



Members of scouting groups from different educational institutions of Tangail take part in a programme at Shaheed Smrity Pouro Udyan in the district town yesterday. Inset, guests at the programme. PHOTO: STAR

Lull after mayhem at Pabna village

Fleeing locals return as admin takes control, many find houses vandalised, looted

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

After fleeing her house on Tuesday, following a series of clash between two local leaders of Awami League (AL), when housewife Asma returned home on Thursday she found all the belongings, including furniture, clothes and even food grains looted.

The attackers also vandalised her tinshed house at Bilchandak village in the district's Faridpur upazila.

Like Asma, several hundred villagers faced the same since they started returning homes from Thursday.

Quoting the villagers, police said the clash started between supporters of Ansar Ali Lahu and Rahmat Ali, both village level AL leaders, over establishing supremacy in the area on Monday.

Over 100 houses were vandalised during the continual attacks that continued for three consecutive days till Wednesday.

Many villagers, who fled the area to save their lives, returned to their homes on Thursday and Friday after local administration took the situation under control,

Assistant Superintendent of Police (ASP Circle) Fazle Khoda Polish said.

Meanwhile, a seven-member committee headed by the police official was formed on Thursday to investigate the incident and two separate cases were filed in this regard.

"Due to series of clashes, most of my family members moved to a safer place a few days ago," said Morzina Begum, a local resident.

Locals said there had been a feud between Lahu and Rahmat for long and the two groups engaged in several clashes in the last two years, which often left the villagers victimised.

"Most of the villagers do not have any connection with the enmity of the two Awami League leaders, but we often become victims of their personal interest. Although we have returned to our homes, we feel insecure," said Anwar Hossain, a village doctor.

Several local AL leaders, who claimed to have no connection with the clash, said it wasn't a political clash but a clash of interests of the two village leaders.

Tangail declared a district with hundred percent scouting

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

Tangail was formally recognised as a 'district with hundred percent scouting' a programme yesterday.

A total of 1620 government primary schools out of 1686 and 720 government and non-government high schools and madrasas in the district have been brought under different scouting groups like cub, scouts and rover scouts, Tangail Additional Deputy Commissioner (Education and ICT) Selim Ahmed said at the programme on the premises of Shaheed Smrity Pouro Udyan in the district town.

It is a continues process and gradually all the institutions in the district will be brought under scouting groups within the next two years, he said.

On the occasion, a large number of scouting members under different groups gathered at the venue in the morning.

Tangail District Administration and Bangladesh Scouts, Tangail unit, jointly organised the programme in cooperation with Unicef Bangladesh.

Agriculture Minister and Lawmaker from Tangail-1 constituency Dr Abdur Razzak attended the function as the chief guest with Tangail Deputy Commissioner Mohammad Shahidul Islam, also scouts president, Tangail unit, in the chair.

Chief National Commissioner of Bangladesh Scouts Dr Md Mozammel Haque Khan, also commissioner of Bangladesh Anti-Corruption Commission, attended the programme as special guest.

Former Tangail Deputy Commissioner Khan Mohammad Nurul Amin, now a joint secretary, first took the initiative to make Tangail as a hundred percent scouting district.

As part of his initiative, the number of scouting members in the district is now around 50,000.

Among others, Tangail Zila Parishad Chairman Fazlur Rahman Khan, Lawmakers from Tangail-5 Sanwar Hossain, Tangail-2 Tanvir Hasan Chhoto Monir, Tangail Municipality Mayor Jamilur Rahman Miron, Tangail Superintendent of Police Sanjit Kumar Roy and Unicef representative Omar Faruk, spoke on the occasion.



Above, villagers flee homes for safety following series of clashes between followers of two local leaders of Awami League at Bilchandak village in Pabna's Faridpur upazila on Wednesday. Below, many houses, like these ones in the picture, lie badly damaged after an orgy of vandalism for three consecutive days. PHOTO: AHMED HUMAYUN KABIR TOPU

Hospital staffer burnt as lab catches fire

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Cumilla

A laboratory technician sustained severe burn injuries as a fire broke out at a pathological lab at Jhawtala in the city on Friday.

The injured, Maksuda Akter, 30, a technical staff of the lab at Moon Hospital in the city, hails from Chandpur.

With 30 percent of her body burnt, Maksuda is undergoing treatment at the hospital's Intensive Care Unit, said Dr Jakir Hossain of the private hospital.

Maksuda was burnt as a fire originated from a machine at the lab on the eighth floor of the hospital on Friday night.

At that time, at least five patients and staffs sustained minor injuries while trying to leave in a hurry amid panic, said Abdullah, manager of the hospital.

Kawser, an employee of the hospital, rushed in and doused the flame.

Ex-UP chairman held on abduction charge

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

Netrakona police on Thursday arrested a former union parishad (UP) chairman on charge of abducting a mentally challenged girl.

The arrestee is Sohrab Hossain, 65, former chairman of Kailati UP in Netrakona Sadar upazila.

Sohrab of Darunbali village allegedly abducted the 12-year-old girl on Monday.

When Sohrab was driving away with the girl on his motorbike, locals saw it and informed the victim's father, a fish farmer of Moujebali village, about the incident.

Later, the father filed an abduction case, accusing Sohrab, said Mohammad Fokhrujjaman Jewel, additional superintendent of police (ASP).

On Thursday night, police arrested the accused from Teribazar area in the town.

During interrogation, the arrestee said he found the girl walking alone on Netrakona-Madan Road in the town on Monday morning and at her request, he took the girl to Netrakona Railway Station and gave her Tk 50 for having food, said the ASP.

The girl is yet to be rescued, he said.

The victim's father said he has a previous enmity with Sohrab over borrowing money. Six months ago, Sohrab came to him to borrow money but he did not give it to him.



Abdul Baten looks hapless as rivals felled over 100 mango trees at his three-acre orchard at Shahpara village in Chirirbandar upazila of Dinajpur on Friday night. Most of the trees, planted two years ago, had started flowering. Baten filed a complaint with Chirirbandar Police Station, accusing some of his neighbours for the heinous act. PHOTO: KONGKON KARMAKER

Youth found dead in septic tank

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

A young man was found dead in a septic tank in the district's Biral upazila yesterday.

The deceased, Mohammad Rubel, 22, was son of Anwar Ali of Betura village in the upazila.

Informed, police recovered the body with a rope around his neck from inside the septic tank at the village and sent it to M Abdur Rahim Medical College Hospital for autopsy, said OC ATM Golam Rasul of Biral Police Station.

Clinic employee found dead

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

A female employee of a private clinic was found dead in Kalapara upazila headquarters yesterday morning.

The deceased, Anika Majhee, 17, a cleaner of Janani Clinic in the area, was daughter of Nirmol Majhee of Nachnapara area in Kalapara municipality.

On information, police recovered her hanging body from a room of the clinic and sent it to Patuakhali General Hospital for autopsy, said Md Ali Ahmmed, officer-in-charge of Kalapara Police Station.

Police said Anika went to the room for having her breakfast around 10:00am. Later, the clinic authority found the room locked from inside and informed the law enforcers about the matter.

Police rushed to the spot around 10:30am and recovered the body after breaking the door and sent it to the hospital for autopsy.

Quoting the family members, the OC said the girl might have taken her own life over a love affair.

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