

# Clash over setting up electric pole in Gaibandha, 15 hurt

5 shops, godown, husking mills badly damaged

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gaibandha

At least 15 people were injured in a clash between two rival groups over setting up an electric pole at Chikney Bazar in Sadullapur upazila on Saturday.

Five grocery shops, a godown and some husking mills were also vandalised during the incident.

Of the injured, Faruk Mia, 35, Taleb Ali, 36, Raju Mia, 33, Toha Sarker, 38, Toza Sarker, 40, Jadu Mia, 26, Suja Mia, 41 and freedom fighter Raja Mia, 65, were admitted to the upazila health complex while the rest given first aid.

Police and witnesses said Rangpur Palli Bidyut Samity has been setting up electric poles in the upazila for the last two months.

The work for extension of electric lines at Chikney Bazar recently came to a halt last month as local trader Yunus Ali Sarker of Chikney village in Jamalpur union and his relatives protested setting up electric pole over their houses.

On Saturday afternoon, the villagers of Uttar Chandkarim in Faridpur union along with the line-men and labourers of Palli Bidyut Samity gathered at the disputed point for setting up an electric pole but they were resisted by Yunus Ali Sarker and his men, triggering the clash.

At least 15 people from both sides were injured during the incident, said locals.

At least five grocery shops, a warehouse and husking mills of Yunus Ali and his relatives were also



PHOTO: STAR

**Policemen were deployed to stave off further unwarranted situation after yesterday's clash and vandalism at Chikney Bazar in Sadullapur upazila under Gaibandha district.**

ransacked at the bazar during the incident.

"Earlier, we filed a complaint with Rangput Palli Bidyut Samity for not setting up electric poll over their houses, but the authorities did not pay any heed to the matter," said freedom fighter Mesher Ali Sarker, owner of one of the damaged grocery shops.

Punitive action would be taken against those responsible for the offence after investigating the matter, said Zia Latifur Rahman, officer in-charge of Sadullapur Police Station.

Additional police personnel have been deployed in the area to avert any further trouble, said the OC.



PHOTO: STAR

**The compound of Bagerhat Model Police Station remains flooded after the heavy down-pour yesterday.**

# Two forest robbers shot in gunfight with cops

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

Two forest robbers sustained bullet injuries during a gunfight with police in West Sundarbans under Shymnagar upazila of the district on Saturday night.

The injured robbers are Joynal Gazi, 26, son of Jeher Ali Gazi of Gopra village, and Jasimuddin Howlader, 25, son of Babur Ali Howlader of Madinabad village under Kaira upazila of Khulna district.

Officer-in-Charge (OC)

of Shymnagar Police Station Aminur Islam said law enforcers, acting on a tip-off, raided the Gabura area in the evening and arrested Joynal and Jasim of infamous 'Mejobhai Bahini' from there.

On the basis of their statement, police along with the two went to the Jayakhali area of West Sundarbans under Satkhira range to recover firearms, the OC added.

When they reached the spot at around 10:00pm, members of the bahini

opened fore on the law enforcers, prompting them to retaliate.

Joynal and Jasim sustained bullet injuries while others managed to flee, the OC said, adding that police arrested the duo and seized a gun and a machete from their possession.

They were admitted to Shymnagar Upazila Health Complex.

Sub-Inspector (SI) Zabid Hasan filed two separate cases with the police station.

# Gas line explosion leaves 12 injured in Feni

A CORRESPONDENT, Feni

At least 12 people, including two officials of Bakhraabad Gas Distribution Company Limited (BGDCL), sustained burn injuries as the gas line of a CNG filling station in Chhagalnaiya upazila exploded yesterday.

The incident took place at the afternoon when the BGDCL officials were repairing the gas pipeline of the filling station beside

Dhaka-Chittagong highway.

The injured are Md Wasim, deputy assistant engineer, Rafiqul Islam, technician, and Md Harun, a worker of BGDCL, Mamun Chowdhury, assistant engineer of the filling station, Nurul Alam, Md Bappi, Md Harunur Rashid, Nurul Amin, Md Hannan, Abu Sayed, Abdur Rahim, Air Ahmed and Jahangir Alam.

Of them, 10 were admitted to Dhaka Medical College and Hospital while the rest to Feni

Sadar Hospital.

