

SNAPS AND SNIPPETS



Locals beat dead this dolphin after it was caught in fishermen's net in Daratana River flowing beside Bagerhat town yesterday.

BDR, BSF hold meeting

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chapainawabganj

A company commander level flag meeting between Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) and Indian Border Security Force (BSF) was held at JK Poladanga border point of Bholahat upazila yesterday morning following the incident of assault on Bangladeshi farmers by Indians. At the meeting the two sides took some decisions to avoid future clashes over the farmlands along the borders. The meeting was held at JK Poladanga area of zero line near river pillar no 4. George Mia, Company Commander of JK Poladanga camp and AK Azad Company Commander of Gilabari camp of Naogaon 43 Rifles Battalion led the BDR team while the BSF team was headed by inspector of Muchia camp of Maldah BSF battalion Rikesh Kumar. Both the sides came to a consensus that any border problem would be settled through discussion. It was also decided that no farmer would any further cultivate the lands of the other country as sharecropper as was a culture earlier, BDR sources said.

BCL leader gets life

A CORRESPONDENT, Madaripur

A court yesterday sentenced former general secretary of Madaripur Nazimuddin College and Chhatra League leader Sarwar Hossain Mollah to life term imprisonment on charge of rape. Judge of Madaripur tribunal for preventing Women and Children Repression Md Ataur Rahman announced the sentence yesterday. However the convicted student leader is on the run. According to the case proceedings, accused Sarwar Mollah at 8:00 pm on February 28, 2005 in a room of Momtaz Begum's house in Kulpaddi area under Madaripur Sadar proposed to plaintiff Farzana Begum to have physical relationship promising to marry her later. As the plaintiff did not agree to the proposal the accused tied her mouth with a piece of cloth and raped her. A case was filed against three persons including Sarwar Mollah on March 18, 2006. But the two other accused were acquitted of charges.

Kidnapped schoolgirl rescued

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Chunarughat police in Habiganj on Monday night rescued an 11-year-old schoolgirl. She was kidnapped three days ago. Two persons were also arrested on charge of kidnapping. Police said Jony Akhtar, a student of class five and daughter of UP member Rushon Ali of village Atiquepur, was picked up forcibly from the backyard of her house on April 16 evening by Abdur Rahim of Rajakona and Morom Ali of Parkul of neighbouring villages. Rushon Ali filed a case with the police same day. Police arrested the two and rescued the victim from a house near Chunarughat bazaar Monday night.

Robbery at expat's house

UNB, Comilla

Robbers looted cash and gold ornaments from an expatriate's house at Dighirpar in Muradnagar upazila here early yesterday. Police quoting locals said a gang numbering 20-30 stormed into the house of USA expatriate Abdul Momen, 52, around midnight and looted 25 tolas gold and Tk 1.25 lakh in cash, after tying him up. Police arrested Hanif, son of Chan Mia of the same village in this connection.

Fake journalist held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) on Monday arrested a fake journalist with a woman from a residential hotel in city's Laldighi area. Arrestee Jahangir Alam Joni, 36, identified himself as the chief reporter of the daily Ekushey. Two cases including one under Women and Child Repression Prevention Act were filed against Jony with Kotwali police station, police said. Rab members handed the arrestee over to the Kotwali police while the woman was sent to the safe custody of the court.

One killed, 4 hurt in attack

UNB, Keraniganj

A man was killed and four others were injured in an attack by his neighbours at Atasur area in Keraniganj police station yesterday morning. The deceased was identified as Ajit Karaty, 55, a tree surgeon, son of Bholanath Karaty. The injured are Probha, 45, wife of Ajit Karaty, Sumon, 30, Madhu, 25, and Umme Kulsum alias Omani, 40. Sources said the incident occurred when brokers Salahuddin and Mostafa locked in an altercation with Ajit Karaty as he did not want to sign on the power deed leaving four injured. Seriously injured Ajit was rushed to Mitford Medical College and Hospital at about 11:00am where on-duty doctor declared him dead. The injured were admitted to local hospitals and clinics.

15 injured in clash

UNB, Jhenidah

At least 15 people, including three police, were injured in a clash between two rival groups of villagers at Charpara bazar in Harinakundu upazila here on Monday morning. Police said some people of Mailmari village of Shaillakupa upazila and Charpara village of Harinakundu upazila locked in an altercation over giving fare of human hauler (locally known as Nasimon) at about 10:00am. At one stage, both groups equipped with lethal weapons attacked each other leaving 15 people injured on the spot. Three injured policemen were identified as Charpara camp in-charge SI Alamgir Hossain, constable Mostafizur Rahman and Rakibul Hasan. Other injured were admitted to different hospitals and clinics.

