

Flash flood in Lalmonirhat, Sunamganj hits 42 villages

STAR NATIONAL DESK
Flash flood hit Lalmonirhat and Sunamganj districts rendering several thousand families at risk yesterday. In Sylhet, flood situation marked slight improvement while a flood control dike in Gaibandha partially collapsed threatening to inundate a number of villages any time. At least five thousand families at 35 villages under four upazilas in Lalmonirhat have been marooned by floodwater yesterday. Onrush of water from upstream and heavy rain in the last 24 hours caused flash flood in the district, WDB officials said. The Teesta crossed danger mark while the Dharla was flowing only one centimeter below red mark yesterday,

theysaid. The worst affected areas are Char Kurul, Mogholhat, Char Kulaghat, Char Boalmari, Rajpur, Char Gokmati, Khuniya Gachh, Char Gokunda, Char Milon Bazar villages of Sadar upazila, Mohisamuri, Char Votmari, Char Kakina, Rudreshwar and Jamirbari villages of Kaliganj upazila, Char Doani, South Goddimari, Char Sindurna, Char Dawabari, Parulia under Hatibandha upazila and Kadomtola, Balapara, Char Gobordhan villages of Aditmari upazila, theysaid. While visiting Gobordhan of Aditmari upazila this correspondent found the village under knee deep water while many of the villagers took shelter on government road and WDB dam.

Mofiz Uddin, 50, Shamsul Haque, 36, Korban Ali, 48, and others of village Gobordhan said that heavy rain in the last 24 hours and water from upstream increased the water level of the Teesta river and flooded their homes yesterday. In Sunamganj, heavy rain coupled with onrush of hillwater triggered flash flood in the vast areas including district headquarters, rendering hundreds of families marooned. Flood Control Cell of Sunamganj WDB said the Surma was flowing 42cm above the danger level near the district town yesterday, reports UNB. Floodwater engulfed low-lying areas of the district town and Sadar and Tahirpur upazilas.



PHOTO: STAR
This Argentine supporter paints the flag of his favourite team on his shaven head, as if his jersey and a flag symbolising the country were not enough to express his admiration for the hot favourite of the ongoing World Cup football tournament. The photo was taken from Radhaganj Bazar in Kotalipara of Gopalganj district yesterday.



PHOTO: STAR
A man along with his child starts for a safer place on a raft as flash flood washed away their house at Char Gobordhan village in Aditmari upazila of Lalmonirhat district yesterday.

Besides, it entered three other upazilas - Biswambarpur, Doarabazaar and Jamalganj-on Tuesday. Local administration said floodwater submerged 12 villages in Tahirpur rendering several hundred families marooned. A big portion of Sunamganj municipality, including Barapara, Pashchim Bazaar, Maachh Bazaar, Shologhar and Nabinagar went under water as the rain continued, they added. Flood situation in Sylhet region marked slight improvement during the last 24 hours. However, onrush of water from the upstream continued amid less rainfall during the period. Flood and disaster management minister Dr Abdur Razzaque yesterday visited the affected areas in Fenchuganj, Balaganj, Osmanagar and Biswanath upazilas in Sylhet and Kamolganj upazila in Moulvibazar yesterday, reports our staff correspondent. Water level in the rivers also came down yesterday although all were still flowing above danger mark at all points, official sources informed. Our Correspondent in Gaibandha reports: At least 200 meters of Teesta flood control dike in Sunderganj upazila collapsed yesterday due to onrush of water from upstream and increase in water level in the Teesta river. Local water development board completed construction work of the dike from Tarapur and Kaspasia last month spending around Tk two crore 43 lakh to save over five thousand people from flooding during rainy season. A large chunk of dike at Nizamkha has already been collapsed and cracks developed at many other points due to heavy rain for the last three days. The dike now turned most vulnerable and might be snapped at any time if water level increases further. People of Nizamkha, Chachia Mirganj, Tarapur and Khordia villages are worried as the Teesta, fed by rainwater, is now flowing slightly below danger mark. Locals along with WDB workers are trying to stop further cracks using bamboos and earth.

