

SNAPS AND SNIPPETS



PHOTO: STAR

A scene of Kumari Puja at Trinayoni mandop in Rajshahi city marking Maha Astami yesterday, the third day of Durga Puja, the biggest religious festival of the Bangalee Hindus.

Schoolboy electrocuted

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Magura

A schoolboy was electrocuted in Mohammadpur upazila on Sunday night. The deceased, Ali Kader, 10, son of Abdus Salam Mollah of Poail village, was a class three student of Lahuriapara Registered Primary School. Police said Ali went to a sugarcane field, came in contact with its electrified barbed-wire fence and died on the spot. The body was sent to Magura Sadar Hospital morgue for autopsy, said Sagir Mian, officer in-charge of Mohammadpur Police Station. The boy went to the field taking sugarcane, said locals.

Fake doctors arrested

A CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Detective Branch (DB) of police arrested two fake doctors in Muzgunni Choto Boyra area under Sonadanga Police Station of the city on Sunday afternoon. The arrestees are Nazma Begum and Sufia Khatun. Awolad Hossain, inspector of DB, said on secret information, they raided a chamber in the area and arrested the duo. The arrestees were doing illegal abortion for long, said the inspector. They were produced before a court yesterday which sent them to jail, he said.

5 extortionists arrested

A CORRESPONDENT, Bogra

A mobile court fined five extortionists Tk 1000 each in the district town on Sunday night. The convicts are Abdul Bari, 27, son of Shahadat Ali of Nishidhatra Chaporpara, Phool Mia, 28, son of Abdus Samad of Kursha Uttarpara, Shahin, 26, son of Majed Ali of Karbala Nishidhara, Alam, 35, son of Abdul Jalil of Akash Tara and Lal Mia, 30, son of Fazlu Mia of Sabgram of the town. The law enforcers arrested the five while they were collecting money from trucks at Sabgram bypass in the town. The arrestees were produced before the court led by Executive Magistrate Md Anwar Hossain who pronounced the verdict, said police.

Convicted prisoner dies

A CORRESPONDENT, Bagerhat

A prisoner died at Bagerhat Sadar Hospital on Sunday night. The dead was identified as Nasir Uddin Mollah, 48, of Chandpai village in Mongla upazila. He was serving one year imprisonment in a dowry case. Jailer Mohammad Badruddoza said Nasir fell seriously sick following chest pain in the jail at around 10:30pm. He was later rushed to the hospital where the doctors declared him dead.

Robbers held with bombs

UNB, Meherpur

Police arrested two alleged members of an inter-district robber gang at Darbeshpur village in Sadar upazila on Sunday night. They also recovered two bombs, bomb-making materials and two woodchoppers from their possession. The arrestees are Alfaz, 28, and Swapna, 30, said police. Officer in-charge of Sadar Police Station Matiar Rahman said, on secret information, a team of police raided the house of one Abdul Hamid at the village and recovered the bombs and other things. Later, they arrested Alfaz and Swapna in this connection. Hamid, however, managed to flee the scene, sensing the presence of the law enforcers.



PHOTO: STAR

Bangladesh Primary Teachers Association brings out a procession in Thakurgaon town yesterday before submitting a memorandum to the prime minister through the deputy commissioner of Thakurgaon to press for their 12-point demand including steps for creating sufficient posts at the primary schools and giving second class status to the headmasters.

Light-trap method for pest control gaining popularity

AMINUL ISLAM, Mymensingh

Light-trap, an environmentally sound method for detecting harmful insects, is helping hundreds of farmers in different areas of the district during this ongoing aman season.

The farmers set the light-traps at night with lantern, charger light or electric bulb and place a pot with detergent or kerosene mixed with water under the light.

The light attracts the insects that die after falling into the homemade insecticide. If existence of harmful insects is found, experts advise the farmers on an effective pest control.

"In 43 blocks under 10 unions within my jurisdiction, farmers did not have to use any pesticide so far this year because they did not detect any harmful insects in the paddy fields through the light-trap method," said M a h b u b u l A l a m , Muktagachha upazila agriculture officer.

Officials of the Department of Agriculture Extension (DAE) said they have introduced the programme throughout the district to detect the harmful insects in the aman fields and use the insecticides accordingly to save the crops.

The low-cost method is also helpful for maintaining ecological balance in the fields, they said, adding that the farmers are extremely enthusiastic in using the method because they are reaping benefit from it.

