

Five JMB men arrested in Kishoreganj

A CORRESPONDENT, Kishoreganj

Five alleged members of the outlawed militant Islamist outfit Jamat-ul-Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) were arrested at Chariakona in Katiadi upazila yesterday.

The arrestees were identified as Arif, 25, son of late Alek Mia of Gaital in Kishoreganj Sadar, Kamal, 25, son of Dulal Mia, of Galimgazi in Kishoreganj Sadar, Humayun Kabir, 28, son of Fazlur Rahman of Kasurchar in Kishoreganj Sadar, Mowlana Masud, 30, son of late Nabi Mia of Maizhati in Pakundia upazila and Mujahid, 16, son of Sabrin Ahmed of Ghagra in Pakundia upazila.

Acting on a tip-off, a Rab team from Bhairab camp led by Lieutenant Foyez arrested the five while they were hold-

ing a secret meeting beside a mosque at Chariakona.

Meanwhile in Chapainawabganj, a court order to free an alleged member of JMB on bail was deferred till June 23 this year after the Public Prosecutor filed a prayer to cancel the order on Tuesday.

The JMB man was identified as Yousuf Ali, 25, of Shibnagar Kaithapara under Shibganj upazila in the district, reports our correspondent.

The court of Chapainawabganj District and Sessions Judge issued the order to free Yousuf on bail. But Public Prosecutor Zobdul Haque submitted an application to the court to cancel the order. At this, the court adjourned the order in the afternoon.

Earlier, the Public Prosecutor raised objection

when the lawyer of the accused filed a bail prayer.

Court sources said, Yousuf was arrested under Anti Terrorism Act on January 5, 2010.

According to the prosecution story, a case was filed with Shibganj police station under section 8,9,10 and 12 of Anti-Terrorism Act accusing six people on October 25, 2008.

Later, investigation officer of the case Sub Inspector (SI) Dipak Kumar of Shibganj police station submitted charge sheet to the court accusing 16 more people including Yousuf on September 27, 2009.

As Yousuf's name was on the chargesheet, police arrested him in January this year.

Zobdul Haque said he would appeal to the higher court against the bail order soon.



Fishermen have started returning to the coast with their boats and trawlers from deep sea following warning yesterday that Cyclone 'Laila' is crossing southwest Bay. The photo was taken from Bakhkhali fishery ghat at Cox's Bazar.

Indigenous woman, her daughter murdered

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Khagrachhari

Criminals murdered two indigenous people at remote Rohindra Para village under Panchhari upazila in the district yesterday morning.

The victims are Bito Rani Tripura 35, wife of Karka Ranjan Tripura and their 3-year-old daughter Monjuri Tripura.

Panchhari police said, criminals chopped both the mother and the child with sharp weapons at about 9:00 am finding them alone in the house.

Locals rushed to the spot as Bito Rani's elder son Donojoy Tripura, who returned from school, let out a scream seeing the blood and bodies.

Karka Ranjan Tripura said the murder might have been committed by tribal neighbours to grab his landed property.

He alleged those who had enmity with him killed his wife and child, police said.

Assistant Superintendent of police Mohammad Maksud Rahman said officer-in-charge of Panchhari police station Kazi Mohammad Sahabuddin visited the spot to take necessary action.

However, none was arrested till filing of this report yesterday afternoon.

Meanwhile, a rape victim is fighting for life at Khagrachhari Adhunik Sadar Hospital.

She was gang-raped by unknown youths at her home at Rangapanichhara

village under Mohalchhari upazila on May 14.

Police said, the gang raped the 24-year-old housewife tying her husband with rope.

Locals came to the spot hearing the crying of her 3-year-old child Jewel. They recovered the unconscious body of the victim and sent it to Khagrachhari Adhunik Sadar Hospital for treatment.

Her husband Safiul Islam later lodged a case accusing some 20-25 unidentified youths.

Officer-in-charge (OC) of Mohalchhari police station Abdull Mannan Khan said, although a case was filed but none was arrested in this connection.

"We are investigating the incident," he added.

JCD leader killed in Chandpur

UNB, Chandpur

A JCD leader was killed by criminals at Koladi Professor Para in Matlab South upazila headquarter early Monday.

The deceased was identified as Golam Mowla Bipul, 30, a leader of JCD upazila unit and also a trader.

Police quoting local sources said, Bipul was alone in his residence at night as his wife was at work in a clinic in Faridganj upazila.

In the morning a staff of Bipul's shop found Bipul's house locked from outside. Suspecting something wrong he raised a hue and cry and entered the house with the help of neighbours and found the body of Bipul lying in a pool of blood.

