



PHOTO: STAR

Farmers reap paddy at a field of Ashekpur in Tangail district but the joy of harvesting eludes them as the recent flood caused by heavy rain did much harm to the crop in the area.

Ershad loyalists capture Rangpur JP office

City committee secy stabbed by rival party men

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur

Jatiya Party activists loyal to party Chairman Hussain Muhammad Ershad on Tuesday night captured the district unit office at Central Road following an attack on one of the leaders of the faction.

SM Yasir, member secretary of Rangpur city unit convening committee, was stabbed allegedly by the supporters of Mashiur Rahman Ranga, state minister for Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives, in city's Jummapara area on Tuesday night.

Injured Yasir told this

correspondent that a gang of 10/12 masked men riding on four motorcycles waylaid him and stabbed him with sharp weapons while he was returning home around 11:00pm, leaving him injured.

Hearing his screams, locals chased the gang, rescued him and rushed him to Rangpur Medical College Hospital.

Contacted, Mostafizur Rahman Mostafa, convener of the convening committee, claimed that Ranga's men launched the attack on Yasir.

Samsul Haque, joint-general secretary of the dissolved district committee, also loyal to Ranga,

refuting the allegation said none of their supporters were involved in the incident.

Abdul Qader Jilani, officer in-charge of Rangpur Kotwali Police Station, said they were conducting drives to arrest the attackers. Additional police have been deployed in the area to avert any untoward incident.

On September 10, party chief Ershad relieved Ranga from the party's presidium member post and dissolved JP's Rangpur district and city unit committees.

Ershad also announced two separate convening committees of the district and city units the same day.



PHOTO: STAR

Activists loyal to Jatiya Party (JP) Chairman HM Ershad stormed the party's district unit office on Central Road in Rangpur city after a local leader of JP was stabbed allegedly by the supporters of a dissident leader on Tuesday night.

MEDICAL COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY IN RANGAMATI Postpone move until full execution of CHT accord

PCJSS front bodies demand at rally

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangamati

Juba Samity (JS) and Pahari Chhatra Parishad (PCP), associate organisations of Parbatya Chattagram Jana Sanghati Samiti (PCJSS), held programmes in the town yesterday urging the government not to set up a medical college and a university there before fully implementing Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) peace accord.

They also demanded immediate nullification of the amended Hill District Councils (HDC) and CHT Development Board (CHTDB) acts.

District unit of PCP brought out procession from their party's district office at North Kalindipur in the town and held a protest

rally in New Court Building area.

The government had taken all decisions about amendment of HDCs and CHTDB acts and setting up of a proposed medical college and a science and technology university without consultation with CHT Regional Council (CHTRC), speakers said at the rally.

Land owned by the Jumma people in the region is being grabbed while the government is showing an attitude of aggression towards the indigenous people in hills in the name of development, they said.

They demanded that the government prepare electoral rules as per the peace deal in which only permanent residents will be voters

to elect representatives in the three HDCs and CHTRC.

They urged the government to immediately postpone all activities of the two proposed institutions and scrapping of two amended acts until full implementation of the peace accord.

Among others, Udayan Tripura, staff member of PCJSS, Jonaki Chakma, assistant secretary of CHT Mohila Samity, Jyotishman Chakma, president of PCP central committee, Papul Bikash Chakma, information secretary of JS, and Rinthu Chakma, president of PCP Rangamati College unit, addressed the rally chaired by Bachchu Chakma, president PCP district unit.

KUSHTIA, MAGURA

Jubo Dal leader, BCL man murdered

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

A local Jubo Dal leader and a Chhatra League activist were killed in Kushtia and Magura districts on Tuesday night.

The deceased are Kismat Ali, 35, general secretary of Jubo Dal Ward No-5 of Chandgram union unit in Bheramara upazila of Kushtia, and Razan Khan, an activist of Magura district unit of BCL.

Mamun Hossain Khan, officer in-charge of Bheramara Police Station, said Kismat, son of late Abdus Sukur of Chandipur village, went out of their house in the afternoon and remained missing since then.

At 11:30pm, locals found Kismat's body in a garden beside their house and informed the police who went to the spot, recovered the body and sent it to Kushtia Medical College

and Hospital morgue for autopsy.

