

Boro on an acre destroyed by chemicals in Nilphamari

Vengeance due to land dispute!

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Nilphamari

Miscreants destroyed boro paddy by spraying harmful chemicals on an acre of land at Saronjabari village of Chandkhana union under Kishoreganj upazila of the district on Sunday night.

"Today morning I went to my boro field but to my horror I found the crop on the entire field badly burnt," Shahjahan Ali, 35, the affected farmer, told this correspondent yesterday.

"As I called Md Arif, sub assistant agriculture officer (SAAO) of Chandkhana

union, to know the reason, he checked the plants and said the disaster was caused due to spraying of harmful chemicals," he said.

Contacted by this correspondent, SAAO Md Arif confirmed the matter.

Visiting the spot at noon, it was found that the leaves of the burnt boro plants turned reddish or whitish.

In this connection, Shahjahan filed a case with Kishoreganj Police Station yesterday accusing six people including his neighbours Kamruzzaman, 35, and Abu Sayed, 32.

They might have committed the heinous crime as there is a dispute over the land, said Shahjahan and his uncle Abed Ali.

"I had to sell my cattle and trees and take loan from money lenders on high interest to manage Tk 30 thousand for cultivating boro in the field. All my hopes are ruined now," said Shahjahan in a choked voice.

The two rival groups engaged in a scuffle a few days ago when Kamruzzaman openly threatened to take revenge on Shahjahan, locals said.

The chairman of Chandkhana union parishad said on several occasions he tried to settle the dispute between the two opponent groups but failed.

Contacted, Kamruzzaman and Abu Sayed denied the allegation against them and claimed that Shahjahan himself burnt his boro field by spraying poisonous chemicals to make them fall in an odd position.

Mostafizur Rahman, officer in charge of Kishoreganj police station, said police is investigating the matter seriously.



PHOTO: STAR

Plants at this boro field at Saronjabari village in Kishoreganj upazila under Nilphamari district get burnt due to spraying of harmful chemicals allegedly by rivals in a land dispute on Monday night.



PHOTO: STAR

Indian Home Minister Rajnath Singh shakes hands with Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) members during his visit to Panbari BGB camp close to Tinbigha corridor, the doorway to much talked Dahagram-Angorpota enclave under Patgram upazila of Lalmonirhat district yesterday noon. The Indian minister expressed optimism about exchange of 161 enclaves between India and Bangladesh under the earlier signed Land Boundary Agreement to mitigate sufferings of around 50 thousand people living in the adversely possessed areas of the two neighbouring countries.

Gang leader killed by rivals in Cox's Bazar

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar

A criminal was hacked to death by his rivals in Nurpara area of the town yesterday evening.

The deceased was identified as Jakir Mostafa, son of Abul Bashar. He was the chief of infamous 'Jakir Bahini' in the town.

Police quoted locals as saying that there had been a long-standing conflict between 'Jakir Bahini' and another gang over establishing supremacy in Pahartali area of the town.

Rivals swooped on Mostafa in Nurpara area at around 6:00pm and hacked him with sharp weapons. He died on the spot.

Being informed, police went to the spot, recovered the body and sent it to Cox's Bazar Sadar Hospital for autopsy.

Officer-in-Charge Kazi Matul Islam of Cox's Bazar Sadar Model Police Station said Mostafa was accused in 18 cases, including those for murder, robbery and rape.

Locals demanded arrest of Mostafa when State Minister for Home Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal visited the district last year.

Lightning kills two

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

Two people were killed by lightning in Biral upazila of the district on Monday evening.

The deceased are Monowara Begum, 50, wife of Abdul Khalek, and Mohibur Rahman, 30, son of Amas Uddin of Goshata village in the upazila.

The two were returning to Biral upazila headquarters from Dinajpur town in a three-wheeler. They were struck by lightning when they reached Dhelphi village on Biral-Dinajpur road at around 6:30pm and died instantly.

Bring Awlad's killers to book Demands human chain in Jamalpur town

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jamalpur

Locals and family members formed a human chain at Doyamoyee Intersection in the town yesterday, demanding arrest of those who killed CD shop owner Awlad Hossain.