One gets life for killing

UNB, Chapainawabganj

A court here on Monday convicted a man and sentenced him to life term rigorous imprisonment (RI) for killing his younger brother in 2005. The convict is Julur Rahman, 45, son of Seraj Uddin of Suranpur village in Bholahat upazila. The court also fined him Tk 10,000, in default, to suffer one year more RI. According to prosecution, Shariful Islam was hacked to death by his elder brother Julur Rahman on May 5, 2005 in their house over a family feud.

AL men made 4 new KHDC councillors

JASIM MAJUMDER, Khagrachhari

The government has appointed four councillors for reconstituted Khagrachhari Hill District Council (KHDC).

However, no one has been appointed as chairman of KHDC as a case filed by ex-chairman Monindra Lal Tripura over the chairman post is now under jurisdiction of the High Court, KHDC sources said.

The four new councillors are district Awami League Senior Vice President Kujendra Lal Tripura, acting Secretary Chaito Aung Marma, Vice President Biro Kishore Chakma Atal and Joint Secretary Md Sahab Uddin.

To this effect, an official letter signed by Senior Assistant Secretary of CHT Affairs Ministry Nazma Khanom reached the persons concerned at 4:30pm yesterday, KHDC officials said.

The letter mentioned that the government yesterday accepted the resignation letter

of acting KHDC chairman Ruhity Karbary.

The newly selected councillors of Khagrachhari district council are likely to take over by today, said sources at CHT Affairs Ministry.

They are replacing the councillors set by the past caretaker government.

According to Section 14 of KHDC Act of 1989, if the post of chairman remains vacant for any reason an indigenous councillor, selected by four councillors, will work as acting chairman until the government posts new chairman, said KHDC Executive Officer Md Abdur Rahman Tarafdar.

Chief Executive Officer Tarun Kanti Gosh said as per the KHDC Act of 1989, permanent residents of the hill districts are supposed to elect a chairman (indigenous) and 30 members (indigenous and Bangali) for each Hill District Council (then Local Government Council or LGC).

after changing the past caretaker government formed BNP-Jamaat body.

Suspected anthrax patients to be tested at IEDCR

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

Eleven suspected patients of rare disease anthrax will be sent to the Institute of Epidemiology, Disease Control and Research (IEDCR) in Mohakhali in Dhaka today for undergoing tests there.

All the patients were attacked with the disease at Gala village in Ghatail upazila.

Villagers said, Sujat Ali slaughtered one his sick cows and processed the meat with the help of his family members and several neighbours on April 6 last and distributed the meat among his relatives and others.

After 24 hours, 11 people including women and children, who did the job of cutting and washing the meat suffered infections on different parts of their bodies including hands and legs followed by itches and pain, locals said.

The infected people are Joinal Talukder, 28, Sujat Ali, 42, Babu Talukder, 40, Jamila Begum, 60, Renu Begum, 45, Jharna Khatun, 22, Mishu, 12, Choito, 17, Sonia, 13, Shakil, 14, and Hasan, 7.

They went to Ghatail upazila health complex for treatment and doctors there gave them antibiotic presuming the disease as an ordinary infection.

The patients, however, became anxious as the infections were not cured after two weeks of treatment, sources said.

Being informed, a team of doctors visited the patients at the village and suspected the disease as anthrax, said Mohammad Emranul Alam, upazila health and family planning officer in Ghatail.

The patients will undergo several tests at IEDCR to diagnose the disease, said Tangail civil surgeon Dr Abdul Basit yesterday.



Storm blows away school roof but exams on

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gaibandha

At least 95 educational institutions in Gaibandha Sadar and Sadullapur upazila have been badly damaged by nor'wester accompanied by hailstorm in the last two days.

Many of the school buildings have been razed to the ground while tin-made roofs of others blown away as violent storm lashed the areas. The students are now attending classes under open sky.

"Tin-made roof of our school has been blown away and furniture damaged due to wall collapse," said Asma Begum, a student of Manduayer Primary School in Sadullapur.

A large number of other institutions including college, high school, primary school, madrasa were also partially damaged in Gaibandha Sadar and Sadullapur upazilas. None of those institutes has received any assistance yet, locals said.

Education is being hampered as storm lashed library, office room and teacher's

common room, said Zakaria Khandker, principal of Sadullapur Girls College.