Police and witnesses said being informed that the fault at the pipeline was found at the filling station in Bakhraabad area, three staffs of BGDCL went to repair the pipeline and it blasted.

Manager of BGDCL in Feni Tazul Islam said they were investigating the incident.

A general diary was filed in connection with the incident, said Md Moazzem Hossain, officer in-charge of Chhagalnaiya Police Station.

# Two die, one missing in Sunamganj boat capsized

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

A woman and her nine-year-old son drowned while another went missing as a boat capsized in Jadukata River at Tekerghat village under Taherpur upazila of Sunamganj district yesterday.

The deceased were identified as Shilpi Begum, 30, wife of Mohammad Ali, and their son Jisan Miah of the village. Shilpi's aunt Azizunessa, 70, went missing.

Police said Mohammad Ali and his family were going to Sokiarkhal village in Bisomborpur upazila from Tekerghat by an engine-driven-boat around 2:00pm.

Suddenly, the boat hit a pillar of Patargaon Bridge in Tekerghat area and sank in the river.

Later, the bodies of Shilpi Begum and her son were recovered, said Anisur Rahman, officer in-charge of Taherpur Police Station.

# Lightning kills two

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bhola

Two farmers were killed by lightning in Charfassion upazila of the district yesterday.

The dead are Joynal Abedin, 60, of Nazrul Nagar union and Nue-e-Alam of Char fakira village under Hazariganj union of the upazila.

# 5 Indians held with 4.4 kg gold bars in Jessore

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jessore

Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) members detained five Indian nationals and recovered 36 gold bars weighing around 4.4 kilograms after searching a BRTC passenger bus in Sadar upazila yesterday afternoon.

The detainees are Bijoy Kumar Chandra, Ruhith Ashok, Komal Otharar and Raj Kumar of Nagpur, and Rakesh of Ahmadabad in the neighbouring country.

Lt Col Motiur Rahman, commanding officer of BGB 26 Battalion, said the arrestees arrived in Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport in the capital from Dubai on June 19.

Yesterday morning they came to Benapole by a bus

and completed their immigration process to return to their country by noon.

But instead of crossing the border, they mysteriously boarded on a Jessore-bound BRTC bus, said the CO.

Being informed, a BGB team chased the bus and managed to catch them in Nutunhat area around 2:00pm.

Later, they were taken to the local BGB camp and recovered 36 gold bars hidden inside their rectum, the CO added.

On Friday, Indian Customs authorities held four Indian citizens who were returning through Benapole border and seized 57 gold bars from them at Petrapole check-post on the Indian side.

# BKASH AGENT Muggers loot Tk 15 lakh

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Armed muggers took away around Tk 11.92 lakh from two distributing agents of bKash, a mobile money transfer provider, shooting one of them in the capital's Uttara yesterday.

The muggers shot Mahbubul Alam, who was carrying a bag full of money, in the right leg when he and his colleague Nazrul Islam were going to a bank in Sector 11 of Uttara around 10:45am, witnesses said.

Mahbubul received treatment at Dhaka Medical College Hospital. He was later admitted to a private clinic in the city for better treatment.

In Uttara, Mahbubul and Nazrul, employees of Robi Digital Service, got down from a CNG-run auto-rickshaw in front of the bank to deposit money.

Five muggers, arriving there on two motorbikes, obstructed the duo and asked for the money, said their colleague Raju Ahmed.

As Mahbubul refused to do so, one of the muggers shot him, took the bag and fled the scene, he added.

Uttara Pashchim police

said they have detained three persons in connection with the mugging.

Incidents of bKash agents getting mugged have become very frequent in recent months. With the latest case, at least 12 persons have fallen victims in nine incidents since February.

Three sales representatives were robbed of Tk 31.8 lakh in two separate incidents in the capital on Thursday.

Criminals looted Tk 3 lakh from two agents of bKash after injuring them at Baliakhora in Ghior upazila yesterday, reports our Manikganj correspondent.

The injured are Abdul Alim, son of Sorhab Uddin of Muljan village in Sadar upazila and Ataur Rahman, son of Bala Chan of Dhamshwar village in Daulatpur upazila. They were admitted to Monno General Hospital.

