

SNIPPETS

BCL leader murdered

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bogra

Criminals hacked to death the president of Sariakandi municipality unit committee Chhatra League at Public Mat near press club in the town on Wednesday night. The deceased is Bijoy Rahman Babu, 25, son of Nuru Mia of Dhap (Baluahata) area of the municipality. Officer in-charge (OC) of Sariakandi PS Faisal Islam told this correspondent that the victim was hacked at 7:30pm. He was rushed to the Shaheed Ziaur Rahman Medical College and Hospital (SZMCH) where he died at around 8:30pm the same day. The cause of his killing could not be known immediately, police said.

Jamaat violence in Comilla

UNB, Comilla

Several business establishments, vehicles and a bank's booth in the town were vandalised allegedly by Jamaat-Shibir activists yesterday. Witnesses said, they brought out a procession from Kandirpar Pubali Chhatra premises at about 9:30am. Then they vandalised an Automated Teller Machine (ATM) booth of local Pubali Bank branch in the area. The activists later vandalised two hospitals, a petrol pump, two buses, a truck and an ambulance on Laksam Road. They also vandalised the house of Saiful Islam, president of town unit Bangladesh Chhatra League.

3030 Jamaat men sued

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

Police have filed a case against 3030 jamaat men on charge of attacking them and obstructing their duties. Sub-Inspector Kawseruzzaman of Borolekha PS filed the case at 11pm on Thursday accusing 30 identified Jamaat leaders while 3000 others remained unidentified. Witnesses said a clash ensued with police when the activists of Jamaat and its student wing Shibir of Borolekha unit brought out a procession in support of their various demands, including the release of their party leader Delawar Hossain Sayedee.

20 honoured in Lalmonirhat

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

Lalmonirhat district museum honoured 20 people for their role in implementing "Lalmonirhat Mahakuma" and "Lalmonirhat district" plans at a function held in Sadar upazila on Thursday. Those honoured were state minister for primary and mass education Motahar Hossain MP, Majibur Rahman MP, former MP Abul Hossain, ex-MP Saleh Uddin Ahmed Helal, ex-Sadar upazila chairman Shafiqul Islam Montu, ex-vice chairman of Lalmonirhat municipality Ansar Ali, freedom fighter Captain (ret.) Azizul Haque Bir Protik, Muhammad Shahab Uddin, Nuruzzaman Khandokar, Golam Rahman, ex-Lalmonirhat municipality chairman Lutfur Rahman, Nazrul Islam Mandol, Sultah Ahmed Bablu, Habibur Rahman, Iliyas Hossain, Khandokar Muhammad Ishaque Ali, Abdul Majid Mandol, Tajul Chowdhury and SK Khwaza Moinuddin.

Boy beaten to death

UNB, Benapole, Jessore

A 10-year-old boy was beaten to death allegedly by his neighbours at Paker Ali village in Bagherpara upazila on Friday evening. The deceased was identified as Selim, a student of Class II at Mohammadpur Alia Madrasa and son of late Milon of the village. Police and locals said Selim had a quarrel with his neighbour Tumpa over plucking tamarind at night. At one stage, Tumpa's father Abdul Kader and mother Shukurun beat him up mercilessly over the issue, leaving him seriously injured. Later, local people took Selim to Jessore Medical College Hospital where he succumbed to his injuries.

SNAPSHOTS OF VIOLENT ACTS BY JAMAAT-SHIBIR MEN



PHOTO: STAR/ BANGLAR CHOKH

Activists of Jamaat-e-Islami and its student wing Islami Chhatra Shibir continued their orgy of destruction across the country yesterday, following Thursday's pronouncement of the death sentence to Jamaat leader Delawar Hossain Sayedee for committing crimes against humanity during the 1971 Liberation War. Photos show 1) burning of vehicles at Dargah Gate in Sylhet, 2) arson at a motorcycle shop in the same city, 3) torching a covered van on Dhaka-Chittagong highway in Narayanganj and 4) a vegetable-laden truck on Chittagong-Cox's Bazar highway at Satkania in Chittagong, 5) road blockade near Satkania, 6) procession with sticks and axes at Hamdah in Jhenidah, and 7) fighting with law enforcers at Alkar Moar in Rajshahi city.



A tale of three farmers

Tomato farming has changed their lot

UNB, Chuadanga

Diligence and perseverance have changed the lot of three farmers of Keshabpur village in Damurhuda upazila in the district.

