

Upazila roundup

NARAYANGANJ

46 bombs recovered

From A Correspondent
February 9: Fatulla police recovered 46 bombs from the Fatulla launch ghat early morning on Wednesday, according to police source.
Meanwhile, Aktaruzamam, SI Fatulla thana said, the bombs were kept inside gunny bags covered with beans.
It may be stated that police administration has geared up its activities in recovery of arms from illegal possessors in the backdrop of holding free and fair election. A case has been registered with Fatulla police station. None has been arrested.

KUSHITIA

Eye camp opens

From Our Correspondent

February 9: Syed Hafiz Ahmed, Deputy Commissioner, Kushtia inaugurated a free eye camp at village Chitholia under Mirpur Upazila recently in presence of a huge gathering. The camp jointly organised by BNSB Eye Hospital Khulna and Pipasa a voluntary rural development organisation was attended by Upazila Chairman Kh. Israil Hossain, Anwar Hossain Chakladar, UNO and Abul Hashem Union Chairman.

Poor and incapable eye patients will be treated in the camp Parishad. The function was presided over by Kanailal Sarma President of Pipasa. In his address as chief guest the Deputy Commissioner lauded the role of voluntary organisation in performing such humanitarian job and expressed his firm belief that a large number of poor cataract patients will be benefited.
Earlier Anwar Hossain Chakladar in his speech said that the camp organised for the first time here will help poor patients in recovery of their eye sight and laid emphasis on detection and earlier treatment of eye disease.

DINAJPUR

Theft committed

From Our Correspondent

February 9: Two thefts were committed in the village Ramchandrapur under Kaharol upazila on Friday last. The thieves after making hotel in the houses of one Md. Daud Ali and Abdul Basit entered into the rooms and managed to escape with cash and kings worth about Taka one lakh. Cases have been registered with Kaharol PS in these regards.

MANIKGANJ

Fertilizer scarcity

February 9: Acute scarcity of fertilizers has been prevailing in all the upazilas of the district threatening rabi farming during the current season, reports UNB.

According to farmers, 50 per cent of the standing crops have been damaged and 30 to 40 per cent land remained uncultivated this season due to non-availability of fertilizers.
In addition, prices of TSP and Potash have also increased affecting the farmers. Per bag TSP and Potash are selling at Taka 350 while a bag of Urea is selling at Tk 260.

Bangladesh Agricultural Development Corporation has allegedly failed to meet the demand.

JHENIDAH

Transport workers go on strike

From Our Correspondent

February 9: Road communication was paralyzed in southern region of the country on Wednesday as transport workers observed a day of protest demanding an end to Gulf war. Passengers were stranded as buses went off the roads in greater Jessore, Khulna, Bagherat, Satkhira, Kushtia, Faridpur and Barisal districts.

696 bombs recovered

Jhenidah police on a secret information raided the two shops (Ekata Bipani and Banizza Vender) of the town Wednesday last and recovered 696 Indian made hand bombs. Police arrested Masudur Rahman and Utam kumar in this connection. Two separate cases were filed.

RANGPUR

Poor response from Hajj pilgrims

From Our Correspondent

February 9: The district administration has got Poor response from prospective hajj-goers this year. Only 14 persons applied up to last date for submission of applications for Hajj which expired on January 31 while Hajj quota in Rangpur district was 200. A spokesman of district administration told that Hajj application date may be extended in view of poor response.

PATUAKHALI

Roads expansion programme

February 9: Roads and Highways Department has taken up a programme for expansion of Barisal-Patuakhali road during the current fiscal year, reports UNB.

Government has sanctioned about Taka 4.96 lakh for the development of the road.
According to official sources, the first phase of the work will start from Le-bukhali Ferry ghat area of the road.

The work is expected to be completed within next three months, it is learnt.

FENI

Teacher shortage hampers education

February 9: Education in Feni Government Degree College here has been hampered by shortage of teachers, reports UNB.

At least 32 posts of teachers have been lying vacant in the college for a long time.

Vacancies include the post of Vice-Principal, 12 Assistant Professors, 49 Associate Professors, 11 lecturers and four demonstrators. There are 64 posts in the college.

Guardians urged the authorities to immediately fill the vacancies to ensure smooth functioning of the college.

