

SADULLAPUR IN GAIBANDHA

Parents hand over 3 drug addict youths to police

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gaibandha

Helpless parents of three drug addict youths in Sadullapur upazila have finally handed over their sons to police.

The three drug addicts were later produced before a mobile court, led by executive magistrate Mohammed Ahsan Habib, which jailed them on different terms.

The youths are Asaduzzaman Alif, 17, of Joyenpur village, Ranju Mia, 18, of Chak Bhagobanpur village and Ataul Karim Jewel, 18, of Kishamat Tajpur village in the upazila.

Of them, Arif and Ranju were sentenced to six months' imprisonment while Jewel was jailed for two years, said court sources.

The incidents took place in the last two weeks.

"The convicts were so desperate that they even did not hesitate to assault their parents for money to buy drugs," lamented Raisuddin, a guardian of Chawkbhagobanpur area.

Locals said, use of banned drugs went up alarmingly in the upazila and school and college going students were the targets of the drug peddlers.

Peddlers openly sell drugs at Mirpur Bazar, Dhaperhat, Dholbhang, Colony point, Kacharipara, Joyenpur, Bairagir Bazar and Idrakpur Bazar, they said.

Blaming police for inaction, they said that the trade was going on under the nose of the law enforcers.

The most sold drugs are phensidyl, heroin, hashish and yaba, they said.

A local teacher, Hamidul Islam, yesterday expressed deep concern saying that the future of the school and college going children was at stake.

Police were trying to nab the drug peddlers patronised by a few local influential persons, said officer in-charge of Sadullapur police station Zia Latiful Islam.

People's cooperation is needed to combat the evils of drug, he added.

SUBMERGED SCHOOL GROUND

Kids wade through dirty water to reach classes

QUAMRUL ISLAM RUBAIYAT, Thakurgaon

The students and teachers of Mathurapur-1 Government Primary School have to wade through stagnant dirty water to get to the classrooms as the school ground remains under water for a couple of months during the rainy season.

Children often suffer from cold related diseases due to the situation.

The school, established on 1.11 acres of land in 1932, has been facing water logging problem for the last two years after a road was constructed on the eastern side of the ground that served as outlet of rain water earlier, school sources said.

During a recent visit, this correspondent saw several children wading towards their classrooms through the stagnant water on the school ground.

It seemed there was no possibility to get the ground dry unless sunny weather prevails for several days.

"We face trouble due to stagnant water in the rainy season. We have to remain confined to the classrooms and cannot play in the



School ground of Mathurapur-1 Government Primary School in Thakurgaon Sadar upazila has remained waterlogged for a couple of months as outlet for rain water got blocked following construction of a road on the eastern side of the ground.

field," said Sumi Akhter, a student of Class-V.

Headmaster of the school Yasmin Pervin said, "We repeatedly requested local public representatives and the authorities concerned before the rainy season to solve the problem but to no effect."

Local people alleged that last year fiscal) local Awami League leader Ekramul Haque as the chairman of the committee formed to fill up the school field took sanction of two tonnes of wheat under Test Relief programme from the local lawmaker for the purpose

but no work was done there.

Contacted, Ekramul Haque, law affairs secretary of Rahimanpur union Awami League, said, "Members of school managing committee and the headmaster know well where the project money had gone."

Schoolboy murdered in Comilla

UNB, Comilla

Police recovered the body of a schoolboy with the throat slashed from a paddy field at Korpai Shantamura in Burichong upazila yesterday morning.

The deceased was identified as Nazmul Hasan, 14, a Class VIII student at Chandina Gobindapur High School and son of Abdur Rauf, a resident of Madhyatala village in Chandina upazila.

Jahirul Islam, officer in-charge of Burichong Police Station, said Nazmul was also a battery-run three-wheeler driver.

Going out of the house with the vehicle on Friday afternoon, he went to Pihari in the same upazila with passengers and returned to Barua.

Since then, he remained traceless.

Locals spotted his throat-slitted body lying in a paddy field in the area early in the morning and informed police.

