

MYMENSINGH

Leaf folder insects wreak havoc on aman fields

MD AMINUL ISLAM, Mymensingh
Massive attack of 'leaf folder insects' on aman plants in different areas of the district worries thousands of farmers as use of pesticides fails to check the problem.

40 decimals of land but the pest has affected most of her field.
The cost of aman cultivation has increased due to use of pesticides but it fails to check the attack, said several farmers.

the last couple of days, said sources.
The farmers alleged that they could not seek suggestions from the agriculture officials and field workers as they are not visiting the affected fields.

(Crop) of DAE, said the leaf folder insects mainly attack tender leaves of the plants in shadowy parts of the fields in different areas.
The officials and field workers of the department are working in the field and giving suggestions to the affected farmers to tackle the situation, he said.



Hapless farmers at an aman field affected by leaf folder insects at Churkhai in Mymensingh Sadar upazila.

7 get life for murder in Mymensingh

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

A court here yesterday sentenced seven people to life imprisonment for killing a man in Sadar upazila of the district in 2009.

The convicts are Abdul Quddus, 55, his son Abdul Jabbar, 30, and villagers Abu Taher, 31, Abu Sayed, 38, Abul Kalam, 40, Rafiqul Islam, 30, and Lal Miah alias Lalu, 42. They all are from Katlasen village in the upazila.

Additional District and Sessions Judge's Court No-2 also fined the convicts Tk 5,000 each, in default they are to suffer three months more in jail, court sources said.

According to the prosecution, the convicts beat up Dr Harunur Rashid of the same village and hit him with sharp weapons at Katlasen Bazar on November 11, 2009 as a sequel to previous enmity. Harun died instantly.

Victim's brother Mamunur Rashid filed a murder case with Sadar Police Station the following day. After investigation, police pressed charges against the seven.

After examining the witnesses and case record, Judge Md Johirul Kabir delivered the verdict.

Boy dies in wall collapse

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

A boy was killed in a wall collapse of a madrasa in Ghoraghat upazila of the district yesterday afternoon.

The dead is Md Habil, 9, son of Md Hamed Ali of Banial village in the upazila. Witnesses said some boys were playing near Securia madrasa at the village when a portion of the mud wall surrounding the madrasa collapsed, leaving Habil dead on the spot.



Voluntary organisation Nexus-93, comprising former students of Galachipa High School in Patuakhali district, brings out a cycle procession in Galachipa town yesterday as part of their awareness campaign 'Say no to drug!'.

JUBO LEAGUE ACTIVIST TAREK MURDER CASE

Man killed as house of main accused set afire

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Z Noakhali

An octogenarian was burnt to death as an unknown gang set the house of the main accused in Jubo League activist Tarek Hossain Swapan murder case afire in Chhayani-Tagba area under Chatkhil Municipality in the district yesterday.

The deceased was identified as Siddiq Ullah, 80, grandfather of Robin, the prime accused in the killing case.

Locals said they saw Robin's house burning in

the morning. They rushed to the spot and found Siddiq Ullah lying on the floor with burn injuries. He was taken to Chatkhil Upazila Health Complex.

As Siddiq's condition deteriorated, doctors referred him to Noakhali General Hospital, but he died on the way to the hospital.

Dr Nazrul Islam, on-duty doctor of Chatkhil Upazila Health Complex, said 40% of the victim's body was burnt.

Md Nasim Uddin, officer-in-charge of Chatkhil Police Station, said the body

was sent to Noakhali General Hospital morgue for autopsy.

Tarek, a Jubo League activist of its Chatkhil upazila unit, was hacked by a gang led by Robin in his house in the municipality on Sunday.

He was rushed to Chatkhil Upazila Health Complex where the on-duty doctor declared him dead.

Later, a case was filed with the Chatkhil Police Station, accusing Robin and his four accomplices. Police arrested Robin and his brother the same day.

8 Shibir men held with bombs in Kushtia town

STAR COUNTRY DESK

Eight Shibir men among nine people were arrested along with bombs in Kushtia and Jessore districts yesterday and the day before.

Detective Branch of police arrested eight activists of Islami Chhatra Shibir with 10 bombs, leaflets and books on jihad from a hostel in Kushtia town yesterday, reports UNB.

The arrestees are Khaled Hossain, 21, Sagor, 17, Mehedi Hasan, 20, Mohsin,

20, Mehedi Hassan, 18, Fajjullah, Azim Uddin, 20, and Raisul Islam, 20. They hail from different upazilas in the district.