The Jubo Dal leader might have been strangled as injury marks were found in the throat and chest, said the OC.

Police are investigating the matter, he said.

Meanwhile, a gang of masked criminals numbering seven to eight hacked BCL activists--Razan and Arif on Suhrawady College campus in Magura town at 7:30pm.

Critically injured BCL men were rushed to Magura Sadar Hospital where Razan died at 8:30pm.

As the death news spread, the followers of Razan attacked the house of Magura district Minibus Owners' Association president Mir Abu Sayeed in PTI area.

Son of freedom fighter Wahab Khan, Razan hailed from Khanpara area in the town, said the ASP.

ABDUCTION OF C&F AGENT

Activities at Benapole port come to halt

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Benapole, Jessore

Loading and unloading of goods at Benapole land port came to a halt yesterday as five organisations using the port went on an indefinite strike, protesting abduction of a C&F (clearing and forwarding) agent from Dhaka on Tuesday.

C&F agent Habibur Rahman Habi, also vice-president of Jubo Dal

Sharsha upazila unit, was kidnapped by an unidentified gang from Kamalapur area in the capital.

Shamsur Rahman, brother of Habibur Rahman, said his brother went to Kamalapur area to meet an importer on the day. "We tried to contact him over cellphone, but it remained switched off," he said. A general diary (GD) was filed with Motijheel Police Station yesterday.

Receiving the news in the morning, port users and



C&F agent Habibur Rahman

workers began an indefinite strike. They took out a procession and held a rally in the port area, protesting abduction of Habibur Rahman. They urged the law enforcers to take immediate steps to rescue Habi.

Addressing a press conference in the port area at noon, Mafizur Rahman Sajjan, president of Benapole C&F Agents' Association, said they would continue the strike until the C&F agent Habi was rescued.

Boy killed as 2 gangs lock in gunfight in Narsingdi town

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Narsingdi

A 12-year-old boy was killed and five others were injured by bullets when two criminal gangs locked in a gunfight in Old Bus Stand area in the town on yesterday.

The deceased Swapon Mia, 12, son of Khorshed Mia of Bokultola area, was a handloom worker at a local factory.

Bullet-hit Shafique Mia, 35, Beauty Saha, 42, Shahadat Hossain, 42, Swapon Saha, 33, and Shawkat Hossain, 42, were rushed to Narsingdi Sadar Hospital.

Swapon and Shahadat

were later referred to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) as their condition deteriorated.

Witnesses said, the incident took place when a gang led by Bhuiyan Sohel intercepted Shafique, leader of another gang in the Bus Stand area around 11:00am. Both sides chased each other and traded bullets in the busy area of the town, leaving Swapon dead on the spot and five others injured.

KM Abul Kashem, officer in-charge of Narsingdi Sadar Police Station, said they are conducting drives to nab the criminals.



PHOTO: STAR

Barisal Sanskritik Sangathan Samannoy Parishad brings out a procession in the city yesterday to express satisfaction over awarding of the capital punishment to Jammatt-e-Islami leader Motiur Rahman Nizami on charge of crimes against humanity committed during the 1971 Liberation War.

SNIPPETS

Student commits 'suicide'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

A schoolboy allegedly committed suicide following a family feud in Kawnia BSCIC area of the city yesterday. Son of Alal Haoladar of the area, Rifat, 14, was a Class IX student at Mathuranath School. Police and family sources said his mother rebuked him for not going to school regularly in the morning. After the incident, Rifat took his life by hanging himself from the ceiling of his room. The body was sent to Barisal Sher-e-Bangla Medical College and Hospital morgue for autopsy.

Boy found murdered

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Chittagong

A 'missing' teenage boy was found murdered in Patiya upazila yesterday afternoon. The dead is day labourer Md Manik, 18, son of Jahangir Alam of Laxmipur district. He used to live in Moddaya Gobindhorkhli area of the upazila. Police and family sources said Manik went out of his home on Tuesday night and remained missing. The reason behind the killing could not be known immediately, said Anisur Rahman, sub-inspector of Patiya Police Station.

