

DIARRHOEA - PNEUMONIA SITUATION ACUTE

Thakurgaon hospital cannot cope with child patients

QUAMRUL ISLAM RUBAIYAT, Thakurgaon

Thakurgaon Sadar Hospital is crowded with child patients with complaints of pneumonia and diarrhoea as the children are most vulnerable to two diseases during change of season.

At least 133 patients have been admitted to children's ward of the hospital against only 18 seats in the last three days. As the hospital cannot accommodate growing number of child patients, most of them are staying on veranda.

Besides, at least 150-200 patients are receiving treatment at the outdoor everyday. Hospital sources said about

193 patients, most with respiratory problem, received treatment at the outdoor yesterday.

During a visit to the hospital yesterday, this correspondent saw many child patients are lying on the floor of the children's ward and on hospital veranda.

Shahina of Fatapur village

under Sadar upazila told this correspondent that she admitted her 11-month-old son to the hospital Friday morning with complaint of pneumonia. She is staying on the floor due to shortage of space in the children's ward.

Rozina, who admitted her 10-month-old twin babies to the hospital with complaints of pneumonia and diarrhoea on Sunday, is staying on a space beside the staircase. She came from Jummarhat village under Birganj upazila of Dinajpur district.

Dr Shahajahan Nawaj, a consultant of Thakurgaon Sadar Hospital, said as there is no child specialist at the upazila level and in adjacent district Panchagarh, child patients are coming to this hospital.

He said only three nurses are engaged in the children's ward for 18 patients. So it is very difficult for them to serve the growing number of child patients.

Dr Shahajahan Nawaj said child patients with complaints of pneumonia and diarrhoea are on rise due to change of season. He hoped that the number of patients would start decreasing within three days. "If the patients come to hospital in time, they will get proper treatment and will recover soon," he added.



PHOTO: STAR

A woman with her pneumonia-affected eight-month-old child from Atwari upazila in Panchagarh district has to stay on the floor beside the staircase of Thakurgaon Sadar Hospital that cannot cope with increasing number of child patients.

CHUADANGA AND MEHERPUR 3 commit 'suicide,' newly wed woman takes poison

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

Two housewives and a school student allegedly committed suicide in Chuadanga and Meherpur while a newly married girl took poison within three days of her marriage in Meherpur on Sunday.

According to police, Tania, 22, daughter of Sagar Ali of Loknathpur was married to Sahabuddin, son of Abdul Aziz of Nehalpur in Sadar upazila 25 days ago.

Sources said it was Sahabuddin's third marriage and Tania did not agree to wed Sahabuddin. But her family solemnised the marriage against her will. On Sunday morning when her husband went out for work, Tania took poison locking the door of her room from inside.

She was rescued in the afternoon breaking open the door and rushed to Chuadanga Sadar Hospital where the on-duty doctors declared her dead.

Humayun Kabir, son of Tota Mia of Godaighat area in Chuadanga town took poison in the morning.

Humayun was a student of class nine at Purondorpur High School.

Family sources said during an altercation with his mother Humayun threatened to take

poison while the annoyed mother asked him to do so.

After about two hours at 1:30pm Humayun took poison locking the door of his room from inside.

He was rescued breaking open the door in the afternoon and rushed to Chuadanga Sadar Hospital where doctors declared him dead.

In Meherpur, Lata Khatun, 24, wife of Safiqul Islam of Harirampur in Sadar upazila took poison following a quarrel with her husband at about 2:30pm.

She was taken to Meherpur general hospital where she died at about 6:30pm.

Besides, Alpona Khatun, 19, daughter of Arif Mollah of Sadar upazila was married to one Jony of Eidgahpara area of Meherpur town only three days ago.

Alpona returned to her parent's house on Sunday afternoon with Jony.

Sources said soon after her return, Alpona got into a room, locked it from inside and took poison as her parents and other family members were busy for a reception to the new couple.

Alpona is now fighting for life at Meherpur General Hospital.

The reason behind her suicide attempt could not be known.

THAKURGAON INCIDENT UZ chairman, Jubo League secy get bail

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Thakurgaon

Thakurgaon Sadar upazila chairman Sultanul Ferdous, his mother former lawmaker Sultana Rezwan and wife Sabina Yasmin were granted bail yesterday afternoon by the Chief Judicial Magistrate's Court.

On the other hand, general secretary of district Jubo League Abdul Majid Apel also got bail from the same court.

A group of Jubo League men led by Abdul Majid alias Apel occupied the house of UZ chairman Ferdous at College Para in the town on Friday morning following a long standing dispute over the ownership of the house.

The Jubo League men attacked the house and damaged three rooms and boundary wall.