DB Sub-Inspector Abu Daud said the law enforcers, on secret information, conducted a drive at Mill Line Jame Masjid hostel at noon and arrested the eight while they were holding a clandestine meeting.

Detectives also seized the bombs, leaflets and books on jihad from their possessions.

In Jessore, police in a

drive arrested an alleged criminal with five crude bombs in Chachra Raipara area under Sadar upazila of Jessore district on Sunday night, reports our Benapole correspondent.

The arrested is Chanchal Rahman, 34, son of Hossain Ali, a resident of the area, said Sheikh Shoeb Uddin, in-charge of Chachra police outpost.

Chanchal was wanted in several cases filed with Kotwali Model Police Station, he said.

Locals rescue trader, hand over abductors to cops

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

Locals rescued an abducted trader and handed his abductors over to police at Lakmipur village in Sadar upazila of Rajbari district on Sunday evening.

Kazi Solaiman, sub-inspector (SI) of Rajbari Sadar Police Station, said one Anwar Hossain Rocky, 19, son of Kamal Hossain Sikdar, of Degree char in Rajbari Sadar upazila several months ago. Kausar owed Tk 15, 000 to Anwar.

On Saturday, Kausar called Anwar to his house to take the money. When Anwar went to

Kausar's house, Kausar kept him there all night.

The next day, Kausar took Anwar to adjacent Lakmipur village and handed him over to a gang, who confined Anwar to a house owned by one Hakim Sheikh.

The gang, led by one Faridul Islam, demanded Tk 3 lakh as ransom from Anwar's family, and beat him up.

Hearing Anwar's screams, locals went to the house, surrounded the gang and informed the police.

A team from Rajbari Sadar Police Station went to the spot and rescued Anwar at around 5:00pm on Sunday. They arrested four members of the gang.

They arrestees are Faridul Islam, son of Sattar Sheikh, Sagar Bepari, son of Asgar Ali

Bepari, Sujon Sheikh, son of Yar Ali Sheikh and Billal Matbor, son of Moniruzzaman Matbor.

Police seized two swords from the gang members.

On Saturday, locals foiled a bid to abduct a schoolgirl and caught one of the three abductors at Maderipur village under Pirganj upazila of Rangpur, reports our correspondent.

The gang forced the girl into a CNG-run auto-rickshaw and went to Maderipur village in Pirganj upazila.

As locals came to know about the incident, they caught Faruk Mia and rescued the girl. The rest two managed to flee the scene. The villagers later handed over Faruk and the victim to the police.

JS whips

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one-sided January-5 election last year.

Terming the JP so-called opposition, the TIB said the party was working as "B-team of the government".

Lambasting the TIB, Feroz said its findings are baseless, sheer lie, motivated and misleading. "We reject this report with contempt."

Referring to the TIB study, Feroz said it defamed the people of the country and the constitution by saying bad things about parliament and the MPs, who were elected through people's vote according to the constitution.

"Who has given the TIB the right to say the present parliament has become a puppet theatre? The TIB itself is a puppet which dances to the tune of its masters."

The main opposition, the Jatiya Party, has been playing its due role to make parliament effective with its constructive criticism and participation in the House proceedings, said the chief whip.

On the TIB observation that the Speaker didn't play a strong role in stopping the use of unparliamentary words in the House, Feroz said such comments by the TIB proved that it has been working as "a paid agent" to defame the constitutional organisation.

On the TIB finding that adequate time was not spent on lawmaking, Whip

Iqbalur Rahim said, "We don't need to take lessons from the TIB on how to pass laws in parliament."

Contacted, TIB Executive Director Iftekharruzaman said the objective of the study was to find ways to make parliament more effective and encourage the elected representatives to play their due role in the House.

It would be unwise to say anything on the whips' reaction to the TIB findings. "We expect that the elected representatives will keep their honour," he told The Daily Star.

20 held on Benapole border

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Benapole

Members of Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) arrested 20 Bangladeshis while they were returning home from India through Baroachra border in Benapole without passports yesterday morning.

The arrestees, hailing from different areas of Narail, Bagerhat and Barisal districts, went to India illegally.

BGB sources said a team of the border guards, acting on a tip-off, conducted a drive in the area and arrested 13 men, four women and three children while they were entering the country without valid documents.

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