Abdur Razzak and his two brothers Rafiq and Rashid have become successful in cultivating tomato on 16 bighas of land and have earned about Tk 10 lakh this year.

Long 15 years' involvement in tomato farming has made them millionaires.

Successful cultivation of the vegetable has brought the trio widespread recognition in the region.

In 1996, the three brothers leased 1.5 bighas of land and cultivated local variety of tomato on one bigha and high yielding variety on the rest 10 kathas.

That year, they made better profit from the high yielding variety.

Next year, they cultivated high yielding tomato on a total of eight bighas following advice of agriculture officers and made a profit of Tk 3,001 lakh.

Within a span of 15 years, the three brothers earned millions of taka and bought 21 bighas of land.

They have built a two-storey building and are



bringing up their children with higher education.

During the current season, they cultivated high yielding 'Super Minto' variety of tomato on 16 bighas at a cost of Tk 3,001 lakh.

Rafiq said, they have already sold tomato worth Tk 9,001 lakh.

"Still there is tomato worth Tk 2.5 to Tk 3 lakh in the fields," he said.

At the initial stage, they sold a maund of tomato at around Tk 1,200 and now at Tk 500-600.

Some 180 to 200 maunds of tomato can be produced from one bigha land, local farmers said.

The Department of Agriculture Extension (DAE), Chuadanga office

sources said this year tomato was cultivated on 525 hectares of land in the district.

In Damurhuda upazila, high yielding variety tomato was cultivated on 75 hectares.

Agriculture officer Jalal Uddin said, if tomato is cultivated on 'macha' (platform), tomato does not rot and it also does not need any spray of pesticide as birds sit on the 'macha' and eat insects.

Besides, it is easier to irrigate the land and pluck tomato, he said.

Seeing the success of Razzak, Rafiq and Rashid, many other farmers are opting for tomato cultivation in Keshabpur and its adjacent villages.

Indigenous fishes disappearing in Moulvibazar

UNB, Sylhet

Indigenous fishes are gradually disappearing from the water bodies in Barolekha upazila of Moulvibazar district, much to the worries of the local people.

Once bountiful with around 260 species of fish, the wetlands of the upazila have now only 50 species.

Poor levels of water in rivers, construction of roads and houses by filling canals and water bodies and other human interventions, including use of harmful pesticides in farmlands and unplanned construction of dams and irrigation projects, and unplanned fishing through use of fine nets are the main reasons behind the extinction of the local fish species.

Besides, fish breeding is being hampered due to rampant netting of brood fish and fish fry.

On inquiry, it was found that local species of sweet water fish are still there in 238 small and big haors

marshes, ponds including Hakaluki.

At least 14 species of fish have become extinct while 14-15 others are on the verge of extinction.

The fishes facing extinction are mola, darkina, napit koi, gutum, bagha gutum, baligara, chapila, gojar and pabda.

The endangered species of fish are bagha, rita, nandia, aiyr and mohashole.

Now foreign and cultured species of fish are dominating the local markets.

Only a handful fishes from haors (big water bodies) are available in the markets, which are also beyond the purchasing capacity of the common people.

Barolekha upazila fisheries officer Azizur Rahman said, the fisheries department has undertaken various projects to preserve the local varieties of fish.

It is possible to protect the local varieties of fish if people catch fish properly and as per the Fish Resources Act, he added.

Centre of Excellence for Universal Health Coverage Project

icddr,b and James P Grant School of Public Health, BRAC University, Bangladesh

Short course on Universal Health Coverage for junior faculty and young professionals in health and development

The Centre of Excellence for Universal Health Coverage (CoE-UHC), jointly hosted by icddr,b and James P Grant School of Public Health (JPGSPH) at BRAC University is seeking applications for a 4-day residential workshop on "Universal Health Coverage" that will be held tentatively during March 20-23, 2013 and outside Dhaka. Faculties of public and private universities/university colleges and researchers and practitioners in health science and social science are encouraged to apply. Full/partial scholarships and tuition fee waiver are available for limited number of participants on the basis of relevance to the subject and first-come, first-served basis. Please visit www.coe-uhc.org and www.icddr.org or <http://sph.bracu.ac.bd/> for application by **March 10, 2013**. Please download the application form and send it to nishrat@bracu.ac.bd. For more information, you may contact Dr. Nurullah Awal, Deputy Project Coordinator; at nurullah@icddr.org.



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