

Missing schoolboy found dead

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gaibandha

Police recovered the body of a school student from a paddy field at Mirerpara village in Gobindaganj upazila yesterday.

The victim was identified as Sumon Mia, 12, a student of Class V of Mirerpara Government Primary School.

Locals said the victim left home on Monday afternoon and had remained missing since then. The parents and relatives of Sumon searched everywhere, but could not find him. Locals found the body of the victim in a crop field in the morning.

Being informed, police rushed to the spot at around 11:00am, recovered the body and sent it to Gaibandha Hospital for autopsy.

No one was arrested in this connection. Police said they are trying to unearth clue to the incident.



Flowering sesame plants on a fallow land at Taluk Kanupur village in Gobindaganj upazila under Gaibandha district.

PHOTO: STAR

Gaibandha farmers opt for sesame cultivation

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gaibandha

Sesame (teel) farming on fallow lands is gaining popularity in different areas of the district and farmers are earning a better profit than other crops. This season saw bumper production of sesame due to favourable weather.

The tasty oil seed is used for making different kinds of sweets, and also for manufacturing cosmetic items, including hair oil.

Comfit, commonly known as "teeler khaja," is prepared with the seed and either sugar or molasses, and is a very popular sweetmeat.

Farmers are cultivating sesame

because the production cost is low. The seed is generally cultivated on fallow lands or together with other robi crops. Sesame seeds are sowed in the Bengali month of Falgun and harvested in the month of Jaistha.

This year, sesame seed is being sold at Tk 3,000 to Tk 3,500 per maund.

According to the district office of the Department of Agriculture Extension (DAE), 280 hectares of land were brought under sesame cultivation in Shaghata, Gobindaganj, Sadullapur and Palashbari upazilas this year.

"I cultivated sesame on one bigha of fallow land with other crops and got three maunds of sesame this season. I

earned extra profit," said Amanullah, a sesame grower of Taluk Kanupur village under Gobindaganj upazila.

Another sesame cultivator Azher Ali of Darbasha village, said "I cultivated sesame on one and a half bighas of fallow land and got bumper production."

"The agriculture department is always beside the farmers and the field officers are encouraging them to cultivate highly profitable oil seeds like sesame. The farmers are getting all possible help and suggestion for cultivation of oil seeds," said Shahara Banu, upazila agriculture officer in Gobindaganj.

Hotel boy dies from burn injuries

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

A hotel boy died from burn injuries as a kerosene stove went off at Alipur Bazar in Kalapara upazila of the district.

The victim is Bashar Fakir, 16, son of Md Zakir Fakir of Alipur village. He worked at the roadside hotel.

Zakir, also owner of the hotel, said when they were preparing iftar items on Monday, a kerosene stove suddenly exploded. Bashar sustained serious burn injuries in the explosion.

He was rushed to 20-bed Kuakata Hospital and then shifted to Barisal Sher-E-Bangla Medical College Hospital as his condition deteriorated. He was later referred to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH).

Yesterday, the boy died on way to DMCH, said Md Masudur Rahman, officer-in-charge of Mohipur Police Station.

Earlier, relatives of Badsha assaulted Dr Kamruzzaman of Kuakata Hospital for his alleged delay to visit the patient, said the OC.

Dr Kamruzzaman filed a case in connection with the incident, he said.

BSF returns bodies of two Bangladeshis

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chapainawabganj

The bodies of two Bangladeshi alleged smugglers, who were shot dead by the Indian Border Security Force (BSF) in Chapainawabganj's Gomostapur upazila early Monday, were handed over to Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) yesterday.

The Indian border guards returned the bodies follow-

ing a company commander level flag meeting between BSF and BGB held at noon at Charaldanga border, said Lt Col Zahid Hasan, commanding officer (CO) of BGB 43 Battalion in Naogaon.

BGB received the body of Shahjahan Ali Bhutto, 35, son of Hekmat Ali of Begpur village, and Zabdul Haque alias Bhadu, 35, son of late Daud Ali of Charaldanga

village in the upazila, the CO added.

BSF killed the two Bangladeshis on Charaldanga border, some 200 yards inside Indian territory at around 2:00am on Monday.

BSF troops of Anuradhapur camp under Malda district in Pashchimbanga opened fire on a group of 5/7 smugglers, killing Shahjahan and

Zabdul on the spot.

The group was going to India by crossing Punarbhaha River for collecting illegal Indian goods.

Indian police recovered the bodies and sent them to Malda Hospital morgue for autopsy.

Later, around 4:00pm, a joint investigation was conducted by BGB and BSF where the incident occurred.

Post-UP poll clash leaves 9 hurt in Bogra

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bogra

At least nine people were injured in clashes after the union parishad (UP) polls at Darigaca village in Shajahanpur upazila of the district on Monday.

The injured, Anwar Hossain, 55, Ayub Ali, 25, Fazlul Haque, 60, Palash Hossain, 30, Amdadul Haque, 35, Alamgir Hossain, 45, Bulbul Hossain, 30, Mahful Hossain, 30, and Abdul Momin, 38, were admitted to Shaheed Ziaur Rahman Medical College and Hospital.

Police and locals said tension was prevailing between the supporters of winning member candidate Tota Mia and defeated candidate Bablu Mia of

Ward no 9 in Kharna UP.

Election in the union parishad was held on June 4.

Over the issue, a chase and counter chase between the two rival groups took place in the area on Sunday.

As a sequel to the incident, supporters of Tota Mia allegedly attacked the men of Bablu Mia the following day, leaving at least nine people injured. The attackers also vandalised shops and houses during the incident.

On information, police rushed to the spot and brought the situation under control, said Alamgir Hossain, officer-in-charge of Shajahanpur Police Station.

Rapair dyke to save eight villages from flooding

Demands human chain at Moulvibazar's Kamalganj

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

People of eight villages in Madhabpur union under Kamalganj upazila of the district formed a human chain at Simultala in Dhalai River area yesterday, demanding immediate steps to repair the flood control embankment that collapsed in the area due to erosion by the river three weeks ago.

Over a hundred farmers joined the human chain led by Chandra Badan Singha, the oldest man in the union, at 5:30pm to mount pressure on the authorities concerned to meet the demand.

Kamalganj Upazila Parishad Chairman Rafiqur Rahman and Upazila Nirbahi Officer Md Mahmudul Haque assured the participants that they would take necessary steps as soon as possible to repair the dyke.

Locals said over 250 metres of the embankment collapsed in Simultala area, letting water enter the eight villages. Local

farmers are facing uncertainty about aman paddy cultivation as water still remains stagnant in vast areas of agricultural lands.

Pushpo Lal Kanu, chairman of Madhabpur Union Parishad, said eight villages were inundated following the collapse of the flood control embankment, but government has not taken any action yet to repair the embankment.

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

Contacted, Foizur Rob, executive engineer of WDB, told this correspondent that they had submitted a proposal in this regard to the authorities concerned. "We will repair the embankment when we get the funds," he added.



PHOTO: STAR

Locals form a human chain on the Dhalai River at Simultala in Madhabpur union of Kamalganj upazila under Moulvibazar district yesterday demanding steps to repair the flood control embankment that collapsed three weeks ago.

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Advertisement for Bangladesh College of Physicians and Surgeons (BCPS) regarding FCPS Part-II examination.

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