Awlad, 30, son of late Mofiz Uddin of Chalapara area in the town, sustained injuries in an attack by a gang on March 20. He died at a hospital in the capital on March 26.

Local traders and the leaders of Jamalpur Chamber of Commerce and

Industry also joined the programme at noon.

Addressing the rally, the speakers gave a 24-hour ultimatum to the authorities concerned to arrest the killers. Otherwise, they threatened to launch a tougher agitation programme in the district town.

A gang led by Mominur Rahman, 36, of Bajrapur area in the town hit Awlad with iron rods at Vocational Intersection over taking control of an auto-rickshaw and tempo stand there at around 1:30pm.

Critically injured Awlad was admitted to Jamalpur General Hospital and then shifted to Mymensingh Medical College Hospital (MMCH).

As his condition deteriorated, doctors of the hospital referred Awlad to a hospital in Dhaka. He succumbed to his injuries on March 26.

Awlad's wife Sharmin Begum filed a case with Sadar Police Station on March 21, accusing Mominur and nine others. None of the accused was arrested as of yesterday.



PHOTO: STAR

Locals and family members form a human chain at Doyamoyee intersection in Jamalpur town yesterday demanding arrest and punishment of the killers of local CD shop owner Awlad Hossain.

Two killed, 2 missing in Padma boat capsizes

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chapainawabganj

Two people died and two others went missing as a boat capsized in the Padma in Monoharpur area of Shibganj upazila Monday afternoon.

The deceased were identified as Sumi Akhter, 16, daughter of Arshad Ali of Raninagar-Madhyapara village, and Tazrin Khatun, 11, daughter of Azizul Haque of Daisapara-Bhabanipur village in the upazila.

Rishat, 7, son of Nasir

Uddin of Dash Roshia village, and Jonab Ali, 60, son of Ishaque Ali of Dohbagi village in the upazila, remained missing as of filing of this report at 6:30pm yesterday.

Abdul Malek, chairman of Panka Union Parishad and Waheedul Islam, deputy assistant director of Chapainawabganj fire service station, said an engine-driven boat sailed for Monoharpur with around 15/20 passengers and 11 cattle aboard from

Khanchapara Ghat in Shibganj upazila at around 5:30pm.

When the boat reached Monoharpur area, it was caught in a storm and sank into the river. Four people drowned while the rest managed to swim ashore.

Locals found the bodies of the two girls yesterday morning and recovered them. Fire fighters and divers from Rajshahi and Chapainawabganj reached the spot yesterday noon and started searching for the missing men.

Two cattle trader injured in BSF firing

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

Two Bangladeshi cattle traders were injured in BSF firing on Challishpara border under Daulatpur upazila of the district early yesterday.

The injured are Babu Sheikh, 24, son of Solaiman Sheikh, and Kashem Ali, 23, son of Hanif Ali of Challishpara village in the

upazila. They were admitted to Kushtia Medical College Hospital.

BGB and family sources said a team of Indian border guards from Jalangi camp in Murshidabad district of Paschimabanga opened fire on a group of cattle traders while they were returning home with cattle from India through

the border near pillar No 157-15 around 5:00am.

Babu and Kashem sustained bullet injuries in their legs while others escaped unhurt, said Abul Kalam Azad, Commander of BGB-47 Battalion.

BGB sent a letter to its Indian counterpart, protesting the incident, the commander added.

Police, villagers clash over setting power lines, 15 hurt

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jamalpur

At least 15 people, including three policemen, were injured in a clash between villagers and police over setting electricity lines of Palli Bidyut Samity at Charpara village in Sadar upazila yesterday noon.

Upazila Nirbahi Officer's (UNO) car was also vandalised during the clash. Police fired several blank shots to bring the situation under control.

Of the injured, Mofij Mia, assistant sub-inspector of Sadar Police Station, constable Hazrat Ali, and two villagers Majnu, 50, and Sadi Mia, 18, were admitted to Jamalpur General Hospital. Others took first aid at the hospital.

