

# Worrying bomb blasts in Meherpur

16 in August alone while other crimes in the district are also on the rise

AMANUR AMAN, Kushtia

Frequent bomb blasts in Meherpur district by criminals including extortionists and outlaws have become a cause of concern for the people.

At least 16 such incidents of bomb blast took place in the district in the month of August alone claiming a life and injuring 15 others.

Criminals in the district also shot two people dead and slit throat of another in the same month.

Other crimes, including rape, robbery, extortion and violence have also marked a steady rise.

Police records show that law enforcement agencies seized 17 live bombs, nine different firearms, and eight bullets over the same period.

Police also arrested seven people in connection with the crimes

including bomb blasts.

According to official records, at least seven bombs were blasted in the month of July and eight live bombs were seized by law enforcers. Three people were injured in the blasts.

The last bomb blast as per police records occurred on August 27. The bomb went off when a cadre of an outlawed party was making them at his house at Bamundi village of Gangni upazila in the district. Police arrested the alleged bomb maker Azmot and seized two live bombs.

August 23 saw death of an activist of ruling Awami League after his rivals from BNP threw a bomb on him during a clash between them at Goalgram village of the same upazila.

On August 22, one person was injured when robbers threw bombs on people in Stadiumpara

area in Meherpur town. The gang exploded bombs when people chased them.

Police arrested one of the robbers within two hours of the incident and seized two LGs and two bombs from him.

On August 19, police recovered five bombs from Milemari village in Gangni upazila.

On August 17, police arrested five robbers and recovered looted valuables. Two firearms and three bombs were recovered from them. On the same day, Bangladesh Border Guard (BGB) recovered one bomb from Khasmahal border point in the district.

On August 14, Rapid Action Battalion (Rab-6) seized two firearms from a bus on the Meherpur-Mujibnagar route.

On August 11, armed robbers blasted at least five bombs while looting a house at Bamanpara in Meherpur town. People caught

one of the robbers and handed him over to police.

On August 2, Rab-6 found two bombs at a godown at Saharabati village.

Meanwhile, police recovered six bombs from a graveyard in Gangni upazila on Sunday.

A police team from Pirtala camp raided the graveyard at Harbhanga village in the evening and found the bombs kept in a polythene bag.

Locals and police said several outlawed parties and gangs have regrouped and resumed their criminal activities in the areas. A number of notorious criminals and outlawed party leaders have returned to their old dens, they said.

A section of ruling party leaders are allegedly harbouring the outlawed party leaders and cadres who move with them in the guise of 'party men'.

These criminals evade arrest as

a section of political leaders and local influential people shelter them. The ruling party men use them for establishing supremacy in their respective areas, a police official alleged.

Police sources said, at least a dozen outlawed parties are active in the region and an unspecified number of illegal firearms are under their possession.

These outfits have around 5,000 cadres who belong to Purbo Banglar Communist Party (PBCP-ML)--Janajuddho faction, PBCP-ML, New Biplobi Communist Party (NBCP), Gono Bahini (GB), Gono Mukti Fouz (GMF), Banglar Communist Party, Socialist Party (SP), Biplobi Anuragi, Chinnamul Communist Party (CCP) and Sharbahara Janatar Mancha.

## SNAPS AND SNIPPETS

### Outlaw hacked to death

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

An operative of Janajuddha faction of outlawed Purba Banglar Communist Party (PBCP) was hacked to death early yesterday at a remote village in Pabna. Police recovered the body of Abu Hanif, 35, of Santhia upazila, at about 9:00am from Goyalgram village in Faridpur upazila. Md Abdul Hamid, officer in-charge of Faridpur police station, said the body was left on the spot after the criminals hacked Hanif to death. His body bore marks of many injuries, he said adding the body was sent to Pabna Medical College and Hospital morgue for autopsy.

### Man killed in Fatikchhari

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Khagrachhari

Criminals shot dead a young man in Sarkari Daba area under Fatikchhari upazila of Chittagong yesterday. The victim was identified as Nirmal Chakma, 30, son of Pulindra Chakma of Dudduri village under Lakshmichhari upazila of Khagrachhari district. Police said, a group of criminals numbering 8-10 opened fire on Nirmal at Sarkari Daba area after he went to the nearest Somurhat bazar in the morning. The criminals also chopped Nirmal with sharp weapons and fled the scene leaving the body, said officer in-charge of Fatikchhari police station Liakat Ali. Meanwhile, Lakshmichhari upazila coordinator of United People's Democratic Front (UPDF) Sulka Chakma condemned the incident. He blamed their rival Parbatya Chattagram Jana Sanghati Samity (PCJSS) for the incident and demanded immediate arrest of the criminals.