Normally farmers apply costly insecticides in the paddy fields indiscriminately, killing all the insects including the useful insects,



PHOTO: STAR

Agriculture officials set a light-trap, an environment-friendly device for killing harmful insecticides, in an aman paddy field of Muktagachha upazila in Mymensingh district.

and causing a definite environmental degradation.

But when the harmful insects are detected through the light-trap method, they can save money by applying a cheaper insecticide to kill that particular pest as per the experts' suggestion, said the officials.

Around 2500 light-traps have already been set up in 510 blocks under 12 upazilas of the district.

"Light-trap programme has been introduced in the district over the past few years to help the farmers manage pest effectively with

low cost. This year we are giving more emphasis on the programme," said Suresh Chandra Basak, deputy director of DAE.

"During September and October every year, farmers face serious pest attack and they have to spend more money to rid paddy fields of all insects. With the light-trap we can find the culprit insect and take proper pest control measure, which is much cheaper and environment-friendly," he added.

This method has reduced indiscriminate use of pesticides by 50 percent as farm-

ers' response has been very positive, said the official, adding that the farmers are also learning to identify useful insects in the paddy fields.

"I became familiar with light-trap method for the first time this year. This will encourage the farmers and boost aman production," said Molin Chandra Das, a farmer at Shatrasia of Kumargata union in Muktagachha.

Over 2,69,000 hectares of land have been brought under aman cultivation in the district this year.

MURDER OF AL LEADER AZAD
Protesters block intersection of 3 highways in B'baria

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Brahmanbaria

Transport movement on Dhaka-Sylhet, Sylhet-Cumilla and Mymensingh-Chittagong highways remained suspended for two hours yesterday morning as supporters of slain Awami League (AL) leader AKM Iqbal Azad put barricades in Sarail upazila under the district protesting the killing.

AKM Iqbal Azad, 55, Sarail upazila unit vice-president of AL, was stabbed to death by a rival faction in Sarail upazila on Sunday.

Aggrieved at the brutal killing, hundreds of AL leaders and activists took to the streets around 9:00am yesterday and put barricades at different points from Khatihata Biswa Road to Kuttapara, the intersection of the three highways.

The protesters also went into rampage at Sarail Bazar and vandalised at least 10 shops.

A 10km jam was created on each of the highways due to the barricades.

The agitators withdrew the blockade around 11:00am when police rushed to the spot and assured them of arresting the killers, said M Shah Alam Bakaul, assistant superintendent of police of Brahmanbaria (Sadar Circle).

Members of Border Guard Bangladesh and Rapid Action Battalion have been deployed on the highway to avert further untoward incident.

Md Dulal Khan, manager of Azad's business house, blamed Md Mahfuz Ali, Sarail upazila AL organising secretary, for the killing.

"Mahfuz on Friday confined local Jubo League

President advocate Md Shafiq following an in-party conflict but Azad and his men rushed to the spot and rescued him. On that day, Mahfuz threatened Azad to face dire consequences," Dulal said.

Contacted, Md Gias Uddin, officer-in-charge of Sarail police station, said, "Men led by Sarail upazila Awami League organising secretary Md Mahfuz Ali brutally killed Azad. Police are trying to arrest the killers."

UNB adds: The angry protesters set fire to Mahfuz Ali's house at Kuttapara and that of his father-in-law Ismat Ali, also an AL leader, at Syed Dula.

PHOTO: STAR
Aggrieved at Sunday's murder of local Awami League leader AKM Iqbal Azad, protesters agitate, blocking Dhaka-Sylhet highway in Sarail upazila under Brahmanbaria district yesterday morning.

BMA protests assault on doctor in Nachole

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chapainawabganj

Bangladesh Medical Association (BMA) Chapainawabganj unit yesterday formed a human chain in the town demanding immediate arrest and punishment of the persons who attacked a doctor in Nachole upazila on October 8.

Doctors and nurses of all health complexes in the district joined the programme. Besides, they started a three-hour work abstention from 9:00am yesterday at Adhunik Sadar Hospital and all upazila health complexes. The work abstention would continue until the demand was met.

BMA leaders said.

An elderly man named Barzahan Ali was rushed to Nachole Upazila Health Complex after he fell seriously sick on October 8. At this, on duty doctor Monjur Khuda of the health complex was not available.