They also looted valuables and damaged furniture, the chairman, his family members and eye-witnesses said.

After occupying the house Majid's musclemen hung a sign board and built two bamboo structures on the land.

The next day the upazila chairman and Jubo League GS filed cases against each other with Thakurgaon police station, the officer-in-charge (OC) of the police station said.

In his case the UZ chairman accused 158 people identifying Abdul Majid Apel and seven others.

On the other hand Apel sued the upazila chairman, his mother Sultana Rezwan, brother Sultanul Naim and wife Sabina Yasmin and some 40/50 unidentified people.

Advocate Momtazur Rahaman Bipul moved the case for the chairman while advocate Mokbul Hossain Babu for the Jubo League general secretary.

Statues damaged at temples

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

Criminals yesterday damaged two statues at a temple at Birahimpur village of Sujanagar upazila.

Birahimpur Sharbojonin Mondir sources claimed that the criminals damaged the statues of goddesses Kali and Shitola inside the temple at about midnight.

The temple was locked but the criminals broke open the door and damaged the statues for 'reasons unknown.'

"When we went to the mondir in the morning we found the two statues damaged," Bishnapada Talukdar, secretary of Birahimpur Sharbojonin Mondir told this correspondent.

He filed a case with Sujanagar police station yesterday noon accusing unidenti-

fied criminals.

Being informed high officials including the superintendent of Pabna police (SP) Jamil Ahmed along with other police officials visited the spot.

Earlier criminals damaged statues at two temples at remote villages of Bera upazila under the district last week.

They broke into pieces the Kali statues at Nayabari Kali Mondir at Nayabari village and Shitala Mondir at Bishwanathpur village of Bera in the early hours of last Tuesday.

A case was filed with Bera police station accusing unidentified criminals.

Agitated devotees and members of the Hindu community have demanded probe into the incidents and punishment to the culprits.

Traders attack mobile court

UNB, Jamalpur

A mobile court came under attack of some traders in the district town yesterday evening.

Witnesses said when a mobile court, led by executive magistrate

Jamaluddin, fined a cosmetics shop and a cloth store Tk 10,000 each in Medical road area local traders got furious.

They held the magistrate hostage in a shop and damaged a Rab vehicle.

Shops were closed down and vehicular movement came to a halt

following the incident.

On information, when a Rab team went to the spot, the traders threw brickbats towards them. The Rab team fired blank shots to bring the situation under control.

Later, the Rab team rescued the magistrate.

None was arrested in this connection.



PHOTO: STAR

Men of upazila administration demolish an illegal structure at Rajabari on Rajshahi-Chapainawganj road in Godagari upazila yesterday, after local traders foiled an earlier attempt to do so the same that day.



PHOTO: STAR

These hapless people are staying under the open sky after men of an influential person evicted them from houses on a piece of land at Pak-Paharpur in Dinajpur town, where they had lived for 35 years.

Criminals brutally torture her while evicting family

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur



PHOTO: STAR

Victim of brutality yesterday morning, pregnant Shoma Ghosh lying at Dinajpur Medical College Hospital.

An eight-month pregnant woman living at a Dinajpur suburb is battling for life at Dinajpur Medical College and Hospital (DJMCH) as criminals brutally tortured her while evicting her family from a disputed land yesterday morning.

The woman, Shoma Ghosh, 19, was admitted to gynaecology department in a critical condition at 9:30am, DJMCH sources said.

Child in her womb got displaced as criminals dragged her out from the house after kicking her indiscriminately at the abdomen, said sources quoting the doctors who visited her.

Visiting the spot yesterday, this correspondent learnt that families of Narayan Chandra Ghosh and Naresh Chandra Ghosh have been living on a 2.5 decimal land at Pak-Paharpur in Dinajpur town for about 35 years as land owner Bimal Chowdhury had let them live on the land.

Bimal Chowdhury now lives in Manikganj district, said members of the two families.

Claiming ownership of the land, about 200 people backed by Swapan and his brother Tapan Kundu attacked the two families with wooden sticks and flattened their thatched houses when they were preparing breakfast in the morning, said villagers.

The miscreants kicked Shoma at the abdomen and attacked her mother-in-law as she came forward to save the pregnant woman, said witnesses, adding that the criminals looted the houses and evicted the two families from there.

Process was on to file a case as of filing this report. The two families alleged that land owner Bimal Chowdhury took Tk 2 lakh 2 thousand from them in July last year to sell the 2.5 decimal land to them.

But the land was again sold out to Swapan Kundu.

Swapan and his brother along with about 200 men made the attack to take the land into their possession although there is a case over the land, said the victim families.