On information, police rushed to the spot and recovered the body. The body was sent to hospital morgue for autopsy in the afternoon.

Police said, criminals might have killed him at late night as his body bore some marks of injury.

A case was filed in this connection.

5 'suicide bids' in Meherpur

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

Three murders allegedly for dowry in 3 other dists

Five people allegedly attempted to commit suicide in 10 hours from 6:00am yesterday in Meherpur district.

All are now undergoing treatment in Meherpur General Hospital.

Babar Ali and Mina Biswas, a couple of Monkhal in Mujibnagar upazila in the district took poison following a family feud at about 6:00am. Neighbours said Mina often locked in quarrel with Babar over his alleged extra marital affair.

They were rushed to Meherpur General Hospital at about 10:00am.

Furu Begum, 30, wife of Dudhu Mia of Amdah village in Sadar upazila in the district attempted suicide allegedly as her husband often tortured her for dowry.

Furu, mother of two, yesterday took poison at her house at about 9:00am. She was admitted to Meherpur General Hospital.

Sawan of Dhala village in Sadar upazila allegedly beat up his wife Susmita, 24, as she protested his extra marital affair with another girl on Monday night.

Susmita took poison yesterday at about 12:00pm.

Mostafa of the same village beat up his wife Rashida on Monday night as she refused to bring Tk 50,000 dowry from her parent's house.

Rashida, 19, also took poison yesterday at about 2:00pm.

Officer-in-charge (OC) of Sadar police station said they were not aware about such incidents.

Doctors at the hospital, however, said all the patients are now out of danger.

Our correspondent in Brahmanbaria reports: Shahnara Begum, 25, a mother of one child, was murdered allegedly by her husband for dowry at Tarua village under Ashuganj upazila on Saturday night.

According to locals and police, Shahnara's husband Habir Mia often tortured her for dowry.

On Saturday night, Habir Mia again demanded dowry from his wife. As she refused, Habir started beating her mercilessly and at one stage suffocated her to death.

In Pabna, police recovered the body of a young woman from a ditch beside the Muladuli rail bazar under Iswardi upazila on Saturday, reports our correspondent.

She was identified as Jobeda Khatun, 22, wife of Anwar Khan of village Muladuli in Iswardi upazila.

Jobeda was beaten up mercilessly

allegedly by her husband and her in-laws for dowry, police and the victim's family sources said.

The victim's family filed a case with Iswardi police station accusing her husband and mother-in-law on Saturday night.

In Satkhira, a housewife was beaten to death allegedly by her husband for dowry at Rajendrapur village in Tala upazila on Thursday night.

The deceased was identified as Shipra Ghosh, wife of Kartik Ghosh, reports UNB.

On information, police on Friday morning recovered the body that bore several injury marks and sent it to Sadar hospital morgue for autopsy.

Family sources said, Shipra was married off with Kartik in 2000.

Shipra's parents gave him Tk 40,000 in cash and five tolas of gold ornaments as dowry.

But after some days he started torturing her to bring Tk one lakh more from her parents as dowry.

On the fateful night he picked up a quarrel with her as she refused to bring the money from her parents.

At one stage, Kartik and his two sisters beat her mercilessly leaving her dead on the spot.



Law enforcers seize over 3,000kg mangoes ripened by toxic chemicals from a shop at Ahmedpur Bazar under Baraigram upazila of Natore on Monday night and arrest four people.

Flash flood damages Tk 1,300cr boro paddy in greater Sylhet

IQBAL SIDDIQUEE, Sylhet

Boro paddy on about 1.36 lakh hectares of land in greater Sylhet region has been damaged due to early flooding caused by onrush of water from hill areas across the border.

Sylhet divisional office of the Department of Agriculture Extension (DAE) has estimated the loss at around 7, 30,000 tonnes of paddy worth Tk over 1,264 crore. However, the farmers claimed they have lost about 10 lakh tonnes of paddy worth Tk 1,700 crore.

The agriculture officials said flash floods caused damage to boro crop on 1.36 lakh hectares of land, affecting 3 lakh farmers in the region.

DAE office sources said boro was cultivated on 4.27 lakh hectares of land in four districts of Sylhet region this year. Of the total land, crops on 1.36 lakh hectares were damaged.

They said breaches developed in haor protection embankments due to heavy rain and onrush of water from upstream. The farmers were compelled to cut unripe boro from their submerged croplands.