TANGAIL

Teachings of Muhammad (SM) discussed

February 9: The life and teachings of the Prophet Muhammad (SM) was discussed at a meeting held at Maulana Mohammad Ali College, Karmari recently, reports BSS.

The meeting was organised by Maulana Mohammad Ali Government College Students Union. Dr. Abdul Jabbar Mia presided over the meeting while Islamic scholar and journalist Prof. Abdul Qafur was present as the main speaker.

The speakers said Islam is a complete code of life and teachings of the holy Prophet could help establish peace and tranquility in this trouble-torn world.

JESSORE

Directive to promote image of Biman

February 9: Mr. Rafiqul Islam, Adviser in-charge of the Ministries of Civil Aviation, Tourism and Shipping on Thursday the concerned authorities to improve the passengers facilities at Jessore Airport terminal in order to promote the image of Bangladesh Biman services at home and abroad, report BSS.

He was exchanging views with the senior officials of Civil Aviation authorities and Bangladesh Biman of Jessore on the problems and prospects of Bangladesh Biman services at Jessore Airport.

He directed the Civil Aviation authorities to take necessary steps for extending telephone facilities and enhance the standard of other connected services to the passengers. He also asked them to initiate repair and renovation work of the airport.

The Civil Aviation Adviser stressed the need for raising the existing numbers of flights to meet the increasing demand in this regard.

Mr. Rafiqul Islam also visited the rescue and fire fighting unit of the Civil Aviation authorities. He witnessed the functioning of fire fighting equipment and talked to personnel of this unit and enquired about the state of their services.



Weavers knitting big fishing nets on a road near Cox's Bazar. As this is a seasonal business they work round the clock during fishing season for some extra earning. —Star photo

Call to remove curse of illiteracy

FARIDPUR, Feb 9: National Population Day, was observed here in a befitting manner, reports BSS.

In this connection Family Planning Department and Non-government Organisation (NGO) chalked out daylong programmes at the unions, upazilas and district levels.

The programme of the day included rally, sports, discussion meetings and seminars. In the morning a big procession was brought out in the town. The processionists paraded the main thoroughfares of this district town carrying festoons, placards and chanting slogans to check baby boom.

Speakers at a seminar held at local Kavi Jasimuddin Hall stressed the need for removing the curse of illiteracy, improve awareness about family norms among the masses.

Speakers observed that the unplanned growth of population is heading the nation to a grave situation.

The seminar organised by Family Planning Department was presided over by Mr. S.M. Shahjahan, ADC (Gen) of Faridpur. The seminar was addressed, among others by Deputy Director of Family Planning, Mr. Rafiqul Gomez, Syed Abdul Malek, ADC (Rev) of Faridpur and Prof. Md. Shahjahan.

The seminar was followed

by distribution of prizes among some family planning workers and ideal couples.

Another seminar was organised by Pathfinder, a local NGO engaged in population control activities.

Kishoreganj

Our Kishoreganj Correspondent adds: A discussion meeting was held in observance of population at the S. V. Government High School recently.

Mr. Kazi Nazirul Islam, Deputy Commissioner, Kishoreganj was the chief guest, while it was presided over by Mr. Tofazul Hossain, Deputy Director, Family Planning, Kishoreganj.

The meeting was addressed, among others, by Principal Jalal Ahmed, Professor Ziauddin Ahmed, President, Kishoreganj Press Club, Dr. Yousuf Kutubuddin and Dr. M. Jalaluddin. Mr. Kazi Nazirul Islam distributed prizes among the ideal couples.

Besides, a rally was held at the Maternity Centre premises and a colourful procession paraded the main streets of the town.

Annual sports

The Annual sports of the district schools and madrasahs was held recently in the local stadium.

Mr. Azizur Rahman, Additional District Magistrate,

Kishoreganj inaugurated the sports while Mr. Kazi Nazirul Islam, Deputy Commissioner distributed the prizes among the winners.

About 90 students from different upazilas participated in 33 events of the competitions.

Miss Marufa Akhtar of Kishoreganj Mohila Madrasah became individual champion and Hashmatuddin High School became school champion.

Thakurgaon

Our Thakurgaon Correspondent says: Family planning workers and members of different social organisation and non-government organisations engaged in population control programme brought out procession in Thakurgaon town and upazila headquarters of Pirganj, Ranisankail, Baladangi and Haripur chanting family planning slogans in observance of the National Population Day '91.

