

ILLEGAL BOAT TRIP TO MALAYSIA

Coastguard hands over 220 detainees to police

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar

Members of Bangladesh Coastguard yesterday handed over 220 people, including 214 Bangladeshis and six Myanmar citizens, to police at Teknaf Land Port yesterday.

The coastguard detained them from a Malaysia-bound trawler in the Bay, some five kilometres off the Saint Martin's Island under Teknaf upazila in Cox's Bazar on Monday.

Of the arrestees, 64 are from Narsingdi, 52 from Jessore, 21 each from Comilla and Cox's Bazar, 10 from Satkhira, eight from

Narayanganj, seven each from Meherpur and Bogra, five each from Chittagong and Chuadanga, four from Pabna, two each from Sirajganj and Kurigram, and one each from Mymensingh, Jamalpur, Rajshahi, Tangail, Dhaka and Bandarban.

Teknaf Model Police Station Inspector (Investigation) Md Didar Ferdous received the detainees at Teknaf Land Port Immigration Jetty in presence of Teknaf Upazila Nirbahi Officer Shah Mujaheed Uddin and Coastguard Station Commander Lt Habib. Some of the arrestees told

journalists that they had not thought that they would return alive.

A gang of human traffickers collect people from Bangladesh and Myanmar, and keep them in different areas of Teknaf to send them to Malaysia through the Bay, coastguard officials said.

Earlier, members of Border Guard Bangladesh detained 14 people including an alleged trafficker from the Whykang check post in Teknaf upazila on July 6 and nine other people including three alleged traffickers from the same check post on July 5.



PHOTO: STAR

Erosion by the Modhumati River has taken a serious turn, devouring Shiarbor Bazar and 200 acres of cropland in Shalnagar union of Lohagara upazila under Narail district in last one week.

SNIPPETS

Jamaat man held

A CORRESPONDENT, Comilla

Police arrested a local Jamaat leader at Barura Bazar in Barura upazila yesterday morning. The arrestee is Dewan Nazrul Islam, 40, of Arjuntola village and ameer of Barura upazila unit Jamaat. AKM Kayes Alam Chowdhury, officer in-charge of Barura Police Station, said Nazrul was arrested on charge of vandalising vehicles in the area during recent nationwide hartals by Jamaat-Shibir.

Lightning kills boy

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

A schoolboy was killed by lightning in Kaharol upazila on Monday evening. The deceased was identified as Ratan Roy, 15, son of Mohen Roy of Bakharkhuria village. Locals said the boy was struck by lightning when he was working at a farmland near their house. He was rushed to the upazila health complex where the attending doctors declared him dead.

Housewife commits 'suicide'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bogra

A housewife allegedly committed suicide following a family feud at Sardarpara village in Dupchanchia upazila on Monday evening. Deceased Sundory Begum, 27, was wife of Lal Mia alias Lalu of the village. Police said Sundory took poison following an altercation with her husband over a trivial matter. She was rushed to the upazila health complex where on duty doctors declared her dead.

Robbers loot house

A CORRESPONDENT, Comilla

Robbers looted cash, gold ornaments and other valuables from the house of a journalist at Moduchar village in Laksam upazila early yesterday. Abul Khair, officer in-charge of Laksam Police Station, said a gang of 10/12 entered the house of Mozumder Jewel, local correspondent of ETV, by breaking open the collapsible gate and beat up the family members. The gang then looted Tk 11 lakh and eight tolas of gold ornaments at gunpoint and fled, said the OC.

Ten shops fined

UNB, Tangail

A mobile court in Kalihati upazila on Monday fined six restaurants and four sweetmeat shops a total of Tk 1.20 lakh for running their businesses in an unhygienic atmosphere. Executive Magistrate Abu Naser led the drive with the help of police at Alenga Bazar. The court fined Al Arif hotel Tk 50,000, Hotel Cholhar Pathy Tk 10,000, Hotel Raj Tk 12,000, Susanto Hotel Tk 5,000, Shahid Hotel Tk 10,000, Chan Miah Hotel Tk 1,000 and the four sweetmeat shops -- Purabari Mstanna Bhandar Tk 20,000, Joy Gupal Mistanna Bhandar Tk 10,000, Bonnya Bhandar Tk 1,000 and Joy Ma Kali Tk 1,000.

3 held with firearm

UNB, Khagrachhari

A team of Bangladesh army in a drive arrested three people along with a pistol and four bullets in Signboard area in Matiranga upazila on Monday. The arrestees are Sumon Chakma, 26, Marteshu Tripura, 28, and Raju Chakma. They hail from different places of Matiranga and Panchhari upazilas. On secret information, the army team raided the area and arrested the trio along with the arms and bullets, said Bashir Ahmed, officer in-charge of Guimara Police Station.