Police recovered the body and sent it to Comilla Medical College Hospital morgue for an autopsy.

A case was filed in this connection.

MURDER ACCUSED FREED ON BAIL

Hindu families under fresh threat

Follow-up

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

Members of two Hindu families are fearing fresh attack as the main accused in a murder case at bordering Nawdabash village in Kaliganj upazila is allegedly threatening them after getting bail.

Police said, six people were arrested after the death of farmer Bhola Nath, 65, on 11 October. They were produced in the Judicial Magistrate Court the next day.

The main accused in the murder case, local ward unit AL member Rezaul Karim Reza, got bail after four days while the five others are in the district jail, they said.

"After getting the bail from the court, the main accused and his cohorts have started threatening us to withdraw the case," said the plaintiff, also the victim's son Subhas Chandra Roy.

"The accused are also trying to lodge false cases against us and we are not getting proper support from police due to unknown reason," he alleged.



Relatives of slain Bhola Nath (inset) wait at his house at Nawdabash village in Kaliganj upazila of Lalmonirhat. Bhola Nath was killed in an attack allegedly by ruling party men as he along with his family members tried to prevent them from fishing in their water body.

Bhola Nath's wife Sandhya Rani said "Police could not recover looted assets including gold ornaments till now while all the killers and attackers are moving freely". We want justice, she said.

The IO in the case, Sub-Inspector (SI) of Kaliganj PS Anisur Rahman Anis, said

he produced the six accused in the court. But granting bail was the discretion of the court, he added.

About 45 to 50 alleged ruling party men swooped on Bhola Nath and his family members as they tried to prevent them from fishing in the water body belonging to Bhola Nath and his

brother Manindra Nath Roy in the village on 9 October.

Bhola Nath died at Rangpur Medical College Hospital two days after the attack.

The gang also vandalized and looted three houses of two Hindu families.

A case was lodged accusing 48 people with Kaliganj PS.

Child marriage bid foiled

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur

A student of Class IX was saved from underage marriage following timely intervention of Badarganj upazila administration at Kazipara village under the same upazila on Thursday.

Police and locals said, marriage of Monira Khatun, 14, daughter of Abdul Mannan of the village, Class IX student at Kazipara High School, was set to be solemnised with Jilur Rahman, 18, son of Tarajul Islam of Dharmapur village of the same upazila on Thursday night.

The parents took all preparations for the marriage.

On information, a team of police led by Khondkar Ishtiaq Ahmed, upazila nirbahi officer (UNO) of Badarganj, rushed to the bride's house and stopped the marriage.

The UNO picked up bride's father Abdul Mannan and took him to the bridegroom's house and arrested Tarajul Islam on charge of arranging the child marriage.

Later, they were released on receiving their undertakings that they will never try to do it again.

SNIPPETS

Minor boy found dead

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

Police recovered the body of a physically challenged minor boy from a pond at Khamargati village in Sadar upazila of Sirajganj district on Friday. The deceased is Sohan Hossain, 8, son of Aynal Haque, of the village. Police, however, arrested a youth in this connection. Habibur Islam, officer in-charge of Sadar Police Station, said locals spotted Sohan's floating body in a pond adjacent to a school at the village on Friday noon and informed police. Sohan, who had been missing since Thursday night, might have been strangled, added the OC.

20 arrested on border

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Benapole, Jessore

Members of Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) detained 20 Bangladeshi nationals from Butkhali border on Friday night, while they were going to India without valid documents. The arrestees were six men, four women and ten children. They hailed from different areas of Narail, Barisal and Bagerhat districts. Shamsur Rahman, company commander of BGB 23 Battalion, said a BGB team raided the area around 8:00pm and arrested them while they were crossing the border illegally with the help of middlemen. Sensing the presence of the law enforcers the traffickers fled the scene, added the BGB official. Later, the detainees were handed over to the Benapole Port Police Station.