29 Jamaat-Shibir men held

UNB, Chapainawabganj

Police in a special drive arrested 29 Jamaat-Shibir men among 86 people across the district on Tuesday night. Al Mamun, additional superintendent of police, said police arrested them suspecting that they might carry out subversive activities centering the verdict against Jamaat leader Motiur Rahman Nizami in war crimes cases. Members of Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) have been deployed in the district.

Missing boy still untraced

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jamalpur

A schoolboy, who went missing from Islampur upazila of the district on October 24, remained untraced as of yesterday. Mizanur Rahman Lalon, son of Abdul Hai of Hariabari village in the upazila, is a Class VIII student at Hariabari Jamila Akhtar High school. Hai said his son went missing while he was returning home from the school at 2:00pm. A general diary (GD) was lodged with Islampur Police Station on Monday night, said Kazi Saidur Rahman, officer in-charge of the police station.

Man gets life for patricide

UNB, Sunamganj

A court here yesterday sentenced a man to life imprisonment for killing his father in Chhatak upazila 18 years back. The convict is Abdul Mumin of Chhanua village. The court also fined him Tk 30,000, in default, to suffer one year more in prison. He was tried in absentia. According to the prosecution, Mumin hacked his father Isbar Ali to death following a family feud on August 18, 1996. Victim's another son Abdul Karim filed a case in this connection the following day. After examining the records and witnesses, Additional Session's Judge Kazi Abdul Hannan found Mumin guilty and pronounced the verdict.

Youth killed

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gaibandha

Police recovered the body of a youth from a paddy field near Barokona Bazar in Shaghata upazila yesterday morning. The deceased is Al-Amin, 20, son of late Abdul Halim of Dahichara village. He was a shop owner of goldsmith at the bazar. Police said a gang picked up Amin from his shop at midnight, took him to the nearby paddy field and killed him with sharp weapons. The body was sent to Gaibandha Sadar Hospital morgue for autopsy. Police arrested one Milon Mia, 28, of the bazar in connection with the incident.

Fugitive convict surrenders

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

A fugitive convict surrendered to a Joypurhat court on Tuesday. A notorious criminal, Bedarul Islam Bedin was sentenced to life imprisonment in a murder case 12 years ago, said Abdur Rashid Sarker, officer in-charge of Joypurhat Police Station. After delivering the verdict, he went to India avoiding his arrest. Additional District Session Judge Md Mizanur Rahman sent Bedin to jail rejecting his bail prayer in the case when he surrendered to his court in the afternoon.

Man killed in bomb attack

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chuadanga

A man was killed in a bomb attack at Chhoto Putimari village under Alamdanga upazila Tuesday. The deceased is Musar Uddin, 65, of the village. His two sons Oli Uddin and Kofil Uddin are Malaysian expatriates. The reason behind the attack could not be known immediately, said police. Family sources said a gang of 8/10 swooped on the house of Musar at 1:30am and hurled a bomb at him, leaving him critically injured. He was rushed to Chuadanga Sadar Hospital and then referred to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) as his condition deteriorated. Musar later died on way to DMCH, said Monir Uddin Molla, officer in-charge of Alamdanga Police Station. A case was filed in this connection, said the OC.

Fake doctor jailed

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

A mobile court here on Tuesday jailed two doctors of a diagnostic centre at Kajiganj Bazar in Nabiganj upazila of Habiganj district, for not having valid certificates. A mobile court led by Executive Magistrate AKM Saiful Islam also sealed-off the diagnostic centre. Being tipped-off, a mobile court led by the magistrate raided Shahjalal Medical Services and Diagnostic Centre and handed Dr DP Sarker for one month imprisonment and fined Dr Nazrul Islam Khokon Tk 10 thousand for not having valid certificates of practice.

Boy sent to safe home

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Brahmanbaria

Nine-year-old Jony, found in Chatolpar Bazaar area in Nasirnagar upazila about a week ago, was sent to Nabinagar safe home. Son of one Mohammad Billal, the boy whom the villagers found walking aimlessly in the area on October 20 was handed over to Nasirnagar police station the following day. As none of his family members made any contact or search for him in the last one week, the boy was sent to Nabinagar safe home and will stay there till his legal guardian's were found, said Akram Hossain, sub-inspector of Nasirnagar Police Station.