

SNIPPETS

Jamaat ameer arrested

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

Police arrested Maulana Abdul Mannan, ameer of Mirzaganj upazila unit Jamaat-e-Islami on Saturday afternoon from Pashchim Subidkhali area under the upazila. Abir Mohammad Hasan, OC of Mirzaganj, said they arrested the Jamaat ameer as he was planning to commit sabotage in the area. He was held while holding a secret meeting with the party activists, he said. In Jessore, police arrested three leaders and activists of Jamaat-e-Islami and its student front Islami Chhatra Shibir from Basundia area in Sadar upazila on Friday night, reports UNB. The arrestees were identified as Motiar Rahman, president of the union unit of Jamaat, Maulana Saifur Rahman, general secretary of the union unit of Shibir, and Alamgir Hossain, a Shibir activist.

Man held with firearms

UNB, Benapole, Jessore

Detective Branch (DB) of police arrested an alleged criminal along with a firearm at Deyara village in Bagharpara upazila early yesterday. The arrestee was identified as Hafizur Rahman alias 'Kana' Rubel, son of Abdur Rahman of RN Road area in the district town. Police said, on secret information, they raided the house of one Safiar at the village and arrested Rubel at the dead of night. Later, following his confessional statement, police recovered a shutter gun and a bullet from one Tabibar Rahman's house at Kholadanga Purba Para in the town. Rubel was wanted in a number of cases including for violence, killing and mugging.

Shrimp enclosure owner killed

A CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Owner of a shrimp enclosure was hacked to death at Rayer Mohal Mostofar Intersection in Dumuria upazila yesterday. The deceased was identified as Mahubur Rahman, 40, son of Late Abdul Khaleque, of No. 1 Boyra Cross Road area at Khalishpur in the city. Jahangir Hossain, brother of the deceased, said that Mahubur went to the shrimp enclosure on Wednesday and talked to his wife over cell phone last on Friday afternoon. On Saturday night, a friend of his brother informed that Mahubur went missing from the enclosure, he said. Police later recovered his body from a nearby thatched house at 11.30am yesterday. There were several marks of injury on his body, including in the chest, said the OC of Dumuria PS.

Housewife commits 'suicide'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Thakurgaon

A housewife allegedly committed suicide at Hariharpur village in Sadar upazila on Wednesday afternoon. She was identified as Swapna Rani, 19, wife of Tapan Chandra of the same village. Police said, on Wednesday afternoon Swapna committed suicide by hanging herself from a beam of her room. On information, police went to the spot and recovered the body by breaking open the door and sent it to Thakurgaon Sadar Hospital for autopsy. The reason behind the suicide could not be known immediately, police said.



PHOTO: STAR

The ruling party men block Meherpur-Kushtia highway by burning tyres at Gangni in Meherpur during yesterday's daylong hartal enforced by the upazila unit of Awami League protesting the killing of the unit's leader Saidur Rahman Beltu.

Gangni AL enforces hartal protesting Beltu murder

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

A day-long hartal called by Gangni upazila unit Awami League in Meherpur, protesting the killing of the unit's leader Saidur Rahman Beltu, was observed in the upazila yesterday.

Most of the business establishments and educational institutions remained shut while almost all modes of vehicles went off the streets.

Road communications between Meherpur and other parts of the country were cut off during the hartal.

Saidur Rahman Beltu,

also joint secretary of the District Bus Owners' Association, was shot dead by criminals at his house at Devipur village in Gangni upazila on Thursday night.

Upazila unit vice-president and Gangni municipality mayor Ahmed Ali announced a three-day protest programme, including the strike on Friday.

Earlier, the leaders and activists of the Gangni upazila unit AL staged demonstration on Friday and Saturday, protesting the killing.

They demanded the arrest of the killers and removal of the deputy commissioner (DC) and superintendent of police (SP) of Meherpur.

They also staged demonstration on Meherpur-Kushtia highway, stopping communication since Friday.

Contacted, Meherpur SP Abdullahel Baki said that three people including two maid servants of Beltu and another 'suspected killer' was arrested and were being interrogated.

Meanwhile, Beltu's mother Sakhina Begum filed a murder case with Gangni police station on Saturday night, accusing a number of unidentified people, officer-in-charge of Gangni police station Mizanur Rahmansaid.

AL men attack rivals: 15 hurt

UNB, Bagerhat

At least 15 people were injured in a factional clash of Awami League on Khalilur Rahman Degree College ground in Mollarhat upazila on Saturday night.

Witnesses said, an altercation ensued between upazila AL general secretary Shahinul Alam Sana and convener of upazila BCL Tanzil Munshi, over security pass for joining a meeting of communications minister Obaidul Quader.

After the meeting was over, the followers of upazila Awami League president Motahar Hossain Molla and Sana, equipped with lethal weapons and sticks, locked in a clash on the college ground at about 7pm.

A chase and counter chase took place during the melee, leaving at least 15 people injured from the both sides. Later, police brought the situation under control.

Khondakar Rafiqul Islam, police superintendent of Bagerhat, said police arrested six people from different places in the upazila in connection with the clash.

The arrestees -- Ruhul Amin, 48, Shafiqul Islam, 24, Mamun Molla, 34, Zakir Hossain, 45, Molla Mohammad Ali, 40, and Hasibur Rahman, 28 -- were taken to the office of DB police for interrogation.

15 injured as rival ruling party men clash over illegal toll collection

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

Two groups of the ruling party clashed over illegal toll collection at Patgram cattle market in the district yesterday, leaving at least seven people from both sides injured.

Police said the clash ensued when the two groups--one led by Patgram upazila Jubo League General Secretary Ali Year Jong and the other by upazila Sramik League General Secretary Mahmudul Haque Tuhin--were collecting toll from cattle traders at noon.

The injured are undergoing treatment at the upazila health complex.

Immediately after the incident, Sramik League men blocked Lalmonirhat-Burimari highway in Patgram upazila town for two hours from 12:00, demanding arrest of the attackers.

Patgram Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) Abu Hayat Mohammad Rahmat Ullah, Upazila Parishad Chairman Ruhul Amin Babul and a police team went to the spot

at around 2:00pm. Police dispersed the Sramik League men and removed the barricades from the road.

Some cattle traders requesting anonymity said the ruling party men collect toll from the market on haat day. "We give them Tk 50 against each of the Indian cattle, fearing attack or unnecessary harassment," they said.

According to local people, around 2,000 Indian cattle are brought to Patgram cattle market for sale on haat day on Thursdays and Sundays. Traders bring the cattle through legal and illegal ways, they said, adding that police, BGB men and custom officials are also getting money from toll collectors and leaseholders.

Shamsul Alam, one of the leaseholders, said he is not aware of illegal toll collection from the cattle market. "We collect toll from sellers and buyers as per government rates. No complaint about illegal toll collection has yet been filed by the traders," he said.

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