

SNAPS AND SNIPPETS

Two siblings drown

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kishoreganj
Two siblings drowned in a pond in Satal Pakkar Matha area in the town yesterday morning. The deceased were identified as Srishti Talukder, 7, and her brother Asim Talukder, 5, children of Kajal Talukder, a trader of the area. Locals said around 10:00am Kajal's wife Nisha Talukder along with her son and daughter went to the bank of a pond near their house for bathing. At one stage, Nisha returned to her house for household work leaving her kids on the bank of the pond. She found her children floating in the pond when she went there at 11:30 am.

800 Jamaat men sued

UNB, Biamibazar (Sylhet)
Police on Wednesday filed a case against 800 leaders and activists of Jamaat-e-Islami following a clash with police. Of the accused, 49 were named while others unidentified. Upazila Ameer Moulana Faizul Islam, Nayeb-e-Amir Syed Abu Jafar and general secretary Mostafa were among the accused named in the case. Police arrested nine Jamaat activists till Wednesday. A joint procession brought out by Jamaat and Islami Chhatra Shibir came under police obstruction at college road crossing here on Tuesday. As the processionists tried to proceed defying the obstruction, the law enforcers charged baton on them triggering a clash.



PHOTO: STAR
A devastating fire gutted 17 shops at Chatkhil Bazar in Noakhali causing an estimated loss of Tk 2 crore property. Businessmen of the area later held a human chain at Chatkhil town for about one hour from 12 noon demanding setting up of a fire service station in the area.

Ferry runs aground

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Manikganj
Ro Ro ferry Shah Ali, carrying eight buses and five small vehicles, ran aground near Daulatdia ghat (terminal) at around 8:30 am yesterday within five minutes of its journey. Rescue vessel IT-389 salvaged the stranded ferry at 10:30 am, the BIWTC officials said. Frequent suspension of ferry services on Paturia-Daulatdia route has been disrupting communication between Dhaka and 21 south-western districts for the last nine days. Ferries plying on the Paturia-Daulatdia route were forced to reduce their capacity by more than half due to low navigability of the Padma River.

Outlaw held in Pabna

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna
An operative of outlawed Purba Banglar Communist Party (PBPC)-Red flag faction, was held with firearms from Doyarampur village in Santhia upazila on Wednesday night. Arrestee Md Shomsher Ali, of Fulbaria village in Santhia upazila is a regional leader of the outfit, police said. Officer in-charge of Atikula police station Md Robiul Hasan said, acting on a tip-off, Atikula police raided Doyarampur field on Wednesday night when the outlaws gathered there to commit a crime. Police detained Shomsher from the spot while his accomplices fled away. A gun was recovered from the spot.

Enclave people declare 10-day agitation

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Thakurgaon
Enclave people of Bangladesh and India yesterday declared a 10-day agitation programme from 23 September demanding early implementation of the enclave exchange deal between the two countries. Chairman of Shalbari Indian enclave Sirajul Islam announced the programme at a press conference held of Garati enclave in Panchagarh Sadar upazila. Chairman of Puthimari enclave Toslimuddin, Joy Prokash of Nagirganj enclave, Mokhlesar Rahman of Kajoldighi enclave, Abul Hossain of Natoktoka enclave were present. The agitation programme includes campaign for creating public opinion in towns and villages in favour of their demands, mass signature collection, silent procession, bi-cycle procession and stop oven burning in enclaves. Leaders of India-Bangladesh Enclave Exchange Coordination Committee said similar programmes were also announced in Bangladeshi enclaves inside India on the day. "We will observe the same programmes in all the

Indian enclaves inside Bangladesh." We want a specific time for early implementation of the enclave exchange deal, they said adding that their movement will continue until fulfillment of the demands. According to official estimate, Bangladesh has 51 enclaves inside India. Similarly, India has 111 enclaves inside Bangladesh. Indian enclaves inside Bangladesh are situated in four districts -- Panchagarh, Lalmonirhat, Kurigram and Nilphamari -- while all 51 Bangladeshi enclaves are in Indian Cooch Behar district.



Waiting to be in the wild again
PHOTO: STAR
Locals rescued this phayre's leaf monkey, locally known as chashma pora bandar, from Husenabad Khasia Paan Punjee (betel garden) in Srimongal upazila of Moulvibazar district on Wednesday afternoon and handed over to Sitesh Ranjan Deb, chairman of Bonyapran Seba Foundation. The wildlife conservator said it is an 'extremely endangered' species in the country.