"According to preliminary assessment we have enlisted 34 institutes badly damaged by storm. The number may go up and we have already brought the matter to the notice of the higher authorities", said Ariful Haq, UNO of Sadullapur.

In many institutions examination is being conducted in the damaged school rooms, said Rafiqul Islam, a guardian of village Gideri in Sadar upazila.

AL MP sued on charge of land grabbing

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Cnawabganj

Two persons including an Awami League (AL) lawmaker have been sued on charge of attempt to grab adisputed land here.

AL lawmaker Abdul Wadud, elected from Chapainawabganj-3 constituency, and Mahfuzur Rahman, a party activist, also a resident of Pathanpara in the town were accused of attempt to grab two plots of land at Islampur here.

Habibur Rahman of Godagari Road, Mohammad Alauddin of Shankarabati in the district town and Chapainawabganj municipality Mayor Ataur Rahman filed a civil suit against them with Sadar Senior Assistant Judge's Court with prayer for permanent injunction on the land. They alleged that the two tried to occupy the land forcibly.

Judge Mahmud Hasan issued a showcase notice on them and ordered 'status quo' on the land.

Contacted, Wadud said the allegation is 'false and not based on facts'.

AL faction protests attack by 'MP Roni's cadres'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

A faction of Awami League (AL) of Galachipa upazila unit led by upazila AL President Harun-or-Rashid yesterday observed hartal from 6:00am to 12 noon in the upazila town protesting attack on Kashinath Datta, science and technology secretary of the party's Patuakhali district unit.

Earlier on Monday night, at least 10 people were injured in a clash between two factions of upazila AL.

Party sources said 8/10 men led by Azam, Rajon and Humayun, who are known as cadres of Golam Mowla Roni, lawmaker from Patuakhali-3 (Galachipa-Dashmina), attacked

Kashinath at about 8:00pm on Sadar road in Galachipa town.

Protesting the attack, local AL men held a meeting in front of the party office from where upazila AL President Harun-or-Rashid, also the upazila chairman, and Secretary Gomal Mostafa Tito declared yesterday's hartal.

They also brought out a procession in the town but when it was crossing Bangladesh-Turkey Friendship School Road, Roni's men launched an attack.

At least 10 activists including Ram Krishna Paul, Kalam and Esha were injured in the clash that followed.

"We called the hartal in the upazila town as crimi-

nals attacked Kashinath Datta. Attackers are close to lawmaker Golam Mowla Roni," said Golam Mostafa Tito, secretary of upazila AL.

At about 10:00pm some activists of Harun group ransacked the resident of upazila Jubo League President Ershad Hossain Badal.

Police arrested Azam, 25, at about 2:00pm on Monday night from his local residence for his alleged involvement in the attack on Kashinath Datta.

When contacted, lawmaker Golam Mowla Roni said, "Azam is not my cadre. After attack on Kashinath Datta I asked police to arrest all the culprits responsible for it."



Resident students of Chittagong University (CU) leave their dormitories for home as no classes or examination could be held yesterday due to the indefinite strike called by Bangladesh Chhatra League in protest against killing of a CU student allegedly by neighbouring villagers, right, the agitators set ablaze this bus, used for carrying university teachers.

Move for dope test for BCL nomination hailed

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

Local political leaders as well as common people have hailed the initiative for dope test to screen out drug addict nomination seekers in the upcoming Pabna district council of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL).

"The student leaders have to be fresh and healthy so that they can lead properly. So it is a good initiative to conduct health test before their selection as leaders," State Minister for Home Shamsul Haque Tuku said after inauguration of the blood test programme at Pabna General Hospital as the chief guest on

Sunday.

"Thirty-five BCL men have undergone the blood test. We have taken the exceptional initiative to examine the health of aspirants in the council as we want fit and healthy students in BCL leadership," said Md Mostak Azad, secretary of BCL Pabna district unit committee.

The district unit council of BCL will be held on May 2 after seven years while the councils of upazila, poura and Edward College units will be held on April 22 and 24, BCL sources said, adding that the BCL aspirants will have to show medical fitness certificates to draw their nomination papers. "We have tested them for

the drug related viruses in blood. B Virus, C virus and such other viral diseases were tested. Samples were sent to Dhaka for nicotine test as Pabna General Hospital does not have that facility," said Bikash Ranjan, medical technologist of the hospital.

"The initiative will help to select proper leadership. We will try to continue the process," said Pabna district unit AL Vice President Md Saidul Haque Chhunnu.

"I have participated in the blood test programme because I am an aspirant in the upcoming BCL council," said Mostafizur Rahman Rassel, a district unit BCL leader.

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