



PHOTO: FOCUS BANGLA

Storks move around in search of food, mainly insects and frogs, at a mustard field of Mostafapur village in Kaliganj upazila under Jhenidah district as local water bodies, containing scanty water and polluted with harmful insecticides from the croplands, no longer abound with fish, the favourite food of the graceful birds.

KPI student stabbed to death in Jessore

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Benapole, Jessore

A student of Khulna Polytechnic Institute (KPI) was stabbed to death by a gang of criminals in Navaron Jadavpur area of Sharsha upazila in the district on Monday night.

The deceased was identified as Ahsanul Hossain Luis, 20, son of Abdur Rashid of Sadipur village under Benapole Port Station.

Faruq Hossain, officer in-charge of Sharsha police station, said that the criminals waylaid Luis when he was returning to his house and stabbed him indiscriminately, leaving him dead on the spot at about 8 pm.

He was a first year student at Khulna Polytechnic Institute.

However, the motive behind the killing could not be known immediately.

Police arrested a youth yesterday morning on charge of his involvement in the murder.

The arrestee was Uzzol Hossain, 21, son of Akbar Hossain, of Godawn para village in the upazila.

Police recovered the body and send it to Jessore Medical College Hospital for autopsy.

15 injured as BCL, BNP clash in Chandpur

UNB, Chandpur

At least 15 people were injured in a clash between the activists of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) and BNP at Hajiganj Bazar in Hajiganj upazila on Monday.

Police said, an activist of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) threw an empty bottle of drinking water on the procession, brought out by BNP, when the procession was passing by Paschim Bazaar area in the afternoon.

Within moments, a chase and counter-chase erupted between them, which left 15 people injured from the both sides.

The ruling party activists also vandalised the local BNP party office.

Later, BNP activists put up a barricade on Chandpur-Comilla road in the upazila.

On information, police rushed in and controlled the situation by firing teargas shells and charging batons.

Police also picked up two people from the spot.

RANGPUR CITY CORPORATION

Campaign starts much ahead of Dec 20 polls

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur

Aspirants in the Rangpur City Corporation election scheduled for December 20 have already started campaign, before finalisation of the candidatures.

Aspirants have to submit application for candidacy by November 18 and the Election Commission officials will scrutinise those on November 21 and 22.

The last day for withdrawal of candidature is November 29.

Although officially non-partisan, the city corporation election would ultimately gain political colour, as mainly political leaders from major parties contest such polls, especially for the mayoral post, observers said.

Local leaders of Awami League (AL) and Jatiya Party (JP) are preparing for the election.

However, the ruling AL is yet to announce support for any mayoral candidate while JP sees a serious rift over the candidature.

Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) is yet to take decision about letting any of its leaders contest the elections.

A few candidates from AL, including Shafiq Rafman Shafi, president of AL Rangpur city unit, Rashek Rahman, a member of AL Rangpur district unit, and Tusher Kanti Mondal, general secretary of AL Rangpur

BNP did not participate as their demands, including scrapping of voting through electronic voting machines (EVM) and deployment of army, were not met.

Earlier on Sunday, around 700 leaders and

Manik and Mostafa announced forming of a new party named 'Trinamool Jatiya Party'.

After JP Chairman HM Ershad on November 6 announced support for Ranga in the RCC polls, Manik and Mostafa at a press conference the same day threatened to quit the party en masse if nomination of Ranga was not withdrawn by Saturday last.

In October, Ershad in a press release had said he would not extend support to any of the aspirants from the party in Rangpur City Corporation polls as it is a local level election.

On Monday, Mostafizar Rahman Mostafa resigned from the post of Rangpur Sadar Upazila Parishad chairman to participate in the Rangpur City Corporation election.

As many as 3 lakh 57 thousand and 742 voters in the city corporation will exercise their right to franchise to choose a mayor and 44 councillors, including 11 women, on December 20.

The government upgraded Rangpur municipality to a city corporation on June 28 this year.

FACTS

- ★ Nomination filing by November 18
- ★ EC scrutiny on Nov 21 and 22
- ★ Last withdrawal date Nov 29

city unit, Chowdhury Khalequzzaman, advisory committee member of AL and former NBR chairman, have publicly expressed their desire to contest for the mayoral post.

