.

They set fire to the fair

venue and started looting goods from different stalls. Police rushed to the spot at about 11:00pm. As they tried to prevent the unruly mob from plundering and charged baton on them, a series of chases and counter chases followed.

Sixty-five people were injured during the clash that continued for over two hours.

Later Rapid Action Battalion joined with police and brought the situation under control. They picked up about 50 people including president of Rangpur town unit Swechchhasebok League Sayedul Islam Alamgir from Rangpur Zila School ground and different areas of the town.

Protesting the arrest of Alamgir, leaders and activists of Awami League, Swechchhasebok League and Krishak League laid siege to Rangpur Kotwali Police station yesterday morning.

Police dispersed them by charging baton.

"Police lodged a case with Rangpur Kotwali Police Station in this connection. Thirteen people were shown arrested. Others, who were picked up during the incident, were released after interrogation," Rangpur Superintendent of Police (SP) Saleh Md Tanvir said.

The arrestees are town unit Swechchhasebok League president Sayedul Islam Alamgir, Jubo Sanghati (front organisation of JP) leader Altaf Hossain London, Swechchhasebok League activists Shahidul Islam, Abdur Rashid, Uzzal Miah, Iqbal Ahmed, Monirul Haque, Asadul Haque, Raju Miah, Mamun Miah, Mostaque Ahmed, Sayeur Rahman, and Jahangir Alam Badsha.

The SP said the arrestees were involved with the attack, loot and setting fire to the trade fair venue.

3 schoolboys 'abducted' from Sylhet rescued in Dhaka

UNB, Sylhet

Three 'abducted' students of British Bangladesh International School in city's housing estate residential area were rescued by police at Jatrabari in Dhaka on Tuesday.

Mahmudur Rahman Manna, Abdullah Al Zobayer and Sohag Mia, students of class VIII, who stayed at a hostel of the school in city's Bagbari area, went missing since 8:00pm Sunday after they came out to offer Esha prayers at a nearby mosque.

A general diary was lodged with Kotwali model police station in this connection the same night.

An untoward incident between the guardians of the missing students and the school authorities occurred at the school over the issue.

Police sent messages to different police stations across the country seeking assistance in finding out the missing boys.

Aminul Islam, hostel superintendent of the school, was taken to Kotwali police station for interrogation on Monday night.

Police said the 'abducted' students, who hailed from different areas in Sunamganj and Moulvibazar districts, were 'rescued' from the capital on Tuesday evening.

Police on suspicion held the three boys in the capital while they were moving aimlessly at Jatrabari. They were later sent back to Sylhet.

However, none was arrested in connection with the alleged abduction.

BRDB official murdered

OUR CORRESPONDENT, C'nawabganj

Criminals murdered an official of Bangladesh Rural Development Board (BRDB) in the district town early Tuesday.

Victim Mohammad Abdullah, 30, was deputy project director of BRDB in Sadar upazila. He hailed from Rangpur district.

The reason behind the killing could not be known immediately.

Superintendent of police (SP) Nazrul Hossain said Abdullah joined the BRDB office in the district a few years ago as deputy project director. As he did not attend the office on Tuesday morning his colleagues tried to communicate with him over cell phone but failed.

They also contacted his mother but she said Abdullah did not go to Rangpur.

They finally came to his residence and found the door under lock and key. Later, on information, police rushed to the spot and recovered the body breaking open the door lock.

Yesterday, police arrested three people for quizzing in connection with the murder. The arrestees are Abdur Rauf and Akbar Hossain, owners of a computer shop at Gabtola in the town and their employee Abdus Salam.



Huge quantities of contraband items, seized by Bangladesh Rifles from border areas, kept for destroying on the premises of 39 Rifles Battalion headquarters at Chapainawabganj yesterday.

Advertisement for Eteson Sial Drug Company Limited, featuring text in Bengali and details about their products and services.

One missing as trawler capsizes

STAR NATIONAL DESK

One person went missing as a trawler capsized in the Dhaleswari near the launch ghat of Munshiganj town yesterday while four labourers received injuries

after a sand-laden cargo was hit by a launch on Lohalia river in Patuakhali the same day.

Munshiganj-bound trawler Haji Ismail in the Dhaleswari after it collided with another trawler coming from opposite direction in the afternoon, reports a correspondent.

The trawler was carrying sand with 12 labourers on board. Eleven of them managed to swim ashore while an unidentified labourer remained missing until 6:30pm, according to district police control room.

Our Patuakhali correspondent reported that at least four labourers of a sand-laden cargo were injured as a launch hit it yesterday morning.

Police and cargo owner Khair Uddin said the cargo was at anchor about half a kilometer from Patuakhali launch ghat and all the four labourers were asleep.

At around 6:00am, a Patuakhali-bound launch from Dhaka suddenly hit the cargo, leaving the labourers injured.

Advertisement for Bangladesh Shiksha and Kuti Shiksha Karporekshon, including a table with details about various educational programs and their fees.

BCIC TENDER NOTICE advertisement for Polash Urea Fertilizer Factory Ltd., detailing the tender process and materials to be supplied.