



PHOTO: STAR

BARBARIC VENGEANCE! Criminals destroy around 125 fruit bearing mango trees at an orchard owned by Mohammad Shamsul Huda, also the imam of a local mosque, at Ghoshial village in Sreepur upazila of Magura district on Saturday night allegedly following a dispute over formation of the mosque committee.

Trees fall victim to senseless rivalry

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Magura*

Criminals cut down around 125 mango trees at an orchard at Ghoshial village in Sreepur upazila of Magura district on Saturday night.

Mohammad Shamsul Huda, owner of the orchard and also the Imam of a local mosque, told newsmen yesterday morning that he had planted mango saplings on 50 decimals of land four years ago.

"Some villagers are involved in this callous act as I have a rivalry with them over formation of the mosque's committee", Huda said.

He further said that he would file a case with the police station concerned, naming those villages as accused.

Locals have condemned the heinous act and demanded legal steps against the persons involved

"Shamsul Huda planted the mango saplings on the land that he took lease from a local farmer four years back. Stern action should be taken against the culprits who chopped down his fruit-bearing trees," said Akram Hossain Mian, a villager of Ghoshial.

Contacted, Officer-in-Charge (OC) of Sreepur Police Station Kazi Abdus Salek said no case was filed with the police station as of 5:00pm yesterday.

He, however, said they have taken the matter into cognisance and will take necessary steps to find the real culprits.

50 hurt in Bagerhat post-poll violence

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Bagerhat*

At least 50 people including two law enforcers were injured in post-poll violence in Borobaria bazaar area under Chitalmari upazila of the district on Saturday night.

The injured were rushed to Khulna medical college hospital, Chitalmari upazila health complex, Gopalganj Sadar hospital and Tungipara upazila health complex.

Police said the clash ensued at around 7:00pm Saturday in Borobaria bazaar area after an altercation between the supporters of winning union parishad chairman Sheikh Wahiduzzaman Panna and defeated candidate Momtaj Ali Khosru.

Locals said Khosru's supporters earlier beat up Panna's men at a bus stand.

Later, on that evening both the groups engaged in clashes and chase and counter chase, leaving at least 50 people including two members of police and Ansar Chandu Mia, 42, and Zahidul Islam, 30, injured.

A passenger bus and two shops were also damaged during the clash, reports UNB.

Wahiduzzaman Panna, upazila Jubo League unit vice president, was elected UP chairman in the election held in the upazila on March 31.

Police arrested Jahangir Hossain, a supporter of defeated chairman candidate and ruling party

activist Momtaz Ali, in this connection.

Police at night filed a case accusing 227 people in connection with the post-poll violence.

Sub-Inspector (SI) Munshi Abu Kuddus of Chitolmari PS filed the case naming 27 and against unidentified 200 others.

Police later held seven people who were accused in the case.

The arrestees were identified as Arif Sheikh, 24, Sadar Sikdar, 30, Ibrahim Chowdhury, 20, Jamal Sheikh, 38, Halim Sheikh, 31, Hafizur Rahman, 26, and Nazrul Islam, 20.

All of them are residents of Borobaria village in the upazila.



PHOTO: STAR

Law enforcers remove the billboard of a developer company during their five-hour-long drive to recover over 100 acres of khas land from illegal possession of 18 realtors in Kuakata sea beach on Saturday.

100 acres illegally occupied by realtors in Kuakata freed

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Patuakhali*

Members of the Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) conducted a drive on Kuakata sea beach on Saturday and recovered at least 100 acres of khas land worth about Tk 350 crore from illegal possession of 18 realtors.

A team of Rab-8 launched the five-hour drive from 11:00am and demolished illegal structures erected by the developers on government's land and removed their signboards and billboards in presence of Executive Magistrate Taufiqur Rahman.

Lt Nuruzzaman, com-

mander of Rab-8, said the illegal structures erected by 18 developers, grabbing land on the sea beach were demolished during the drive.

Signboards and billboards put up on the beach by the realtors were also removed by the elite force, he added.

10-yr-old rape victim fighting for life

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Satkhira*

A 10-year-old girl who was raped at village Jamalnagar in Assassuni upazila on Friday is now fighting for life at Satkhira Sadar hospital.

Police arrested the alleged rapist Kalidas Goldar, 25, son of Fakir Goldar of the village from his house last night.

Quoting locals police said, while the victim was going to a nearby shop, the accused took her to a bush and raped her at about 8:30am on Friday.

As the girl raised a hue and cry, local people rushed to the spot and rescued her in a pool of blood. She was taken to Satkhira Sadar hospital in critical condition, Dr Monowar Hossain of

Sadar hospital said.

In Rajshahi, an eight-year-old girl was violated by her tutor at Dadpur village under Poba upazila of the district on Monday afternoon, reports our staff correspondent.

The victim, a class II student of a primary school, was rushed to One Stop Crisis Center (OCC) of Rajshahi Medical College Hospital for treatment.

Police quoting the victim's family said the tutor, Arif Hossain, raped the girl finding her alone at the house at around 4:00pm.

Neighbours rescued her as she started screaming and bleeding.

Arif, an HSC student of Nawhata College and son of Mohammad Alan of the same village, went into hid-

ing immediately after the incident, said Abu Obaida, officer-in-charge (OC) of the police station.

In Madaripur, a court sentenced man for life and fined him Tk 2 lakh on Monday for rape of a girl, reports our correspondent.

Convict Nazmul Lopti, son of Abdur Sattar Lopti, hailed from Aamgram village under Rajoir upazila of the district.

District Session Judge Ataur Rahman delivered the verdict in presence of the accused.

According to the case statement, Nazmul picked up the 20-year-old girl by force when she came to Aamgram village to attend an Urs in July 7, 2009 and raped her.