Sharfuddin Ahmed Jhantu, former lawmaker of JP and former chairman of Rangpur municipality, has also started campaign, to contest the election as an independent candidate.

BNP sources said the party command would have the final say about its participation in the December 20 election.

In the previous city corporation elections in Comilla and Narayanganj,

activists of Rangpur district committee of JP (Ershad) resigned en masse in protest against announcing party support to its Presidium Member Moshir Rahman Ranga as the mayoral candidate in Rangpur City Corporation election.

Two candidates for the mayoral post -- AKM Abdur Rauf Manik, organising secretary of JP central committee and former mayor of Rangpur municipality, and Mostafizar Rahman Mostafa, Rangpur Sadar upazila chairman and member secretary of Rangpur district unit of JP, led the en masse resignation.

After submitting resigna-



As a sequel to a longstanding dispute over a land, criminals hired by a claimant vandalised and looted the house of his rival in Karbala area of Shibganj municipality under Chapainawabganj district yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

All for a piece of disputed land

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chapainawabganj

Criminals ransacked a house and looted valuables from there in Karbala area of Shibganj upazila town early yesterday.

The law enforcers arrested 12 people in this connection. The arrestees are Babar Ali, Azizul Haque, Enamul Haque, Mahtab Uddin, Zobdul Haque, Rakibul Islam, Tobzul Haque, Azam Ali, Yeasin Ali, Abdur Rakib, Mohbul and Shahidul Islam.

Police and locals said there was a longstanding conflict between one

Azizul Haque and Israil Hossain of the village over a piece of disputed land.

A gang of 50, allegedly led by Azizul, went to the area at about 3:30am and damaged a house of Israil and looted cash, gold ornaments and mobile phone sets.

Hearing the hue and cry, locals chased the gang and caught 12 of them. Later, they were handed over to police.

The house owner filed a case with Shibganj police station against over 50 people in this connection.

Away in Bogra, criminals took away paddy worth Tk 40,000 from five bighas

of land at Koigari village in Dhunat upazila on Monday night, reports a correspondent.

Locals and police said, Nurunnabi Talukdar, son of Golam Mortuja of the village, cultivated aman paddy on his paternal land.

Talukdar filed a case accusing Azhar Ali, son of Abdul Hakim and his 18 cohorts of Nageshor village in this connection, said Shamsul Haque, officer in-charge at Dhunat police station.

The incident might have taken place over land dispute, said the OC.

ATTACK ON FELLOW CHAIRMAN

Chairman, members of 12 Natore UPs on strike

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Natore

Chairmen and members of all 12 union parishads under Natore Sadar upazila will go on an indefinite strike from today, demanding arrest of the criminals, who assaulted Brommapur Union Parishad Chairman and BNP leader Afzal Hossain, on Tuesday.

Upazila parishad sources said, a gang of four to five criminals swooped on Afzal Hossain while he was collecting a nomination paper on behalf of a party man who would contest the upcoming election to the managing committee of Mirzapur High School in the adjacent Mirzapur union.

Hearing the news, chairmen and members of the union parishads held an emergency meeting at the

upazila parishad auditorium in the evening and decided to go on an indefinite strike from Wednesday.

Later, Golam Sarwar, chairman of Tebaria Union Parishad and also president of Bangladesh Union Parishad Forum Natore Sadar upazila unit, announced the decision at a press conference held at the auditorium.

Sarwar said they will also besiege the deputy commissioner's office, and form a human chain in the district town today to press their demand.

All the 12 union parishad offices in the upazila will remain closed until the culprits involved in the attack on Chairman Afzal Hossain are arrested, he added.

Afzal Hossain, also vice-president of BNP Naldanga

unit, said a gang of criminals led by local Jubo League activist Tutul attacked him at the upazila parishad auditorium at around 3:00pm. He filed a case with Sadar Police Station yesterday, accusing Tutul and three others.

Shafiqul Islam Shimul, chairman of Natore Sadar Upazila Parishad and also general secretary of Jubo League Natore district unit, said no Jubo League man was involved in the attack.