BSF hands over criminal to BDR

A CORRESPONDENT, Benapole

Border Security Force (BSF) on Tuesday handed over a notorious Bangladeshi criminal to BDR through Benapole border check post. Later, port police arrested Harun-Ur-Rashid alias Falu, the second-in-command of the gang of top terror Fingey Liton of Jessore. Falu is son of Abdur Majid Sheikh of Barandi Para in Jessore. Officer-in-charge Abu Bakkar of Benapole port police station said on March 10, BSF arrested Falu from Petrapole border while he was fleeing to India through Benapole border. Later, Falu was sent to Bongaon sub-jail. He was handed over to BDR by BSF at 9:30 pm on Tuesday. Falu is wanted in a number of murder and extortion cases, the OC said.

KU finally becomes lenient with 34 offenders

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

The authorities of Khulna University (KU) have finally become lenient with 34 students who were punished for untoward incident on the campus on April 5. The academic council took the decision in a special meeting Tuesday afternoon with Vice-Chancellor Prof Mohammad Safiuddin Shah in the chair, said a press release yesterday. The VC called the special meeting on request from Khulna City Mayor Talukder Abdul Khaleque to reconsider the deci-

sion taken against 34 students. The mayor made the request to the VC while visiting 77 students, including the punished ones, who went on fast-unto-death on June 14 to press home their demand for withdrawal of punishment of 34 students. The students withdrew their programme on June 17 as the mayor assured them of taking necessary steps to resolve the problem without harming their academic career. According to the decision of the academic council, four permanently expelled students will now face expulsion for two years and are to pay a fine of Tk 5,000 each. They are Bappi of business administration, Golam Faruque of social science, Abir Hossain of urban planning and Zakaria Jabbar of architecture departments. Seven students, who were expelled for two years and fined Tk 15,000 each, will now face expulsion from the campus for one year and are to pay a fine of Tk 5,000 each. Expulsion of 13 students has been reduced from one year to six months. They are to pay a fine of Tk 5,000 each.

Nine rescued while being trafficked to India

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Members of Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) yesterday rescued nine people in Jessore and Satkhira while they were being trafficked to India through border. A Correspondent from Benapole, Jessore said, BDR men rescued seven people from Sadipur border yesterday. Acting on a tip-off a BDR team raided Sadipur area and rescued two women, two children and three men. The rescued seven are Swapna Bibi, 8, Fuljan Bibi, 42, Uzzal, 9, Nayan Tara, 15, Abdul Malek, 50, Ali Hossain, 16, and Abu Taher, 30, hailing from different villages of Benapole border. According to the victims, human traffickers took them to the border area promising good jobs in India. A case was lodged with Benapole Port police station in this connection. The traffickers, however, managed to flee the scene. In Satkhira, BDR men rescued two women from Bhdiali, a bordering village in Kalaroa upazila, reports our correspondent. The victims are Susmita, 20, daughter of Mujibar Rahman Tota Mia of village Rajmahal in Kotwali police station under Barisal district and Sagorika, 28, wife of Samir Hossain of village Shyambari in Koshba upazila under Brahmanbaria district. BDR and police sources said, acting on a secret information, a BDR team rescued the two victims while being trafficked to India from Bhdiali village at about 5:00 am yesterday.



PHOTO: STAR
Anti-British revolutionary movement veteran Binod Bhari Chowdhury, garlands Chittagong City Corporation mayor-elect M Manjur Alam, at the latter's Uttar Kattali residence in the port city yesterday.

BNP leader's house attacked allegedly by AL men, 2 shot

Activist injured in intra-party clash, dies

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

Two BNP activists sustained bullet injuries as the house of a BNP leader in Mirpur upazila was attacked allegedly by AL cadres on Tuesday night. The gang also blasted bombs and ransacked business establishment of the BNP leader. According to BNP sources, criminals numbering 20 to 25 led by AL cadre Rajib, stormed into the house of BNP Mirpur upazila unit organising secretary Ali Robban while he along with other family members and supporters were waiting to watch World Cup football match in Pouro area at about 11:15pm. Robban told the journalists that the gang opened fire and blasted several bombs leaving two BNP activists - Kamrul Islam, 33 and Zohurul Islam, 22, injured with bullets on the spot. Of them, Zohurul is elder brother of Robban. The same gang then ransacked Joymon pharmacy, owned by the BNP leader, adjacent to his house and looted medicine, Robban alleged.

