

SNAPS AND SNIPPETS

3 JCD men hurt in BCL attack

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Magura

Three activists of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) were injured in an attack by Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) men in Sreepur upazila town on Tuesday. The injured were identified as Chanchal Mahmud, Mohan Raihan and Babul Hossain. Upazila Unit JCD Joint Secretary Shafikur Rahman said the trio sustained injuries in the evening as BCL men attacked a procession brought out by JCD men to protest attack on unit president Bablur Rahman. On Saturday, Babulur was critically injured as BCL men stabbed him indiscriminately.

Shopkeeper commits 'suicide'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Thakurgaon

A shopkeeper allegedly committed suicide in Tikapara area of Sadar upazila early yesterday. The deceased Arif Hossain alias Saddam, 24, was son of Aiub Ali of the area. Jahangir Alam, sub-inspector of Thakurgaon Police Station, said Arif's wife left his house about five months ago over a family feud. On Monday, he along with his mother went to his in-law's house bringing back his wife but she refused to return. Being refused, Arif took his life by hanging himself from the beam of his room. On information, police rushed to the spot, recovered the body and sent it to Thakurgaon Sadar Hospital morgue for autopsy, said the SI.

One held with pistol

A CORRESPONDENT, Jhalakathi

Members of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) arrested an alleged criminal along with a pistol and 20 bullets at Kathegera in Nalcity upazila on Tuesday night. On secret information, a team of Rab-8 raided arrested Kalu Gazi from the area where he along with his accomplices was taking preparation to commit crime. However, Kalu's cohorts managed to flee the scene sensing the presence of the elite force, said ZM Masudujaman, officer-in-charge of Nalcity Police Station. Following the arrestee's confessional statement, Rab men recovered the arms and bullets from the house of one Harbon Mir, said the OC.

Man jailed for killing wife

UNB, Barguna

A court here on Tuesday sentenced a man to life imprisonment for killing his wife five years back. District and Sessions Judge Nazrul Islam pronounced the verdict against Abdul Gaffar, 50, of Vora area in Betagi upazila. According to the prosecution, Gaffar stabbed his wife Minara Begum, 40, dead on June 20, 2007, for not cooking a chicken in time following his order. Later, Minara's daughter Aklima Begum filed a murder case accusing her father with Betagi Police Station. The court handed down the judgment after examining witnesses and evidence.



PHOTO: STAR

Chapainawabganj District Bar Association forms a human chain in the town yesterday demanding steps for extension of the association building as per earlier promise by the prime minister.

3 Jamaat leaders held

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gaibandha

Police in separate drives arrested three leaders of Jamaat-e-Islami Bangladesh from different areas in the district yesterday morning. The arrestees are Moshir Rahman, secretary Salmara union Jamaat, Ashrafur Islam, organising secretary of Bongram union and Abul Kashem, activist of Ballamjhar union, said police. They were arrested on charge of attacking law enforcers and creating anarchy in the name of agitation.

Outlaw killed

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

An underground operative was murdered at Debottar village under Atghoria upazila of the district on Tuesday. The outlaw was identified as Md Abdur Rashid, 45, son of late Abdul Gafur of Shimulchhora village in Ataikula upazila. Police said Rashid was a regional leader of outlawed Purbo Banglar Communist Party (PBCP) and wanted in three criminal cases. Officer-in-charge Md Monirul Islam of Atghoria Police Station said Rashid was stabbed to death and the body was dumped in a pond in Shutirbil area of the upazila. Locals found the body in the pond yesterday and informed the police who recovered the body and sent it to Pabna Medical College Hospital morgue for autopsy, the OC added.

Drug peddler jailed

UNB, Jhalakathi

A court here on Tuesday sentenced a man to one year's rigorous imprisonment for possessing contraband Phensidyl. Judge Nurul Alam M Nepu of the District Special Tribunal-4 pronounced gave the verdict to Kamrul Ahsan, 30, of Pipolita village in Sadar upazila. The court also fined the convict Tk 2,000 and acquitted his wife Kajol Begum of the same case.

Sec 144 in Natore

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Natore

Local administration of Lalpur upazila imposed Section 144 as two factions of local BNP unit called their programmes at the same time and venue. Upazila Nirbahi Officer Abdur Rahman said the restriction on holding any programme in Gopalpur municipality will remain in force for 16 hours from 6:00am to 11:00pm on Thursday.

ALLEGED BID TO SELL IN BLACK MARKET

1,100 sacks of fertiliser seized in Patuakhali

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

The coastguard seized a cargo carrying 1100 sacks of fertiliser worth over Tk 12 lakh from Paira River in Patuakhali as it was being sent to Galachipa from Jessore allegedly for sale in the black market on Tuesday.