The victim later lodged a case with Rajoir police accusing Nazmul of rape.



Cultural activists under the banner of Sammilito Sangskritik Jote bring out a procession in Pabna town, right, Baul Sanghati Parishad forms a human chain at Chowmohona square in Moulvibazar town yesterday demanding punishment to the religious zealots who assaulted bauls (mystic singers) in Pangsha upazila of Rajbari district on April 5.



PHOTO: STAR

SNIPPETS

Wall collapse hurts 5 kids

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, *Khulna*

Five boys and girls were seriously injured in wall collapse yesterday morning at Basupara under Sonadanga police station of Khulna city. The injured are Rony, 6, Belal, 5, Shahed, 6, Fatema, 6, and Afroza, 7. All of them are students of class one at Islamabad Government Primary School. The accident occurred as a speeding truck, laden with sand, hit a roadside boundary wall. A portion of the wall fell on the kids when they were returning home from their school. They were admitted to Khulna Medical College Hospital (KMCH) in critical condition. Police seized the truck while its driver escaped soon after the accident.

OMS rice seized

A CORRESPONDENT, *Bagerhat*

Coastguard personnel Sunday morning seized a cargo with 150 sacks of rice meant for open market sale (OMS) and arrested a man in Mongla upazila of Bagerhat. Acting on a tip-off, a coastguard team from Mongla found the rice in MV Rana Reza and arrested Nazrul Islam Sharder, informed Lt Ziaul Haque, operation officer of Coastguard West Zone. The arrestee along with the rice was later handed over to Mongla police station. Arrestee Nazrul told police he bought the OMS rice from Alamgir Kabiraj, a resident of Bhandaria upazila in Pirojpur, and was taking it to Khulna to sell at regular market.

Jatka seized in N'ganj

UNB, *Narayanganj*

Members of Coastguard in a drive seized 100 maunds 'jatka' (hilsa fry) from a launch in Dhaleswari river at Pagla Saturday morning. Acting on a tip-off, a Pagla Coastguard team conducted the drive in the river and seized the jatka from the Dhaka-bound launch MV Gazi-4 at around 6:30am. Later, the seized fries were handed over to officials of fisheries department to take legal action. None was arrested in this connection.

Outlaw held in Pabna

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Pabna*

A 'regional leader' of outlawed Purba Banglar Communist Party (PBCP) Red Flag faction was held in Santhia upazila on Saturday night. The arrestee is Md. Islam Khan, 35, son of Abul Kashem of village Lakhmipur in the upazila. Islam is the regional leader of PBCP Red Flag faction, also accused in several cases including murder, police said. Officer-in-charge of Santhia police station SM Bazlur Rashid said, on a tip-off, police raided Lakhmipur village on Saturday and arrested Islam near his residence. The arrestee was sent to jail yesterday.

Trader dies at Baishakhi fair

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Moulvibazar*

A trader died on the 'Baishakhi Mela' (fair) ground at Srimongal upazila headquarters of Moulvibazar on Saturday night. The dead was identified as Altaf Hussain, 35, son of late Tara Miah of Gazipur village in Srimongal upazila. Police at Srimongal police station claimed that Altaf Miah, while riding a 'Nagor Dola' (merry-go-round), died of heart attack. But Abdul Mannan, leader of Srimongal NAP (Muzaffar) and father-in-law of younger sister of Altaf suspected that police charged batons at the mela and Altaf died following the baton charge. He said, police brought Altaf to Srimongal upazila health complex where on the duty doctor declared him dead. Md Abdullah, officer-in-charge (OC) of Srimongal police station however said he sees no reason to baton Altaf. He died of heart attack because of riding 'Nagor Dola', he said.

BCL committee at Sust

SUST CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Chattrra League (BCL) has announced a convening committee for Shahjalal University of Science & Technology (SUST) on Saturday night. Samsuzzaman Chowdhury Suman became the convener of the 7-member body. The joint conveners are -- Naeem Hasan, Asaduzzaman Asad, Kamruzzaman Sweet, Mahibul Hasan Mukit, Atikur Rahman and Hafizur Rahman Hafiz. "The committee will perform the activities until a complete body is announced through council later." Said Mahfuzul Hayder Chowdhury Ratan, general secretary of the central body. The last SUST BCL unit committee was formed in 2003 and its tenure expired on 13 July, 2010.

Storm damages crops, houses

UNB, *Natore*

A severe storm accompanied by hails lashed Singra upazila of the district damaging standing Boro crops on 3000 hectares of the land Saturday evening. Local sources said the storm hit 30 villages of Ramananda-Khajura, Sukash, Itali and Chougram unions at 5 pm. The violent storm also damaged 50 dwelling houses and uprooted a huge number of trees in the villages.

10 sued for double murder

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Rangamati*

Baghaichhari police could not arrest any culprit till yesterday after a case was filed for Wednesday's double murder at Kadamtali village in Marishya Union under Baghaichhari upazila. Chijimoni Chakma and his two-year old daughter were shot dead by unknown criminals at his residence. Victim's wife Ratna Chakma filed a murder case accusing ten people with Baghaichhari police station in this connection. Nayeem Uddin, officer in-charge (OC) of Baghaichhari police said.

Fraud jailed for 3 years

UNB, *Jhalakati*

A Senior Judicial Magistrate court here on Tuesday sentenced a fraud to three years imprisonment for cheating a man in the name of sending him abroad. The court also fined Mohiuddin Chunnur of Palot village in Rajapur upazila Tk 10,000, in default, to suffer one year RI more. According to the prosecution, the convict took Tk 1.15 lakh from Rustam Ali of Station Road area of the town on November 14 in 2006 for sending him to Middle East. But he failed to send him to Middle East and refund the money.