Mirpur police station OC however said, criminals attacked the house of BNP leader over previous enmity but there was no gun shot or bomb blast. Robban told this correspondent over phone that he filed a case against some local Awami League leaders and activists in June 2009 after they stabbed his elder brother Zohurul Islam. Recently the ruling party men were pressing him to withdraw the case. Awami League Mirpur upazila unit president Nizam Uddin Light however denied involvement of their leaders and activists in the incident. In Rangpur, a BNP activist died yesterday, a day after he was critically injured in an attack by rivals in Pirganj upazila, reports our correspondent. Aminul Islam, 32, died at Rangpur Medical College and Hospital at about 06:00pm, hospital sources said. Saiful Islam, BNP president of Pirganj upazila unit, said a group of cadres loyal to BNP upazila unit secretary Nazrul Islam Sahazada attacked his supporters near Balua area at about 8:00pm on

Tuesday while they were returning home from a public meeting. At least 25 workers were injured in the attack. Of the injured, Aminul was rushed to hospital as his condition deteriorated. On the other hand, Sahazada claimed that Aminul was a supporter of his group and also blamed the cadres of Saiful for the incident. Rafiqul Islam Saju, a BNP activist of Modankhali union lodged a case with Pirganj police station in the yesterday afternoon. Saiful said as Section 144 was imposed on Abdur Rouf High School ground on Tuesday, his men held a public meeting at Balua, about one km off the upazila headquarters. When BNP men and supporters were returning home, Sahazada's men attacked them on their way, he added. The upazila administration imposed Section 144 on the school ground as two rival groups of BNP of the upazila units announced public meetings there to campaign for June 27 hartal.

Two housewives beaten to death

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Two women, both housewives, were beaten to death allegedly by their husbands on Tuesday in Satkhira and Manikganj. In Satkhira, housewife Taslima Khatun, 28, was beaten to death allegedly by her husband Tajjir Rahman, 35, at village Pakuria in Kalaroa upazila for dowry on Tuesday, reports our correspondent. Quoting locals police said Tajjir of village Pakuria married Abdur Rashid of village Chadra in Keshabpur upazila

in Jessore district about 13 year ago. At the time of marriage, the parents of the victim gave a cow, a gold chain and a bi-cycle as dowry, police said. A few weeks ago, Tajjir demanded a fresh dowry of Tk one lakh and the victim's parents gave Tk. 80,000. But Tajjir continued to torture her for the rest Tk. 20,000, police quoting family sources said. On the fateful day, Tajjir beat up Taslima mercilessly as she refused to go to her parent's house to bring the money. At one stage she died and Tajjir fled home leaving the

body on the verandah. Police recovered the body that bore several marks of injuries and sent it to Satkhira morgue for postmortem. Victim's father Abdur Rashid filed a case with Kalaroa police station accusing Tajjir, Moej Uddin, Chhoto and Shamim. Our Correspondent in Manikganj reports: A woman was beaten to death allegedly by her husband at Gopalkhali village in Sadar upazila on Tuesday. Investigating Officer (IO) of Manikganj Sadar police station sub-inspector Aminur Rahman said

Habibur Rahman, 56, of the village beat up his wife Rahimon Begum, 46, mercilessly with iron rod at around 12:30pm following a family feud. Rahimon received serious injuries in her head and died on way to a nearby hospital. Police recovered the body and sent it to Manikganj Sadar Hospital morgue at night for autopsy. Faruk Hossain, eldest son of the victim, filed a murder case with the Manikganj Sadar police station accusing his father. Police arrested Habibur last night.

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Sd- Company Secretary
Dhaka, June, 22, 2010