After over half an hour, the doctor reached the health complex and declared the patient dead. As the death news spread, the relatives of the deceased assaulted the doctor, said Firoz Kabir, officer-in-charge of Nachole Police Station.

The doctor filed a case against Mohammad Hanif, son of the deceased, and others, said the OC.

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations Bangladesh

Emergency 2007 Cyclone Recovery and Restoration Project
Component A – Livestock sub-component



Invitation for Expression of Interest (EoI) for selection of a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) for identifying beneficiaries and delivery of Livestock inputs in cyclone Sidr affected areas

Credit No. 4507 – BD, Project identification UTF/BGD/040/BGD, Package No. 3S2.L

The Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh (GoB), has contracted The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) for the Component A (Recovery of Agriculture sector and Improvement Program) of the World Bank/IDA funded "Emergency 2007 Cyclone Recovery and Restoration Project" (ECRRP).

Within the framework of the implementation of the Livestock sub-component, FAO would like to engage a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) for identifying 4,000 new household beneficiaries and 6,000 CBO members (about 120 CBO) during a period of one year (January to December 2013).

Interested NGOs with a minimum of 5 years' experience in Livestock may obtain the detailed EoI and Terms of Reference (ToR) through E-mail at Starwar.Hussain@fao.org or from the office of the FAO Representation in Bangladesh (attn. Mr Syed Starwar Hussain, Procurement Specialist, Hs.# 27, Rd. #9A, Apt.# A1, Dhanmondi, Dhaka -1209, Tel. 813 0758/104, 01761-496222).

Expression of Interest (EOI) should be provided in the format indicated in the TOR, in 2 sets (one original + one copy) and will not exceed 40 pages including all annexes. EoI must be delivered in a sealed envelope to the address below no later than 12 November 2012 during office hour (8:00 to 16:30 hours) and clearly marked:

"Request for Expression of Interest for Selection of NGO for Livestock Sub-component –ECRRP".

FAO Representation in Bangladesh
House # 37, Road # 8
Dhanmondi, Dhaka – 1205
Phone: 811 8015 – 18
Fax : 811 34 46

CHIRIRBANDAR INCIDENT

Bail prayers of 47 accused rejected

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

A Dinajpur court yesterday rejected the bail prayers of 47 accused in the case for attack on Rajapur village under Chirirbandar upazila of the district on August 4.

Court sources said 90 out of 198 accused surrendered to the Senior Judicial Magistrate's Court-2 in the afternoon and sought bail. Of them, 43 accused, including Jamaat-backed Chirirbandar Upazila Parishad Chairman Md Aftab Uddin Mollah, were

granted bail while the rest were refused.

Judge ASM Taskinul Haque rejected the bail prayers of the remaining 47 accused and sent them to Dinajpur jail.

Following the attack on Rajapur village on August 4, villager Subhash Chandra Roy filed the case under the Speedy Trial Act with Chirirbandar Police Station on August 7.

At least 50 people were injured and 25 houses of Hindus were burnt down during the attack on the village.

One jailed for 30 years for killing schoolboy

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

A Barisal court yesterday sentenced one to 30 years' rigorous imprisonment (RI) for killing class-VII student Ishtiaq Ahmed Sourav on November 11 in 2009.

The killer, Rafiqul Islam Shakil, who received life term (30 years) RI under Section 302/34, also got more five years RI under Section 201.

His associate Saral Chandra Mistri, a local flexi load trader, received three years RI.

Both the convicts were present during pronouncement of the verdict by Barisal District and Sessions Judge AKM Salimullah.

Ishtiaq Ahmed Sourav, 13, a class seven student of Barisal Zila School, went missing on his way to school on November 11, 2009 morning and his body with slit throat was recovered from a pond at BSCIC Estate in

Pashchim Kawnia area in the city on November 16, according to the prosecution.

Sourav's father Yusuf Ali Khan, managing director of Race Fertilizer Company of BSCIC estate, filed a general diary with Barisal Kotwali police station on November 12 in connection with the boy's missing and later it was turned into a murder case.

Police arrested local delinquents Shakil, Sampad and Rahman on November 17 and recovered Sourav's mobile set from flexi load trader Saral on November 20.

Saral told police that he purchased the set from Shakil.

Shakil gave a confessional statement on December 20, 2009, saying that he killed Sourav by slitting his throat with a knife beside a pond in BSCIC industrial area on November 11 evening.

Shakil said he killed Sourav to grab his Nokia 1210 mobile set.