Student jailed for stalking

UNB, Shariatpur

A mobile court in Damudya upazila on Monday sentenced a college student to one year's imprisonment for stalking a female student. The convict was identified as Abdus Salam, 20, son of Matin Kazi of Dani Damudya village. Sources said Salam used to tease the girl on her way to college. On the day, Salam physically harassed the girl in her classroom. On information, police arrested Salam and produced him before the mobile court, led by UNO ATM Mahbul Karim, which pronounced the verdict.

Man murdered

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jhenidah

Police recovered the hanging body of an unidentified man from a field at Mingram village in Shaillkupa upazila on Monday morning. Anwar Hossain, officer in-charge of Shaillkupa Police Station, said locals found his body hanging with a Banyan tree and informed the police. The OC said the man might have been killed over previous enmity.

Two drown in rivers

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Thakurgaon

Two teenage boys drowned in rivers in the district yesterday. The deceased were identified as Sajon, 18, son of Badal of Hathathbostii in the municipality and Johirul, 13, son of Moslemuddin of Dangipara village in Baliadangi upazila. Family members said on Sunday, Sajon went to rescue the victims who trapped in their houses beside Tangon River. At one stage of rescue operation, the boy fell into the river and drowned yesterday. Meanwhile, Johirul drowned in Tirnoi River in Baliadangi upazila in the afternoon while he was fishing.

Indian clothes seized

UNB, Satkhira

Members of Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) seized Indian clothes worth Tk 61 lakh from a truck at Madra border point on Monday. Acting on a tip-off, a BGB team recovered 1725 pieces of Indian saree, 232 sets of three-piece and 1897 meters of whole cloth from the truck in the afternoon, said BGB-38 operation officer Major Arif.

Removal of UNO demanded

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bandarban

People of Thanchi upazila brought out a procession and formed a human chain yesterday, demanding removal of the upazila nirbahi officer (UNO). The participants alleged that UNO Sheikh Saleh Ahamad often harassed local traders in the name of mobile court and demanded toll from them. They also threatened to go for a tougher agitation programme if the demand was not met immediately. Contacted, Saleh Ahamad refuted the allegations.

ROOPPUR NUKE PROJECT TO BEGIN IN SEPT

The priority plant to accelerate uplift, says Yafes Osman

AHMED HUMAYUNA KABIR TOPU, Pabna

Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant, which is likely to see inauguration of groundwork in late September this year, will continue as one of the most priority projects of the country regardless of which government comes to power next, said Yafes Osman, state minister for science and technology.

Osman, accompanied by officials of the Ministry of Science and technology and Atomic Energy Commission, visited the site of the country's first nuclear power project in Ishwardi upazila under Pabna district on Monday and yesterday.

"Preparations are on as the prime minister is likely to inaugurate Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant project in last week of September. The project will greatly contribute to social and economic development in the region," he said while talking to this correspondent yesterday.

Earlier the government signed a contract with Russia for a \$500 million loan to finance the construction of the two-unit power plant at Rooppur as well as necessary engineering help and environmental impact studies before and after its formal inauguration.

"Huge employment



PHOTO: STAR

State Minister for Science and Technology Dr Yafes Osman accompanied by officials visit the site of Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant in Pabna yesterday.

opportunity will be created as around 10 thousand people will be needed for running the plant when it goes into operation. Besides, there will be huge infrastructure development including setting up of hospitals, schools, and colleges in the area," Osman said.

"Although the Russian experts are helping to establish the project we have to build qualified manpower for its smooth continuation. Dhaka University has already introduced a department for nuclear education. Engineering universities and other universities will also introduce nuclear education and in next six years we will get an expert generation to develop the project.

"According to the contract, Russian experts will conduct 63 types of tests in

the project site for ensuring safety. Later a master plan of the project reactor design will be finalised within 2015.

"Especially against the backdrop of Fukushima disaster in Japan, the government has given highest importance to the safety of Rooppur plant. A four-tier security measure will be taken for the reactor," the ministers said.

Asked about what would be the fate of the project if the government changes, he said, "This is one of the most priority projects for the country. When BNP was in power they had also taken an initiative for the project. The present government has succeeded to install the plant. Whoever comes to power must continue the project for the interest of the country."

Advertisement for 'Daka Water Supply and Sewerage Department' (ঢাকা পানি সরবরাহ ও পয়ঃ নিষ্কাশন কর্তৃপক্ষ). It includes a logo, contact information, and a list of 12 job openings with details like position name, number of posts, and educational requirements.

Advertisement for 'Bangladesh Power Development Board' (বাংলাদেশ বিদ্যুৎ উন্নয়ন বোর্ড). It features the board's logo, contact details, and a list of 18 job openings for various technical and administrative roles, including details on salary and application procedures.