According to a report prepared by the agriculture officials, Out of 75,800 hectares of crop land in Sylhet district, boro paddy on 40,700 hectares went under water. The loss has been estimated at 28,500 tonnes worth Tk 71.22 crore.

In Moulvibazar, of the total 49,150 hectares of boro land, 6700 hectares have been submerged by floodwater, causing damage to 36,000 tonnes of paddy worth Tk 61.28 crore.

Boro paddy on 580 lakh hectares of land out of 1.09 hectares in Habiganj district has been damaged. The loss has been estimated at 2,967 tonnes of paddy worth Tk 5.04 crore.

The worst affected Sunamganj district has lost crops on 1,17,475 hectares of land out of the total 1,93,000 hectares. The DEA officials estimated the loss around 6.63 lakh tonnes of paddy worth Tk 1,127 crore.

In a meeting recently, the

ruling party lawmakers and upazila chairmen of Sunamganj district held Water Development officials responsible for not taking necessary steps to protect the embankments in haor areas. They appealed to the prime minister to take actions against the persons responsible.

Visiting the badly affected Sunamganj district in the last week of April, Food Minister Abdur Razaque said crop loss in the affected area of greater Sylhet would be around 90 percent.

The government would take up a special programme to help the affected farmers in the Sylhet region, he said.

1 dies of food poisoning, 59 fall sick

UNB, Khulna

One person died of food poisoning while 59 others fell sick after taking food at a religious function at Angardaha village under Dumuria upazila of Khulna district on Monday night.

The deceased is Subhadra, 52, mother of Krishna Das, the organiser of the function. Of the sick people, 29 were admitted to Dumuria Health Complex while the rest given first aid.

Locals said a religious function called 'harilut' was arranged for the Hrisi Community at the house of Krishna Das at night and holy food 'prasad' was distributed among the devotees.

After taking food, devotees suddenly started vomiting. Subhadra was rushed to Khulna Medical College Hospital and died soon after admission.

As the devotees also gave the poisonous food to their cattle, four cows of Gopal Das and three cows of Tarak Das of the village fell sick while a goat of Parimal Das died.

Tarun Kanti Halder, Health Officer of Dumuria Health Complex Hospital said the devotees fell sick due to food poisoning.

Hailstorm damages crops, houses in Gaibandha

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gaibandha

Several schools, madrasas badly hit

Severe hailstorm lashed three unions of Sadullapur upazila and four unions of Saghata upazila damaging huge crops and a large number of dwelling houses early yesterday.

Boro crops waiting harvest on vast tract was battered by hails while over 200 thatched houses were raged to the ground. Roofs of several school-houses were also blown away.

The affected unions are Faridpur, Jamalpur and Idilpur unions under Sadullapur and Saghata, Haldia, Kachua and Bonarpara unions in Saghata upazila.

The badly hit schools and madrasas are Taraf Sadulla Dakhil Madrasa, Jamalpur Girls' High School, Jamalpur Senior Madrasa, Rokeya Samad High School, Nabo Jagoran KG School, Bonarpara Adarsha Primary School and Shampur Dakhil Madrasa. Tin roof of those institutions have been blown away by the storm.

The storm also uprooted electric poles and fruit bearing trees. Power supply remained suspended for hours together.

"The storm has damaged boro paddy on my two bighas of land just three days ahead of harvest," said Saidur Mia, a farmer of Shampur village.

In Lalmonirhat, one injured by lightning died on the way to Rangpur Medical College and Hospital at noon yesterday, reports a correspondent.

Achhiya Begum, 44, wife of day laborer Anwar Ali at village Purbo Velabari of Aditmari upazila was one of the five injured by lightning on Monday.

Police and family sources said, Achhiya's right portion of the body was severely burnt. She was struck by lightning when she was working at a paddy field near her house.

She was first taken to Aditmari upazila health complex and later sent to Lalmonirhat Sadar Hospital.

Achhiya died near the Teesta bus stand, family sources said.

The rest four are being treated at Aditmari health complex and Lalmonirhat Sadar Hospital.

Flash flood damages Tk 1,300cr boro paddy in greater Sylhet

Villagers kill fishing cat

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

Villagers beat a fishing cat dead at Chakdhubail under Mirpur upazila in Kushtia on Monday.

Farmer Azizul of the village said he saw the cat on his field at about 12:30 pm. He called other villagers through his mobile phone and encircled the field along with sticks and iron rods.

They later caught the animal and killed it on the spot.



Sachetan Nagar Committee forms a human chain in front of Faridpur Press Club yesterday demanding an independent, neutral and effective anti-corruption commission.