

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chapainawabganj

Police arrested two active members of the banned militant outfit Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) from a house at Bagdanga village under Sadar upazila of Chapainawabganj yesterday. Police recovered 20 hand-made bombs from the house.

The arrestees are Saifuddin alias Saiful Islam alias Jamal, 40, son of Joynal Abedin, and Abul Kasem alias Torikul, 35, son of Harunur Rashid of Mara Pagla village under the upazila.

Inspector Hamidur Rashid of DB Police said, acting on secret information, a police team raided Saifuddin's house at Bagdanga village at around 3:00am and arrested him and Abul Kasem when they were planning subversive activities. Sensing the presence of the law enforcers, some others fled the scene.

2 housewives murdered, four arrested

STAR COUNTRY DESK

Two housewives have been murdered in Meherpur and Bogra districts.

A woman was killed allegedly by her husband for dowry at Ratanpur village in Mujibnagar upazila of Meherpur on Sunday.

The deceased is Monira Khatun, 23, daughter of Monirul Haq, reports our Kushtia correspondent.

The victim's father said Babul Hossain often tortured Monira for Tk 50,000 dowry.

On Sunday night, Babul along with his family members strangled Monira following an altercation over the issue, he alleged.

Police later arrested Babul, his father Golam Sarwar Mollah, 55, and mother Kolpana Khatun, 50, in this connection.

A case was filed, accusing Babul, his parents and younger brother Ershad Ali, said the OC of Mujibnagar Police Station.

In Bogra, a housewife was hacked to death allegedly by her drug addict husband at Goyalpara village in Gabtoli upazila yesterday.

The deceased is Ruby Begum, 25, wife of Ful Mia of the village, reports our correspondent.

Police and locals said Ful Mia killed Ruby following a family feud in the morning. Ful Mia was arrested.

Five held with Yaba

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Manihganj

Police arrested five people with 200 Yaba tablets from Ghior upazila in the district on Sunday.

The arrestees are Humayun Kabir, 25, of Lawtara village of Daulatpur upazila, Amzad Hossain Anzu, 40, of Boiltala village, Rubel, 30, of Singjuri village, Sohel Mridha, 30, and Jahanara Begum, 40, of Kusta village under in the upazila.



A woman waits for boat for going to mainland for grazing her cow as the recent flood damaged grasses in the low-lying char lands of Teesta River basin area at Char Kalikapur in Kaliganj upazila of Lalmonirhat.

PHOTO: STAR

LALMONIRHAT

Cattle farmers in trouble as flood damages fodder

S DILIP ROY, Lalmonirhat

"I had to sell three of my six cows for low prices in the local market on Sunday as the recent flood damaged all the grasses at fields, causing acute crisis of green fodder in char areas," said farmer Hashem Ali, 56, at Char Gobordhan in Teesta River basin area of Aditmari upazila under the district.

Many char farmers in the Teesta and Dharla Rivers basin villages are also in the same boat.

Matiar Rahman, 50, of Char Bowalmari village in Dharla River basin area of Lalmonirhat Sadar

said he stocked 65 maunds of hay for his seven cows but at least 70 percent of the hay was damaged by the recent flood.

"I have decided to sell four of my seven cows as I find it difficult to collect green fodder and hay for grazing cattle at the village. All of the grass fields around my homestead were damaged by the recent flood," he said.

Ahsanul Haque Bulu, an NGO representative in Lalmonirhat Sadar, said farmers living in Teesta and Dharla river basin areas in the district are mainly dependent on cattle rearing but they are facing untold problem due to an acute

green fodder crisis as all the grass fields in char areas have been damaged by the recent flash flood.

"Now one maund of hay is selling between Tk 400 to 450 in the local market although it was Tk 200 to 250 a month ago. Failing to afford hay, oilcake and wheat bran, farmers are selling their domestic animals for low prices," said Shahadat Hossain, 45, a farmer at Teesta River char Sholmari in Kaliganj upazila.

"A couple of weeks ago, I used to get seven to eight litres of milk daily from my two cows but now the milk production has reduced to only three litres due to shortage

of fodder. The flood had washed away our preserved haystack," said Nabin Chandra Barmon, 55, a farmer at Shiberkuti Char village in Lalmonirhat Sadar upazila.

Livestock office sources said some ten thousand farmers near about 60 thousand cattle at 90 char villages in the district.

"Damage of green fodder had by floodwater in char areas is a common scene during the rains. Many grass fields are still under floodwater. It would take months for new grass to grow after the water recedes," said Lalmonirhat District Livestock Officer Dr Joynal Abedin.

5 JMB members put on 3-day remand

STAR COUNTRY DESK

Five members of outlawed Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) were placed on three days' remand in Kalihati upazila of Tangail, and in Pabna district, yesterday.

They include three alleged female members of JMB, who were arrested from Kalihati upazila of Tangail on July 5.

The three -- Jannati alias Jemmy, 18, Sajida Akhter, 22, and Rozina Begum, 30 -- were produced before the Senior Judicial Magistrate's Court in Tangail in the morning.

After a hearing, Senior Judicial Magistrate Abdullah Al Masum passed the order.

Law enforcers arrested the women from a house near the level crossing at Jokarchar in Kalihati on July 5, said Mohammad Akeruzzaman, OC of Kalihati Police Station.