RU SHIBIR-HELD ROOMS RAIDED Cocktail, jihadi books seized

STAR NATIONAL DESK

Police yesterday recovered a cocktail from a Shibir-held room at a hall at Rajshahi University (RU) and arms from the house of a Shibir cadre in Noakhali.

Police along with university authorities yesterday raided Abdul Latif Hall of Rajshahi University (RU) yesterday and recovered a cocktail, reports a correspondent.

During the raid the law enforcers also found leaflets and seized over 200 jihadi books from Shibir-controlled rooms of the hall.

The hall authorities said they also sealed 16 Shibir-controlled rooms including that of hall unit Shibir president and secretary who are also the prime accused in Chhatra League worker Faruque Hossain killing case.

However, none was arrested in this connection with recovery during the three-hour raid till 2:00pm, the hall authorities said.

Latif Hall provost Dr M Rabiul Islam told reporters that they raided the rooms on receipt of allegation from the general students that Shibir men have kept weapons in their (Shibir) rooms during the campus violence on February 9.

In Noakhali, police yesterday recovered a foreign-made revolver and eight bullets from the house of notorious Shibir cadre Oli Ullah at Charparbati village in Companyganj upazila.

Acting on a tip-off, Companyganj police raided the house and recovered the firearm and ammunition from under the floor of the house.

The Shibir cadre left for Kuawait immediately after the present government came to power.

A case was filed with Companyganj police station in this connection.

10 HURT DURING EVICTION DRIVE Traders resist cops at instruction of Jubo League man

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

At least 10 people were injured as police and traders clashed during a drive against illegal shops around a government pond at Rajabari under godagari upazila of the district yesterday.

The traders staged a demonstration protesting the drive launched by the upazila administration and blocked Godagari-Rajshahi road for half an hour.

Led by Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) Julia Moyeen, government officials and police launched the drive at around 10:00am.

Two hours later, upazila Jubo League General Secretary Shamim Reja reached the spot and asked the traders to resist the officials.

At this, the traders started hurling bricks at the law enforcers, prompting them to charge batons. The traders also confined UNO Julia Moyeen to a shop of Rajabari Bazar for an hour.

At around 1:00pm, additional police and members of the Rapid Action Battalion from Rajshahi reached the scene, brought the situations under control and rescued the UNO.

Officials said Jubo League leader Shamim Reja built an illegal shop on the bank of the pond and helped others to build shops, grabbing the government property.

SNIPPETS

Deed writers observe strike

A CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

The deed writers observed four hours' strike accusing the sub-registrar of Sreepur of taking bribe through a staff by raising different objections about the land transfer documents written by the deed writers. The strike started at 9:00 am yesterday and continued till 1:00 pm. During the strike the deed writers did not submit any land documents to the sub-registrar. The deed writers including the former president of the Deed Writers Association Mofazzal Hossain and organising secretary Mosharrif Hossain Khan said, the sub-registrar raises objection about different documents through a copyist and takes the bribes. They said they made repeated objections to the ill practice but to no effect. The deed writers said when they protested the sub-registrar's activities they were threatened with cancellation of their licences.

Truck with OMS rice seized

A CORRESPONDENT, Bagerhat

Members of Coastguard Sharankhola contingent have seized a truck with 4,750 kg rice (95 sacks) from Panch Rasta intersection under the upazila Sunday evening. The driver and helper of the truck managed to flee. Sources said government rice for Open Market Sale (OMS) was being taken away for selling in the black market. The price of the rice as per government fixed Tk 22 per kg would be more than Tk one lakh. Coastguard has filed a case with Sharankhola police station in connection with the incident. The truck and the seized rice have been handed over to Sharankhola police. Sub-inspector and investigation officer (IO) of the case Sudhangshu Kumar Mondal yesterday said, nobody claimed the ownership of the rice.

Prisoner flees police custody

UNB, Sherpur

An under trial prisoner with handcuffs escaped from police custody at district sessions' judge court yesterday. Police said Abdull Gafur, accused in an arms case, was to appear before the sessions' judge court in connection with the case. He was brought to the court from local jail and at one stage he managed to escape taking advantage of huge crowd while he was being taken to the court hajat at 10:20am. ASP (Circle) Iqbal Shafi said drive is on to arrest the escapee. Gafur, who hailed from Cox's Bazar, was arrested here when he came to sell arms in 2008.

Day-labourer electrocuted

UNB, Laxmipur

A day-labourer was electrocuted and five others sustained injuries while installing a deep tubewell at Sahapur in Sadar pourashava Sunday. Witnesses said six workers were injured as they came in contact with a live electric wire while installing the deep tubewell at the house of Sanaullah in the afternoon. Of the injured, one unidentified worker died sometime later while five others were admitted to Sadar Hospital. All the victims hailed from neighbouring Noakhali district.