They handed over the fertiliser weighing 5.5 tonnes and the cargo to Patuakhali police in the evening.

"During a patrol on Paira River coastguard members challenged a cargo loaded with fertiliser. But all the staff of the cargo fled after anchoring the cargo on the bank at Pairakunjo in Patuakhali Sadar upazila," Captain Salim, zonal commander of the coastguard, said.

The fertiliser was sent to Galachipa from Jessore for sale allegedly in the black



PHOTO: STAR

Coastguards seized 1100 sacks of fertiliser, carried allegedly for black marketing by a trawler on Paira River in Galachipa upazila under Patuakhali district, and handed over to Galachipa police on Tuesday.

market, he said.

"The coastguard handed over the seized fertiliser to us and we will take proper action after investigation,"

said Md Monirul Islam, OC of Patuakhali police station.

Contacted over cell phone, Mizanur Rahman, owner of Noapara Traders of

Noapara Bazar in Jessore, said, "We had imported the fertiliser from China. It was being sent to our customer in Galachipa."

PROVOKING SUICIDE OF SERAFINA MARDI

Five jailed for 10 yrs, four juvenile offenders for 8 yrs

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Rajshahi Women and Children Repression Prevention Tribunal-1 on Monday awarded ten years rigorous imprisonment (RI) to five people in the case for provoking suicide of Serafina Mardi, an indigenous girl of Godagari upazila in Rajshahi.

EKM Ekramul Haque, the judge, also fined Tk two lakh each, in default, to suffer three years more.

The accused are Serafina's rapists Nirmol Soren, Jewel, Shimon Hembrom, Julian, and Karlus Mardi and all are

absconding.

The same judge of a juvenile court yesterday awarded eight years RI to four other accused -- Porimal Soren, Rajon, Eliash and Simon. They were fined Tk one lakh each, in default, to suffer three months more.

The four were tried in the juvenile court for their underage, said Public Prosecutor Sayeda Morjina Begum.

The accused people gang-raped Serafina at her Amtulipara village on the day of Easter Sunday on April 4, 2010, goes the prosecution.

Serafina lodged a case against the rapists with the

local police station but later local community leaders held an 'out-of-court settlement of Tk 1.40 lakh' to save the rapists from the trial and punishment.

Failing to bear the humiliation, Serafina set herself ablaze after pouring kerosene on the body on February 17 in 2011 and she succumbed to her injuries on February 20.

After Serafina's death, police recorded a case for provoking suicide against 13 people including the community leaders under question and arrested 10 of them. Later Serafina's mother Shusana Soren lodged

another case with the court against nine alleged rapists.

Following the court's order, police investigated both the cases together and pressed a single charge sheet against 22 people.

Thirteen other accused including the community leaders were acquitted as the prosecution failed to prove the allegations.

Serafina's lawyer advocate Hamidul Haque said, "We are not satisfied with part of the judgment where the community leaders were acquitted. If the plaintiff agrees, we will appeal against the verdict in the higher court."

Panchagarh freed this day in '71

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Thakurgaon

The people of Panchagarh will observe different programmes today, marking liberation of the area from the Pakistan occupation forces in 1971.

On this day in 1971, valiant freedom fighters hoisted the flag of independent Bangladesh in Panchagarh town by defeating the Pakistan occupation forces.

On November 20, the freedom fighters intensified their attack on the Pakistani occupation army from three sides of the then thana headquarters and captured one after another the enemy camps -- Amarkhana on November 20, Jagdalhat on November 25, Shingpara village on November 26, Talma village on November 2, and Panchagarh CO Office, Atwary, and Mirzapur on November 28.

In the face of joint attack by the freedom fighters and allied forces, finally the Pakistani occupation forces retreated from Panchagarh town on November 28 night and took shelter at Saidpur Cantonment.

Freedom fighters entered the town in the morning on November 29.

As the news spread, people from the adjacent villages rushed to the town and rejoiced liberation of the area by chanting 'Joy Bangla' slogan with the freedom fighters.

Shortly after the Pakistani

occupation forces started crackdown in capital Dhaka on March 26 in 1971, freedom-loving people of Panchagarh organised different programmes to aid the struggle for independence.

Panchagarh remained free till April 16 when the occupation forces took control of the town and set up several camps in different areas of the then Panchagarh police station under Thakurgaon sub-division.

During the next several months, the Pakistani forces and their collaborators killed a large number of innocent people in the area until its liberation on November 29.