They are the supporters of Jubo League President Shariful Islam Ramzan, Shimul claimed. He demanded immediate arrest of the attackers.

District Jubo League President Shariful Islam Ramzan could be contacted as his cellphone remained off. None of the accused in the case was arrested as of 8:00pm yesterday.



PHOTO: BANGLAR CHOKH

A devotee folds palms in reverence to Goddess Kali at Bejpara puja mandop in Jessore yesterday on the occasion of Shyama Puja, one of the biggest religious festivals of the Hindus.

Man jailed in dowry case

UNB, Benapole, Jessore

A court in the district on Monday sentenced a man to two years' rigorous imprisonment for demanding dowry from his wife.

The convict is Akkas Ali, son of Abdus Sattar of Gourinathpur village in Moheshpur upazila of Jhenidah district.

He was also fined Tk 2,000, in default, to suffer two months more RI.

According to the prosecution, Akkas married Papia Khatun, daughter of Mir Mostafa of Islampur village in Sadar upazila of Jessore, on October 05 last year.

He used to torture his wife demanding Tk two lakh as dowry since his marriage. As Papia failed to give the money, she was driven out of her husband's house on November 02, 2011.

The victim filed a case against her husband 12 days later.

Agitation at KU

UNB, Khulna

A section of teachers, officers and employees of Khulna University (KU) on Monday announced a 13-day programme to press home their demand for bringing the offenders to book who illegally sold the university's land.

Addressing a sit-in programme in front of administrative building from 11am to 1pm, they also called for holding admission test of the university and withdrawal of show-cause notice against three deans.

The programmes include silent procession today, hunger strike in front of the VC's office on Nov 19, view exchange meeting with journalists on Nov 25 and submitting memoranda to the chancellor, UGC chairman, education secretary and secretary to the prime minister on Nov 26.

SNIPPETS

Human chain by erosion victims

UNB, Shariatpur

Local people on Monday staged demonstration to press home their demand for taking necessary steps aimed at saving the residents of Naria upazila from erosion by the Padma river. Under the banner of Wapda, Chandipur, Shureshwar Embankment Implementation Committee, they held an hour-long human chain from 10am in front of the UNO office and demonstration in front of the DC office at noon. They also submitted memoranda to DC Ram Chandra Das and Naria upazila UNO Asaduzzaman. Leaders of Awami League, Jatiya Party and other organisations also attended the programmes by expressing their solidarity with the demand.

231 sued in Netrakona

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Netrakona

A case was filed on Monday night against 231 villagers in connection with a clash between two groups in Kendua upazila that left at least 40 injured, including 10 policemen. Mirashuddin, sub-inspector of Kendua police station filed the case at night. The clash took place following an altercation over an incident of stalking a schoolgirl on Monday. Police arrested 57 people in connection with the clash, said Alamgir Hossain, officer in-charge of the PS.

4 held in triple murder case

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sirajganj

Police arrested four people in connection with triple murder at Satlathibrahmanbaria village in Belkuchi upazila early yesterday. The arrestees are Anwar Hossain, son of Samsul Haque Khan, Sirajul Islam, son of Somesh Ali of the village, Abdul Kuddus, son of Sonaulah of Agnukali village in Shahzadpur upazila and Abdul Karim son of Ansar Ali of Kamalpur village in Enayetpur upazila. Mizanur Rahman Khan, officer in-charge at Belkuchi police station, said of the four, Anwar and Sirajul were arrested from Shaheed Ziaur Rahman Medical College Hospital, Bogra while the rest from their respective houses. On Monday morning, three people were killed and five others injured in a clash between two rival groups over a piece of disputed land at Satlathibrahmanbaria. Later, a case was filed accusing 19 people, said the OC.

Accused snatched from police

UNB, Benapole, Jessore

Accomplices snatched on accused from police, leaving three cops injured at Mohammatpur village in Chougacha upazila of the district on Monday night. Officer in-charge of Chougacha PS Abdul Khaleque said a police team caught drug peddler, Shamim, at about 10pm. As the team was bringing the arrested to the PS handcuffed, his accomplices snatched him away, leaving three cops injured. The injured are assistant sub-inspector Kalam and two other cops.