Mockery of Justice
Culprit at large as girl groans in pain

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Faridpur
Physically assaulted by village arbitrators, an 11-year-old girl is groaning in pain at Bhanga upazila hospital bed. Though the girl was a victim of harassment by two local youths at Ghaura village on September 11, the arbitrators accused her of sexually alluring one of the two and beat her severely. Following a case filed by her father with Bhanga Police Station, accusing 10 people on September 12, police arrested seven of them the same day. The arrestees are stalkers Iqbal Matabbar, 35 and Taher Matabbar, and arbitrators Rafiq Matabbar, 55, Yunus Matabbar, 50, Sharif Munshi, 30, Jalal Matabbar, 30, and Ershad Sheikh, 25. Police quoted the victim's family as saying that Iqbal Matabbar had been stalking the girl, a class four student of a local primary school at Ghaura village, on her way to and from the school for over a month. According to case statement, Iqbal and his accomplice Taher Matabbar tried to take the girl to a house beside a road while she was returning home from her relative's house at around 8:00am on September 11. As she cried for help, locals rescued her. Iqbal and Taher managed to flee the scene. Hearing the news, Alamgir Matabbar, 50, former chairman of Ghaura union, called a salish (arbitration) at his house at Ghaura village at around 8:00pm on September 11. At the arbitration, Taher, one of the two youths and also an accused in the case, blamed the girl for the incident, saying that she talked to Iqbal over cellphone and requested him to come to the scene. On Taher's statement, arbitrator Alamgir Matabbar and others accused the girl of sexually alluring Iqbal and beat her unconscious. Later she was admitted to Bhanga Upazila Health Complex, police quoting locals said. Contacted, the officer-in-charge of Bhanga police station said the main arbitrator Alamgir Matabbar is still at large and they are trying to arrest him and two other accused in the case. Hasina Mosharraf, a leader of Bangladesh Mohila Parishad Faridpur unit, demanded exemplary punishment to the accused and immediate arrest of the main arbitrator.

Man, his son electrocuted in Dhamrai

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Manikganj
A man and his son were electrocuted while another son was injured at Bhalum village under Sanora union of Dhamrai upazila of Dhaka on Wednesday night. The dead were identified as Emarat Hossain, 65, of the village and his son Shamim, 22. The injured son is Alim, 25. Emarat Hossain was electrocuted at a poultry farm of Anwar Hossain of the village on his way home from a nearby mosque. Alim and Shamim, two sons of Emarat while looking for their father entered the farm where Shamim was electrocuted at 11:30pm. Alim was injured when he tried to rescue them, police said.

Rival physicians assault KMCH superintendent

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna
The superintendent of Khulna Medical College and Hospital (KMCH) was assaulted by a group of physicians at the hospital yesterday. The superintendent, Dr Kazi Hamid Asgar, came under attack while he was coming out of the conference room after holding a meeting at around 11:30am. The attackers also warned the superintendent of severe consequences if he intervenes in policy making matters of the hospital in the future. Contacted, Dr Hamid Asgar denied the incident of beating, saying that a group of physicians hurled abuse at him. Swadhinata Chikitsak Parisahd (SCP) convened the meeting to discuss the untoward incident that occurred on Wednesday over selection of the chief guest at a function for installation of a most modern Endoscopy machine for gastroenterology department of the KMCH. At a meeting on Wednesday, name of Dr Sheikh Baharul Alam, president of the Khulna unit of the parishad and central vice president of Bangladesh Medical Association (BMA) was proposed as chief guest of the function by a group of Swadhinata Chikitsak Parisahd (SCP). But their rival groups in the SCP opposed it, saying that the proposal was made without prior permission of Superintendent Dr Hamid Asgar. At one stage, scuffle broke out between the rival groups of physicians. Being informed, police rushed to the spot and brought the situation under control.

PUSHING OFF TRAINS
Punish killers, stop repeat of tragedy

Human chain demands
OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh
A human chain was formed in front of Mymensingh Press Club yesterday demanding punishment to culprits who killed two university students and two others on September 7. Besides locals, the human chain was joined by the classmates and family members of the victims. Four people died and three others were injured as muggers pushed them off the trains after looting their belongings. Railway police of Mymensingh and Jamalpur recovered the bodies the next day from four points of Mymensingh-Jamalpur railway track. The two students were identified as Rezaul Karim Reza, 22, son of Nabab Ali and Pritom Kumar Biswas Shouvik, 23, son of late Prodip Kumar Biswas of Mymensingh town. They were studying at Daffodil University and Shanta-Marium University in Dhaka. Reza and Pritom were traveling by Dhaka-bound Aghnibina intercity train from Jamalpur. The speakers at a rally after the human chain said that the two students were killed by the muggers as they resisted them on Aghnibina train. They urged the people to unite against the criminals to stop repeat of such incidents in future. A protest procession followed the rally which paraded the main thoroughfares of the town. A memorandum was also submitted to the Deputy Commissioner of Mymensingh. Among others Reza's father Nabab Ali and Shouvik's mother Priti Biswas were present at the programmes. Two police constables and two ansar personnel on duty on Aghnibina train were suspended after the incident. A probe body headed by Inspector of Railway Police (IRP) Md Mainuddin was formed on September 8 and it is due to submit its report this week, railway police sources said. Meanwhile, Jamalpur GRP Police arrested eight people including four from the roof of Jamalpur-bound Jamuna intercity train at Mymensingh Railway Station Wednesday night.



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