A seminar was held at Ranisankail Community Hall to create awareness among the family planning programme personnel to achieve the goal and to motivate. The social leader said that the programme could be turned into a social movement. The seminar was attended by the people from all walks of life of the localities. It was presided over by Mr. Rezaul Karim.

Research on Madhusudhan stressed

From Our Correspondent

JESSORE, Feb 9: "Michael had enriched the arena of Bengali Literature by adding novelty to it", said Dr. Asraf Siddiqui, the Chairman of Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha and prominent literary personality, at a function held at "Modhusudhan Academy" at Keshabpur as chief guest recently.

He added that Modhusudhan had changed the old pattern of rhymes in Bengali poetry and introduced novelty. His poetry gave the people of this country the trace of a new way, he added. Dr. Siddique cited the instance of the epic "Meghnad" and said that Manakabi has taught us to sacrifice life for the motherland.

Stressing the need for further research on "Modhusudhan" Dr. Siddique hoped that Michael Academy would contribute a lot in this connection.

Halt to Gulf war demanded

From Our Correspondent

RAJSHAHI, Feb 9: A silent anti-war procession was brought out at the campus of the Rajshahi University recently to press the demand for immediate end to the Gulf war.

The procession sponsored by the Rajshahi University Teachers Association (RUTA) started from Senate Building and was dispersed after parading the campus.

The rally demanded immediate halt to the Gulf war and peaceful solution to both Middle-East and Palestinian problems.

Professor M. A. Hamid and Mr. Sadequl Islam, President and General Secretary of the Teachers Association called for withdrawal of multi-national forces from the Gulf area and retreat of Iraq from Kuwait.

Mass Uprising Day

Meanwhile Mass Uprising Day was observed here recently with a call for fulfillment of dreams of martyrs of 1969.

Notes from N' Ganj

From A Correspondent

NARAYANGANJ, Feb 9: A three-day long photo exhibition organised by Narayanjanj Photographic Society was held recently at Ali Ahmed Auditorium here.

Presided over by Mr. Sunil Amin, President Narayanjanj Photographic Society, the inaugural function was addressed, among others, by Mr. Karunamya Goswami and Mr. Kamaluddin Nilu.

Renowned film personality, Mr. Baby Islam inaugurated the exhibition.

About 20 professional amateur photographers participated in the exhibition.

Arms recovered

Narayanjanj Bandar and Siddirganj thana police recovered one pipegun, one bayonet, six hand bombs.

Bandar thana police recovered six hand bombs from an abandoned shoe-box on Tuesday morning and Siddirganj thana police recovered one pipegun and one bayonet near Moonlight Cinema Hall on Wednesday last.

None was arrested in this connection.

One dies in road mishap

One person was killed in a road accident at Sanarpura under Siddirganj thana on Monday last.

Haji Md. Nurul Haq aged about 42 was hit by a truck and died on the spot.

The driver is absconding and a case was registered with Siddirganj thana.

One commits suicide

Suruj Miah (18), a farmer committed suicide by taking poison at village Balurchar in Gazaria on Tuesday last.

The reason for his committing suicide was not clear, police sources said.



COMILLA: The Deputy Commissioner of Comilla addressing an anti-smuggling meeting at Brahmanpara in the town recently. —Star Photo

Telecommunications to be expanded: Kibria

MUNSHIGANJ, Feb 9: Munshiganj has been brought under nation-wide dialling system (NWD) on Wednesday, reports BSS.

Communications, Post and Telecommunications Adviser A. B. M. O Kibria made a first call from Mirkadim Telephone Exchange of Munshiganj to Law and Justice Adviser M A Khaleque at the Cabinet room of Bangladesh Secretariat, Food and Cultural Affairs Adviser, Prof Enajuddin Ahmed was also

present during this inaugural occasion and talked to the Law Adviser.

Both the Advisers also talked with members of the Advisory Council A.K. M. Musa, Professor Zillur Rahman Siddique, A. M. Anisuzzaman and Chowdhury A. K. M. Aminul Haq who were also present at the Cabinet room of the Bangladesh Secretariat.

Munshiganj is the 59th district headquarters and 63rd place so far brought under

NWD system of the country. The rest five district headquarters will be brought under NWD system within the current financial year.