### Youth jailed for stalking

A CORRESPONDENT, Jamalpur

A mobile court yesterday convicted a youth for sexually harassing a schoolgirl and sentenced him to six months' imprisonment in Bakshiganj upazila. The convict was identified as Rashed, 25, son of late Abu Zafar of Nilokkhia village under Bakshiganj upazila of the district. According to police, Rashed used to tease the girl on her way to and from school. Being informed, police arrested him while teasing the girl on Monday afternoon.

### Wheat meant for VGD seized

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Bahubal police in Habiganj yesterday seized 250 sacks of wheat allotted for VGD programme while those were being taken for selling on black market. The truck used for the purpose was also seized and seven people were arrested. They are Hasheem Mia, Shahrukh Miah, Rama Sattan and Kajol Miah, all aged below 30. Officer in-charge of Bahubal police station Inspector Syeduzzaman told this correspondent that acting on a tip-off the lawmen raided Shahin Traders at Bahubal Bhiton Bazaar and seized the said wheat.

### Two electrocuted in N'ganj

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Narayanganj

Two people were electrocuted in separate incidents in Araihaazar and Bandor upazilas of the district on Monday night and yesterday. Office in-charge of Araihaazar police station Syed Nazrul Islam said yesterday morning that Tanvir, 7, son of Abdul Aziz received severe shock at his residence at Panchbaria village while repairing an electric switch. He later died at Araihaazar upazila health complex. Harun-or-Rashid, officer in-charge of Bandor police station said Palash, 25, son of Tamiz Uddin was electrocuted at a dockyard in Sonakanda area while he was giving an illegal electric connection from a power pole.

### Three pirates arrested

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Police arrested three notorious pirates early Sunday from Bakultala village under Mongla upazila of Bagerhat district. The arrestees were identified as Bacchu, 36, son of Jalil Khan, Baki, 34, and Khalil, 30, sons of Kuddus Khan of the same upazila. All of them belonged to notorious Raju Bahini of the Sundarbans and so long wanted in several criminal cases for extortion and kidnapping of fishermen for ransom, police said. They are being interrogated at Mongla PS in connection with some recent incidents of piracy, police said.



PHOTO: COURTESY  
Local lawmaker Col (retd) Oli Ahmad inaugurates the development work of Advocate Badiul Alam Road running from Zoara Buddhist temple to Fatenagar in Chandnais upazila of Chittagong district recently.

## College student murdered

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Faridpur

Criminals hacked a college student to death in broad daylight in front of his college in Sadar upazila yesterday.

Victim Mahfuzur Rahman Limon, 18, was an HSC student at Faridpur Muslim Mission College (FMMC) at Komorpur.

He was a son of Arob Ali, labour welfare secretary of Faridpur Sadar upazila Awami League.

Police arrested Md. Akram Khan alias Ahmmad Khan, son of Akter Khan, of Shovarampur village for interrogation.

Locals said, five to six criminals swooped on Limon at around 10:30am when he was going to college at Komorpur and stabbed him indiscriminately. He was rushed to Faridpur General Hospital where the on-duty doctor declared him dead.

Police later sent the body to Faridpur Medical College Hospital morgue for autopsy.

The murder might have been a sequel to conflict over affairs with a girl, said Abul Basar, sub-inspector of Faridpur Kotwali police station.

Some of Limon's classmates were said to be involved in the killing, he said.

Abdullah Al Mamun, principal of FMMC, condemning the killing said Limon was very gentle boy. He demanded punishment to the criminals.

## Deed writers go on strike in B'baria

UNB, B'baria

Sub-registrar and employees of land registry office in Banchharampur upazila went on strike for indefinite period yesterday protesting attack on them by local Jubo League activists.

Local sources said Biplob and Awal, leaders of Jubo League Banchharampur upazila unit, along with their supporters numbering 4/5 attacked the deed writers and employees of local sub-registry office over registration of a deed on Monday noon.

They beat up the sub-registrar and employees of the registry office. Being outraged at the incident deed writers and other employees of the registry office stayed away from work yesterday morning.

"We will continue our strike until the attackers are punished," Shahid Mia and Hanif Mia, president and acting secretary general respectively of deed writers association, said.

A GD was filed in this connection with Banchharampur PS. When contacted, OC of Banchharampur PS Md. Alauddin said they were investigating the incident.