Manikganj district manager of bKash Sajedur Rahman Sujon said the gang waylaid the motorbike of Alim and Ataur in the area at 12:00 noon beat up them and took away the money.



PHOTO: STAR

**Framers of Nizampur in Kalapara upazila under Patuakhali district form a human chain at the upazila headquarters yesterday demanding immediate steps to repair the broken embankment in their area to save farmlands from flooding by saline water.**

# Take immediate steps to repair flood control dyke

Demand affected farmers of Kalapara upazila

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

Farmers of three villages in Nizampur area under Kalapara upazila in the district formed human chains at three separate places yesterday, demanding immediate steps to repair the flood control embankment that collapsed in the area on June 13.

Over 500 farmers formed joined human chains in front of Kalapara Water development Board (WDB) office at 10:00am, upazila parishad office at 11:00am and Kalapara Press Club at 12:00noon to mount pressure on the authorities concerned to meet the demand.

They later submitted memorandums to the

superintendent engineer of Water development Board (WDB), upazila nirbahi officer (UNO) and upazila parishad chairman.

Superintendent Engineer of WDB Md Shahbuddin Ahmed, Kalapara Upazila Parishad Chairman Abdul Motaleb Talukder, and UNO Md Jahangir Hossain assured the farmers that they would take necessary steps as soon as possible to repair the dyke.

Over 200 feet area of the embankment collapsed at Nizampur, letting tidal water enter to the three villages. Local farmers are facing uncertainty about aman paddy cultivation as vast agricultural lands have been affected by saline water.

Abdul Maleq Akhond,

chairman of Mohipur Union Parishad, said two to three feet water flooded Nizampur, Eusufpur and Puratan Mohipur villages in the upazila following collapse of the flood control embankment under the impact of tidal surge.

"The authorities concerned should take immediate step to repair the damaged embankment to prevent further damage," he said, adding that Water Development Board (WDB) repaired the embankment last year but it has collapsed due to low quality work.

Contacted, Md Shahbuddin Ahmed, superintendent engineer of WDB, said repair work of the damaged embankment will start within two or three days.

# Mother kills kid, takes own life over family feud

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

A woman took her life after allegedly killing her minor daughter over a family feud at Mirka village in Bhaluka upazila of the district early Saturday.

The deceased are Sheuly Akhtar, 35, wife of Jahangir Alam, and their four and a half year old daughter Suchi Akhtar of the village.

Police quoted victim's family member as saying that Sheuly and her husband Jahangir, a day labourer, used to quarrel with each other often over family feud.

The situation recently worsened as Sheuly and her children had to often remain starved or half-fed as her husband is jobless for quite some time.

On Friday night, Sheuly along with her daughter Suchi went out of their house, keeping

her six-month-old minor boy asleep and did not return since then, police added.

The following morning, receiving information from locals, police recovered the hanging bodies of Sheuly and her daughter from a tree adjacent to their house, said Abul Kalam Azad, officer in-charge of Bhaluka Police Station.

The OC, quoting Sheuly's father Gias Uddin, added that, for the last few days, Sheuly was looking for a work as she along with her children was passing days amid extreme poverty, but failed to manage any.

Sheuly might have committed suicide after killing her daughter, the OC said.

The bodies had been sent to Mymensingh Medical College Hospital morgue for autopsy.

# One killed, 5 hurt as rival groups clash

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

A man was killed five others were injured as two rival groups clashed over establishing supremacy at Aoutapara village in Ishwardi upazila of the district on Saturday night.

The deceased is identified as Siddik Biswas, 45, son of late Sanu Biswas.

Officer-in-Charge Biman Kumar Das of Ishwardi Police Station said there had been a long-standing dispute between two groups-one led by Mahamud Kasai and another by Alauddin Biswas--over establishing supremacy at the village.

At around 9:30pm, the two rival groups locked in a clash over the issue. At one stage, the supporters Mahamud Kasai opened fire on their rivals, leaving Siddik, brother of Alauddin Biswas, dead on the spot and five others injured.

Being informed, police rushed to the spot, dispersed the clashing groups and brought the situation under control.



PHOTO: STAR

**Imran H Sarkar, spokesperson of Gonojagoron Mancha, distributes leaflets among people in Narsingdi as part of the campaign to create mass awareness about their six-point programme.**