Upazila AL secretary resigns

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

Chayan Islam, secretary of Shahzadpur upazila unit of Awami League resigned from his post on Friday allegedly in protest of internal conflict and inactiveness of the upazila unit leaders. Sources said, forming of a full fledged upazila committee, lack of party activities and negligence by the upazila unit president Hasibur Rahman Swapon, were stated as the causes behind the resignation in the letter. Contacted, Advocate KM Hossain Ali, confirming the submission of resignation, said his letter was not granted at the district committee meeting at the party office in the town on Friday.

Imam among 21 sued in Pabna

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

Twenty-one people, including an Imam of a local mosque, were sued on charge of making indecent remarks against the prime minister in Sadar upazila yesterday. The plaintiff, Shahidul Islam, a member of Sadar upazila unit of Jubo League, in his complaint said Nazmul Hossain, Imam of Songasa Jam-e-masjid made objectionable comments on PM and criticised the activities of the government during Khutba in Jumma prayer on Friday. Faruk Hossain, sub-inspector of Sadar Police Station, said they were investigating the matter.

Housewife killed for dowry

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

A housewife was killed allegedly by her husband for dowry at Matikora village in Sadar upazila on Friday night. The victim is Jesmin Begum, 28, wife of Mohammad Swapon the village. Police quoted the victim's family members as saying that Swapon used to torture Jesmin for dowry since their marriage a few years back. On Friday night, Swapon beat up Jesmin mercilessly over the issue, leaving her dead on the spot and fled the scene, said Habibur Islam, officer in-charge of Sadar Police Station. Police recovered the body yesterday and sent it to Sirajganj General Hospital morgue for an autopsy.

College student goes missing

UNB, Manikganj

A college student went missing during a fishing trip in the Dhaleshwari River in Sattaria upazila of Manikganj on Friday. The victim was identified as Lavlu Hossain, 18, son of Harun Sheikh, a resident of the adjacent Aag Savar village and an HSC first year student of Dorgram Viku Memorial Government College. Quoting locals, chairman of Boraid Union Parishad Abdul Kuddus Khan Mojlish said around 2.30 pm, Lavlu along with his two friends went on a fishing trip in the nearby river. Lavlu dived deep into the river water to catch fish and at one stage, he disappeared. Being informed by his friends, locals rushed in and conducted a search by spreading fishing nets for one and a half hour; yet he could not be found alive or dead.

Locals vandalise gambling spots

Police indifference to the crime alleged

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

Local people vandalised four gambling pandals at Ketkibari village in Nawdabash union under Hatibandha upazila on Friday night as police remained inactive over the issue for long.

They also seized a microbus, an easy-bike and a motorcycle from the spot. However, the gamblers managed to flee the scene.

Locals said, gambling was going on at least on 100 spots in five upazilas everyday and obscene dances were being performed at six venues in Aditmari and Kaliganj upazilas openly for the last few weeks, with the backing of a few unscrupulous police officials.

The spots include Mahishkhocha Bazar, Bhadai, Kutirpar, Namuri in Aditmari upazila, Kakina, Bhotmari and Namuri in Kaliganj upazila, Ketkibari, Paruliya in Hatibandha upazila and Barabari in

Gambling goes on at a spot at Namuri village in Aditmari upazila of Lalmonirhat district. Locals on Friday vandalised a few gambling pandals in Hatibandha upazila.



PHOTO: STAR

Sadar upazila.

Mizanur Rahman, a resident at Mahishkhocha Bazar in Aditmari upazila, said stealing and mugging went up alarmingly as gambling takes place at the bazar every night.

As police gets the share of gambling money, the gang was committing the crime freely, he alleged.

Despite repeated pleas,

police did not take any punitive action against the gamblers, said Ruhul Amin, a local trader of Namuri village in the upazila.

Contacted, officer in-charge of Kaliganj police station Sohrab Hossain said, it was the matter of Aditmari police to look into gambling and obscene dance there.

However, he refuted the

allegation of taking bribe from the gamblers.

On the other hand, OC Kafil Uddin of Aditmari police station said that the crimes committed in Kaliganj were not under his jurisdiction.

ASP Adibul Islam said, he asked the police to conduct drives against gambling and obscene dances at different villages.

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