PHOTO: FOCUS BANGLA

Farmers busy preparing seedbeds for cauliflower and cabbage a couple of months before the advent of winter, as early varieties of the popular cold season vegetables grow abundantly in northern districts. The photo was taken from Mirzapur in Bogra district a few days ago.

## Rival BNP men in Barisal lock in fierce clash

8 injured, 6 vehicles damaged

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

At least eight people were injured and six vehicles damaged during a fierce clash between two rival groups of BNP in Barisal city yesterday.

Police charged batons on the clashing groups and arrested 10 BNP men.

The trouble began at around 11:30am when the district unit brought out a procession from court point in the city in observance of the third anniversary of BNP Chairperson's Khaleda Zia's release from jail.

When the procession reached near Fazlul Huq Avenue-Kakoli crossing, the supporters of city BNP President advocate Mojibur Rahman Sarwar swooped on it, prompting the supporters of district BNP President Ahsan Habib Kamal and General Secretary Bilkis Jahan Shirin to retaliate.

The feuding groups used sticks, hurled brick chips and chased each other during the clash, leaving at least eight activists from both sides injured.

They also damaged six vehicles and three rickshaws. Police charged batons to disperse the rival BNP men and arrested 10

activists of both sides. The arrestees are Babul, Saidul, Aslam, Anwar Hossain, Harunur Rashid, Kabul, Faruk, Sardar Babul, Mizan and Razu Howladar.

Bilkis Jahan Shirin, district BNP general secretary, said their political rivals attacked the procession to foil BNP programme. No case from any of the two sides was lodged with Kotwali Police Station as of 6:00pm yesterday.

District Jubo Dal leader Ziauddin Shikdar said the clash was a sequel to the internal conflict of the local BNP.

received his MSc in geology from Dhaka University and served Petrobangla for some time, family sources said.

Then he joined the American company to conduct seismic survey for oil and gas reserve in the Gulf of Mexico last year, they said.

"Nadim had a dream to bring glory for the country through his professional success abroad. But his premature death put an end to the dream," Moniruzzaman said.

"We are expecting to receive Nadim's body in Dhaka by September 19," said Md Lintu Rahman, maternal uncle of the deceased.

After floating for three days, seven of them were rescued alive on Sunday.

"Geokinetics company in an email at about 4:30am on Monday informed us that Nadim, rescued from the sea with injuries, was fighting for life. At about 8:30am the company sent another email, informing that he is no more. His wife rushed to Mexico today [Tuesday] to receive the body," said Md Moniruzzaman, elder brother of the deceased.

Nadim's wife and two children reside in Canada. Nadimuzzaman, 40, son of late Kamal Uddin of Chakpailanpur village in Pabna municipality,

## MEXICO HURRICANE

### Geologist Nadim of Bangladesh dies

AHMED HUMAYUN KABIR TOPI, Pabna

Hurricane victim Bangladesh geologist Nadimuzzaman Khan, working at American oil and gas exploration company Geokinetics, died at a hospital in Mexico on Monday.

Earlier on Thursday, Nadim along with nine other workers of Geokinetics took shelter in a life raft during the onslaught of hurricane in the Gulf of Mexico.

After floating for three days, seven of them were rescued alive on Sunday.

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PHOTO: STAR

BNP activists vandalise vehicles on the road in Barisal city during their attack on the intra-party opponents who had brought out a procession marking the third anniversary of party Chairperson Khaleda Zia's release from jail.

## 250 more bullets seized in Jhenaigati

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

Around 250 rifle bullets were recovered from a village close to the border in Jhenaigati upazila of Sherpur yesterday morning.

A team of Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) led by BGB Nakshi camp of Border

Outpost (BOP) Commander Nayek Subedar Habibur Rahman conducted the raid around 9:15am.

The bullets were wrapped in polythene and hid inside a sack filled with husk at an abandoned kitchen of one Bahadur Ali's house, said Major Abu Horaira of BGB Mymensingh Sector.

The bullets were handed over to Jhenaigati police station, he said.

Though a case was lodged, none was arrested till filing this report yesterday afternoon.

On September 5, a Rab team recovered three live rocket shells from Bakakura village of Jhenaigati.

Earlier on August 25, police recovered 1,219 bullets from Boro Gazni village under the same upazila and arrested one Saiful Islam in this connection.

Around 995 bullets were recovered from Bakakura village and 290 bullets from another village of the same upazila in May and July this year.