

395 sacks of OMS rice seized from 3 districts

STAR NATIONAL DESK

Law enforcers seized 395 sacks of rice meant for Open Market Sale (OMS) from Bagerhat, Brahmanbaria and Laxmipur yesterday and the day before.

In Bagerhat, coastguards detained a cargo barge at Laudob under Mongla upazila of Bagerhat district early Sunday and seized 150 sacks of OMS rice, according to our staff correspondent from Khulna.

They (coastguards) arrested driver (Lashkar) of the barge Nazrul Islam, 30, as could not show any document in support of carrying the rice. Five others, including master of the barge Shohag and Shukani Gopal Mondol, jumped into the Passur River and managed to escape.

Commander Aminul

Islam Khan of Coastguard West Zone (Mongla) said the barge, MV Rana-Reza, was carrying 150 bags of OMS rice to Khulna from Bhandaria upazila of Pirojpur district.

During interrogation, the arrested driver said Alamgir Kabiraj of Bhandaria upazila is owner of the barge. One hundred and fifty out of 300 sacks of rice loaded in the barge from Bhandaria on Saturday were sold in black market while on way to Khulna via Mongla, he added.

Coastguards handed over the OMS rice and barge to Mongla police on Sunday afternoon. Sub Inspector Abdus Sattar filed a case naming the arrestee as accused of carrying OMS rice without any legal document.

Officer-in-Charge of

Mongla Police Station Nikhil Chandra Mondol told this correspondent yesterday that the driver of the barge would be taken on remand for interrogation.

Our B'baria correspondent reported that Rab members seized 84 sacks of OMS rice and arrested two traders at Bhairab Bazar under Ashuganj upazila of the district on Sunday.

The arrestees are OMS dealer Swapon Mia of Bayek village under Lalpur Union of Ashuganj upazila, and Ramzan Mia, proprietor of Ramzan Traders at Bhairab Bazar.

Acting on a tip-off, a team of Rab-9 raided Ramzan's shop at Bhairab Bazar at 8:30pm and seized 84 sacks of OMS rice weighing 5420 kg from there. They arrested Ramzan on the spot.

Ramzan told Rab person-

nel that he bought the OMS rice from dealer Swapon of Ashuganj. Later, the elite force arrested Swapon Bayek village under Ashuganj upazila.

Two separate cases were filed with Ashuganj and Bhairab police stations.

In Laxmipur, around 161 sacks of OMS rice were seized from a godown in Terbeki area of the district town yesterday.

On secret information, police led by Sadar Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) SM Nazrul Islam and district food officer Abdul Malek raided a godown owned by Ibrahim Khokon and seized 161 sacks of OMS rice from there.

Later, the UNO sealed off the godown and cancelled the dealership of Khokon's son Titu.

Female schoolteacher abducted in Tangail

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

A gang of criminals on Sunday abducted a female teacher of a primary school at Ghatail upazila.

The victim, Shathi Ghosh, 22, was an assistant teacher of Kuri Para Govt Primary School in the upazila.

The gang forcibly picked her on a microbus when she was waiting for bus to go to school in front of the upazila parishad in the morning, police and witnesses said.

After the incident, the victim's cousin Laxman Chandra Ghosh filed a case with Ghatail Police Station in this connection.

In the case statement, he accused one Basu Ghosh, 25, of Falda village in Bhuapur upazila of the district of teasing his cousin (female

schoolteacher) on her way to the school for long. On the day of incident, Basu abducted Shathi with the help of his four accomplices, he stated in the statement.

Contacted, Mominur Rahman, officer-in-charge (OC) of Ghatail Police Station, said they were trying to rescue the victim. "Police were informed that the abducted female teacher had an affair with Basu," the OC added.

In Kishoreganj, a youth was sentenced to life imprisonment and find Tk 20 thousand, in default, to suffer one year more in jail on April 12 for killing a primary schoolteacher.

The convict, Rafiqul Islam, 30, is son of Taru Mia of Kalatali village in Karimganj upazila of the district, reports our corre-

spondent.

According to the prosecution, Rafiqul Islam stabbed Amena Akhter Mani, 28, an assistant teacher of Adarsha Government Primary School in the town while she was going to PTI training centre in the town from her father's residence on April 9, 2008.

Wife of Noor Muhammad of Kendua in Netrakona, Amena died on the spot. According to family members of the victim, Rafiq used to tease Mani and make indecent proposals.

On April 10, Amena's father Atiqur Rahman filed a murder case with Kishoreganj Sadar Police Station accusing Rafiq.

Second Additional District and Sessions Judge Tabassum Islam handed down the verdict.

Storm lashes Sherpur, one killed, 3 hurt

UNB, Sherpur

A woman was killed during a storm that lashed Haldibata village under Jhenaigati upazila of the district yesterday afternoon.

The deceased is Sabuza Begum, 25, wife of Kashem Ali of the village.

Over 100 trees were uprooted and many houses damaged when the storm accompanied by hails swept over different areas of Sadar, Jhenaigati, Sreebardi, Nokla, and Nalitabari upazilas of the district about 3pm.

Meanwhile, three people-Moshiur Rahman, 32, of Gondigaon village of Jhenaigati upazila, Rabbani, 28, and Golam Ali, 42, of Kharria village of Sadar upazila were injured in lightning strike.

The injured were admitted to Sadar hospital.

Drug peddler arrested

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

Detective Branch (DB) of police yesterday arrested a drug peddler with 10 yaba tablets at a mess in Dhulerchar area in the district town.

The arrestee, Wazed Ali Master, is a yaba wholesaler, police said.

Rapist jailed for 14 years

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

A court here yesterday sentenced a man to 14 years' imprisonment for raping a schoolgirl after abducting her in Biral upazila about six years ago, court sources said.

The convict, Md Azharul

Islam was son of late Tayab Ali of Chhoto Baiddyanathpur village in the same upazila.

The court also filed him Tk.10,000, in default, to suffer additional imprisonment for two more years. According to the prosecution, Azhar abducted the 14-year-old schoolgirl of

Rabipur village while she was going to school on June 15, 2005.

After abduction, the convict raped the girl confining herself to a room. Later police rescued her.

Victim's father filed a case with Biral police accusing Azhar.



Felicitations

To His Excellency

Mahinda Rajapaksa

The President of the Democratic Socialist

Republic of Sri Lanka

On the occasion of His State visit to

The People's Republic of Bangladesh



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Warm Welcome
To
His Excellency
Mahinda Rajapaksa
The President of the
Democratic Socialist Republic of
Sri Lanka



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