Police and witnesses said the clash ensued when Sajal Mia, 50, of Charpara village tried to prevent the employees of the Palli Bidyut Samity from giving power connections to some villagers of neighbouring Gazaria village from an electric pole

set up at the yard of Sajal's house around 2:00pm.

As the employees of Palli Bidyut Samity, in presence of UNO Golam Kibria started giving connections from the pole, Sajal and a good number of villagers swooped on the employees of the Samity, triggering a clash that left 15 people, including three policemen, injured.

On information, additional police rushed to the spot and fired 27 rounds of blank shots and brought the situation under control, said Majibur Rahman Majumdar, officer-in-charge of the police station.

Our Jhenidah correspondent adds: two groups of villagers clashed over a trivial matter at Hudaiputia village in Sadar upazila yesterday, leaving at least 15 people from both sides injured.

Of the injured, Muktar Hossain, Musa Hossain, Ashraf Hossain, Mozibur Rahman, Elem Hossain, Sajna Begum, Hasna Hena Begum and Nabironnesa were admitted to Jhenidah Sadar Hospital.



PHOTO: STAR

SCHOOLBOYS TURN HOOLIGANS: A few school kids, who had come for getting their long knives sharpened at Mominpara in Chandpur town, prepare to leave after seeing this correspondent yesterday.

SNIPPETS

Four gamblers jailed

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Thakurgaon

A mobile court yesterday sentenced four gamblers to seven days' imprisonment in Sadar upazila of Panchagarh district. The convicts are Safiul Islam, 27, son of Rafiqul Haque of Mohanpara village, Babul Islam, 32, son of Munir Uddin, Safiar Rahman, 30, son of Jasim of Dudumari village, and Khokon Islam, 28, son of Shamsul Islam of Gofapara village. A police patrol team detained the four while they were gambling at Dewanhat Bazar on Monday night. Police yesterday produced them before a mobile court, led by Executive Magistrate and Upazila Nirbahi Officer Laila Muntajedi Dina who delivered the verdict.

Man electrocuted

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

A man died from electrocution at Brahminvita village in Birganj upazila yesterday. The deceased is Kaderul Islam, 42, son of Kashem Ali of the village. Shawkat Hossain, officer-in-charge of Birganj Police Station, quoted victim's family members as saying that Kaderul came in contact with a live electric wire while he was spreading his wet clothes on it in the yard for drying the clothes at noon and died instantly.

51 fined, 1 jailed for netting fry

UNB, Bagerhat

A mobile court fined 51 fishermen and jailed another for netting fry in the Panguchhi River in Morelganj upazila on Monday night. They hail from Goraikhalhi village in Paikgachha upazila of the district. Coastguards conducted a drive in the river around 8:00pm and detained the fishermen while they were catching fry, said Lt Commander Golam Rabbani, staff officer of Coast Guard Mongla West Zone. During the drive, around 1,000 kg fish fry, 400 metres of current net, 10 pump machines and five trawlers were also seized, he said. Later, they were produced before a court that fined 51 fishermen Tk 1,000 each and sentenced the other to three months' imprisonment.

Landslide at stone quarry kills 1

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

A worker was killed and two others were injured in a landslide at a stone quarry at Jaflong in Gowainghat upazila of Sylhet on Monday. The deceased was identified as Ahmed Ali, 35, of Bollaghat area in the upazila. Police said a large chunk of earth fell on some 7/8 workers when they were cutting a hill for extracting stones around 7:30am, leaving Ahmed dead on the spot and two others injured. On information, police went to the spot and recovered the body with the help of the fellow workers, said Abdul Hai, officer-in-charge of Gowainghat Police Station, adding that the injured were admitted to Gowainghat Upazila Health Complex.

Two deer rescued

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bhola

Fishermen rescued two deer from the Meghna in Dhalchar area under Charfashon upazila of the district on Monday morning. Nurunnabi Matbar, a fish trader of Dhalchar Fish Landing Station, said fishermen Momin Hawlader and Ruhul Amin found the deer floating in the river at around 7:00am and rescued them. Being informed, forest officials reached the spot, took the deer to Dhalchar forest office and later released them in Char Kukri-Mukri reserve forest.