Inaugurating the system Mr Kibria said, a telecommunication was the key to socio-economic development of a country. The present interim government was keen to expand the system inspite of many limitations and constraints.



AGRI-VARSITY (Mymensingh): The President of BAU Ladies' Club Mrs. Merina Rahman delivering her presidential speech in a function arranged in connection with installation of the executive body of BAU Ladies' Club recently. —Star photo

Political scene

How party activists exercise self-restraint

Star report

Political workers at Bhairab have set an example of discipline and tolerance in course of campaigns for ensuing parliamentary polls. This is particularly important at a time when reports of clashes among the rival groups are being reported from different parts of the country.

The local leaders of Bhairab Upazila headquarters have decided at a meeting to close down all the election camps to diffuse tension created by ceaseless propoganda over microphones accusing each other. The meeting was attended, among others by the leaders of major political parties including Awami league and Bangladesh Nationalist Party BNP.

The participants at the meeting also resolved that each candidate will be allowed to maintain only eight camps, one each in the six unions under the upazila and two camps at the town. This has resulted in a calm atmosphere much to the relief of the people who were otherwise burdened with the loud noises from microphones almost round the clock.

Our Comilla Correspondent adds: A meeting of different parties and elite of the town was held on Friday at Chandpur with Md. Abul Kashem, Deputy Commissioner in the chair.

The DC called upon all to implement government instructions for smooth holding of a free, fair and impartial polls on February 27. He urged all to remain vigilant and perform their duties with a sense of responsibility. He said that officials would maintain a complete neutrality in the ensuing elections.

Candidates and leaders of almost all political parties attended the meeting. Leaders of different political parties assured the administration of their cooperation and to follow code of conduct.

N'ganj

Our Narayanjanj Correspondent adds: Ashrafuddin Ahmed Chunnun a candidate of Awami League in the ensuing parliamentary polls from Fatulla Siddhirganj constituency said that if he was elected he would do everything for the development of the sports activities in the locality. Speaking at a Press conference at Narayanjanj Club recently he said that he would give more attachment to all the development activities in Narayanjanj particularly in Fatulla and Shiddirganj areas which had been neglected for long time.

Mr. Chunnun who is also a noted footballer of the country urged the local administration to be vigilant so that no untoward incident or clashes and he also expressed his firm determination to win the election.

B'baria

UNB from Brahmanbaria states: Election campaign has been gaining momentum in the district for the ensuing February 27 parliamentary polls.

Meetings, processions, miking, poster, distribution of handbills, putting up of banners, erection of gates with election symbols at convenient points, wall writings and house to house contacts are on to capture the attention of the voters.

Major political parties like Awami League, Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP), Jamaat-e-Islami Bangladesh and other parties are holding election processions.

Processionists with election symbols, Boat (A.L.), Paddy Sheaf (B.N.P.), Scale (Jamaat) and Rose (Jaker Party) are seen in the streets, chanting slogans in favour of their respective party candidates.

Fifty candidates including some women have been racing for the Jatiya Sangsad polls from six constituencies in the Brahmanbaria district.

Abdul Kuddus Makhon(A.L.), Advocate Harun-Al Rashid, A T M Wali Ashraf and Miah Abdullah Wazad(BNP), Atiqul Islam Khokon (Muslim League), Advocate Humayun Kabir (Jatiya Party) are the prominent ones who are contesting from different constituencies here.

The women candidates are Dilara Rahman (BKSAL) and Munnujan Begum (Independent).

Meanwhile, district administration has been taking necessary preparations for holding free, fair and impartial elections in the district.

Over 13.78 lakh voters will exercise their voting right in six constituencies, local election commission sources said.

Task Force to stop smuggling

KHULNA, Feb 9: A Task Force has been formed to curb smuggling along 576 kilometers border belt here, reports UNB.

The Task Force at a meeting in Sathkhira Circuit House last week decided that local hats and bazars should stop working after sundown.

The meeting, chaired by Task Force chairman Divisional Commissioner AKM Fazlul Haq Miah, took the decision in view of the rising smuggling in the district.

It also decided to impose ban on issuing dealing licences for polyester cloth to local traders. Licences issued earlier to them were also seized.

Meanwhile, unabated smuggling has adversely affected the local industry.

Local sugar mills are facing problems as their produce can not compete with smuggled Indian sugar which is being sold at cheaper prices.