Jannati is wife of Abu Sayeed, alias Sabuj, of Bagra Kusumbi village in Sherpur upazila of Bogra. Sajida is wife of Nazrul, alias Baik

Nazrul alias Parvez alias Hasan, 29, of Chhobhar Gojpuri village in Debiganj upazila of Panchagarh. Rozina is wife of Moksedul Islam, alias Mozzammel alias Harez, 35, of Pashchim Rakhbapur Bhutmara village in Saghata upazila, Gaibandha.

During preliminary interrogation, the women told detectives they were prepared to do anything as per their husbands' directives, said Ashok Kumar Singha, OC of Tangail DB Police.

In Pabna, the Judicial Magistrate's Court-4 granted three-day remand for two detained JMB operatives yesterday, said Md Nur Islam, OC of Sujanagar Police Station.

The arrestees, Md Omar Faruk, 30, of Bangala village under Ullapara upazila of Sirajganj, and Md Sanaullah, 35, of Gokulnagar village under Sujanagar municipality of Pabna, were held from a house of Sanaulla's relative in Palpara area of Sujanagar municipality on Saturday night.

Kidnapped schoolgirl rescued, 4 held

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

Police rescued a 13-year-old schoolgirl from Adamdighi upazila of Bogra yesterday, two days into her abduction from Raninagar upazila of Naogaon on Saturday.

The law enforcers also arrested Shahin Islam, 22, Sohel Rana, 28, Sohel Rana, 18, of Durgapur village, and Saddam Hossain, 18, of Bhabanipur village in Raninagar upazila, from the spot.

Police said a gang of 5/6 forcibly picked up the girl, a Class VIII student at a local high school Saturday morning.

Victim's father filed an abduction case with Raninagar Police Station the same day, accusing Shahin and four others.

A police team raided the house of one Zakir Hossain at Gobindapur village around 3:00pm, rescued the victim and arrested Shahin and his three accomplices from there, said

OC Abdul Latif Khan of Raninagar PS.

Pond fishes poisoned

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

Miscreants poisoned two fish ponds at Ahmedpur village in Muktagachha upazila of the district early yesterday, causing death of fishes worth around Tk 25 lakh.

Around 3 lakh 76 thousand mature fish died within half an hour, said Md Liton Khan, owner of the ponds.

Liton said there were around 3 lakh 76 thousand matured fishes, including 3 lakh 26 thousand koi and shingi, in the two ponds.

Liton started fish farming after retiring from the army 12 years ago, and now has 19 ponds under his farming project "Khan Agro-Motshya Hatchery and Fishery" in Muktagachha.

SNIPPETS

Man found murdered

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

A young man was found murdered in Panchbibi upazila of Joypurhat yesterday. The deceased is Md Rahim Badsha, 32, son of Sada Mondal of Ghoraghat upazila in Dinajpur. He was a microbus driver. Locals found Badsha's body inside his microbus on a road in Panchbibi upazila in the morning and informed police. The body was sent to Joypurhat Modern Hospital morgue for autopsy, said Ashrafur Islam, officer-in-charge of Panchbibi Police Station. A gang hacked him dead, suspected police. Mystery shrouded death of Badsha as the criminals looted nothing, they said.

16 shops gutted

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Noakhali

At least 16 shops were gutted in a fire at Sonapur municipality market in Noakhali town early yesterday. Md Liton Mia, general secretary of Sonapur Municipality Market Society, said the fire originated from an electric short circuit at Dhaka Store around 2:30am and soon engulfed the adjoining shops. On information, firefighters rushed to the spot and doused the flame after two hours of hectic efforts. The loss caused by the fire could go up to Tk 2 crore, said Liton.

2 forest robbers arrested

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

Police arrested two alleged forest robbers from Padma sluice gate area in Pathorghata upazila of Barguna yesterday morning. The arrestees are Rustam Ali, 45, chief of Rustam Bahini, a robber gang, and Md Monir, 35, a member of another robber gang, Monir Bahini. The arrestees were later produced in a court that sent them to jail, said SM Ziaul Haque, officer-in-charge of Kalapara Police Station.

One electrocuted

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

A battery-run van driver was electrocuted in Parbatipur upazila of Dinajpur early yesterday. The deceased is Motiur Rahman, 36, son of Siraj Uddin of Choita village. Locals said Motiur was electrocuted when he was unplugging the wire after full charge of his battery-run van around 11:00am. He was rushed to the upazila health complex where he died later, said Enanul Haque, chairman of Chandipur Union Parishad.

Kid drowns in pond

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

A two and half-year-old boy drowned in a pond in Nandibari area in Muktagacha upazila of the district yesterday morning. The victim is Mohammad Siam, son of Abdul Awal of Nandibari. Quoting family members, Abu Mohammad Fazlul Karim, officer-in-charge of Muktagacha Police Station, said Siam fell into the pond while playing on its bank and drowned.

10 drivers fined

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

A mobile court fined four bus drivers for taking passengers on the roof and drivers of six battery-run three-wheelers for carrying passengers on highway in Taraganj upazila of Rangpur on Sunday. Of them, bus drivers were fined Tk 6,100 while easy bike drivers Tk 1,200. Executive Magistrate Zilufa Sultana led the court, said Abdul Latif Mia, officer-in-charge of Taraganj Police Station.



PHOTO: STAR

This old building at Chukainagar village in Arjuna union of Bhuapur upazila in Tangail district faces imminent threat of going into the bed of the Jamuna as the swelling river continues devouring areas in the neighbourhood during the ongoing rains.



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