To mark the day, district unit of Mukti Joddha Sangsad has taken up different programmes including placing of wreaths at the martyrs' memorial, bringing out colourful procession from Mukti Joddha Chattar in the town and holding a discussion and cultural function at their office premises.

Different political parties and social organisations have also taken similar programmes to mark the occasion.

Our Pabna correspondent adds: People of Santhia upazila recalled Dhulauri massacre day on Tuesday. On this day in 1971, Pakistani occupation army along with their local collaborators killed 35 people, including eight freedom fighters at Dhulauri village.



PHOTO: STAR

Liberation War martyrs' memorial in Panchagarh town.

Schoolboy killed over family feud in Pabna

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

A schoolboy was killed by his uncle and cousin following an altercation over a trivial matter at Madhupur village in Sujanagar upazila early yesterday.

The dead is Biplob Hossain, 14, a class eight student of Madhupur High School.

Sayed Shahid Alam, officer-in-charge of Sujanagar Police Station, said Biplob, son of Nazrul Islam, had an altercation with his uncle Sultan Master over irrigating a farmland beside their house on Monday night.

At one stage, Sultan Master and his sons beat up Biplob mercilessly. He was taken to Pabna Medical College Hospital and then shifted to Rajshahi Medical College Hospital as his condition deteriorated.

He succumbed to his injury early Tuesday.

A case was filed against Sultan master and his sons, the OC said.

Our Patuakhali correspondent adds: A night guard of Kalatala Bazar in the town was murdered by unidentified criminals at mid night on Monday. The victims was identified as Abdul Quader, 70 of Kalatala area in the town.

Locals found the body of the night guard in front of a shop when they were going to court mosque to offer Fajar prayers at around 5:30 am yesterday.

Being informed, police recovered the body and sent it to Patuakhali General Hospital.

Police said the night guard might have been killed by robbers.

Raas festival opens at Kantanagar temple

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

Raas festival, a traditional religious festival of the Hindus, kicked off at Kantanagar temple in Kaharol upazila of the district on Tuesday night.

Civil Aviation and Tourism Minister Lt Col (retd) Faruk Khan inaugurated the month-long festival. He also opened a restaurant of Bangladesh Parjatan Corporation in the temple area.

Nearly one lakh devotees from different parts of the country gathered at Kantanagar temple on the opening day, temple committee sources said.

Around one lakh devotees from different parts of the country gathered on the temple premises on the opening day, temple committee sources said.

On the eve of the festival,

Kantaji idol was brought to the temple from Dinajpur Rajbari amid tight security. The idol was taken to Rajbari in August this year.

Organisers said thousands of devotees spent the inaugural night on the temple premises and left the area after taking holy dip in the Dhapa River yesterday.

A month-long mela has been arranged in the temple area. Hundreds of traders from different parts of the country have set up stalls at the mela.

Meanwhile, the government has sanctioned Tk 25 crore for renovation of Kantanagar temple and infrastructural development of its (temple) surrounding areas.

Minister Faruk Khan disclosed this while he was addressing a meeting at Dinajpur deputy commissioner's office yesterday.

ARMS CASE

Charge-framing against Limon deferred again

A CORRESPONDENT, Jhalakathi

The hearing on charge-framing against college student Limon Hossain in a case filed by Rab was deferred again yesterday.

A Jhalakathi court deferred the date to January 28 on a time-extension petition filed by Limon's lawyer. In the petition, advocate Manik Lal Acharya stated that Limon failed to appear before the court due to his illness.

On March 23 last year, Limon was maimed by Rab shooting.

Later, Rab filed a case against eight members of a local gang called - Morshed Bahini-including Limon with Rajapur Police Station for possessing illegal arms.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

Hiring Consultancy Firm to Provide Programme Advisory Services to UNDP Country Office and its selected Projects

United Nations Development Programme in Bangladesh seeks proposals from interested Firms/Companies for "Hiring Consultancy Firm to provide programme advisory services to UNDP Country Office and its selected Projects". All interested Firms/Companies may request the Bidding documents (RFP) from procurement.bc@undp.org by a formal request with the above subject to UNDP that will register bidders into list of participants. So any correspondence, questions regarding the bidding documents and respective answers can be sent to all bidders.

Submission of Proposal: Potential Companies/Firms are requested to submit their Proposals in sealed envelopes marked with "Hiring Consultancy Firm to provide programme advisory services to the UNDP Country Office and its selected Projects" and should be addressed to the UNDP Bangladesh, Procurement Unit, IDB Bhaban (12th Floor), Begum Rokeya Sharani, Agargaon, Dhaka-1207, Bangladesh.

The deadline for submission of Proposal is **17 December 2012, 16.30 (Bangladesh Local Time)**

