

Upazila roundup

MADARIPUR

Power failure erratic

From Our Correspondent

February 24: The industrial units of the district have been incurring huge loss due to erratic power supply.

Informed sources said suffering of the domestic consumers have also multiplied.

Power disruption at night for hours together has given rise to anti-social elements, people complained.

Rural electrification

A programme has been launched to bring four Upazilas of Madaripur and Gopalganj districts. Under rural electrification network. Palli Bidhyut Samity here will install 100 kilometres of overhead electric line during the current financial year.

MEHERPUR

Police annual sports held

From Our Correspondent

February 24: The annual sports of Meherpur district police was held in the Meherpur Police line recently. The function was presided over by Mr. Anwar Hossain, S.P.

Mr. Momtazur Rahman, DC was the special guest. At the end of the game the DC and Mr. Anwar Hossain distributed the prizes among the winners.

SATKHIRA

5 get life term for murder

February 24: Mr. Abdur Rab Mian, District and Sessions Judge, Satkhira recently sentenced five persons of Agardari under Assasuni Upazila for transportation of life on charge of murder, reports BSS.

The convicted persons are Riazuddin Sardar, son of Rahimuddin, Rahim Elahi Sardar, son of Maniruddin, Kabir Sardar, son of Jeadali, Mobarak Sardar, son of Kayum Sarder and Abdul Hal, son of Maniruddin Sarder.

They were also fined Taka five thousand each in default for one year more jail term for murdering Jafar Ali Sarder of Agardari.

The prosecution story in brief is that Jafar Ali went to Ramsaliker Gher under Assasuni Upazila and the accused persons murdered him. A case was filed with Assasuni police who submitted charge sheet. The judge found them guilty under section 302 and 34 BPC.

BHOLA

10 JP activists held for looting shops

February 24: Police arrested 10 persons recently on charge of looting 10 shops at Doulatkhan market under Doulatkhan Upazila, reports BSS.

The arrested persons were learnt to be the activists of Jatiya Party while the shop owners were Awami League supporters.

Police arrested four more persons on charge of attacking the house of Principal Nazim Islam, an Awami League candidate, at Char Faskon recently.

CHITTAGONG

Lethal weapons recovered from jail wards

February 24: The jail authorities and Chittagong Metropolitan Police on Wednesday conducted search at different wards of the jail and recovered two hundred pieces of lethal weapons, jail authorities said.

The weapons recovered included choppers, daggers and sticks.

GAURANADI

Killings of student leaders condemned

February 24: Awami League President and Eight-Party Alliance leader Sheikh Hasina said here recently that a certain quarter knowing sure of their defeat in February 27 polls was active to disrupt the election or create an atmosphere for poll rigging, reports BSS.

She was addressing a condolence meeting organised by the local unit of Awami League at Gauranadi Government College ground at the deaths of Khairul Islam Tipu(26) President of Gauranadi Thana unit of Bangladesh Chhatra League and A. H. M. Kamal (25) President of Gauranadi College unit

BCL. They were killed following a bomb explosion recently. Presided over by local Awami League leader Alauddin Ahmed the meeting was also addressed by Awami League Joint Secretary Amir Hossain Amu and AL nominee from Gauranadi and Agaljhara Constituency Abul Hasanat Abdullah.

Condemning the killings Sheikh Hasina said the march of the people and the all towards consolidating democracy could not be stopped by such terrorist activities.

NARAYANGANJ

Ekushey February observed

From Our correspondent

February 24: As elsewhere in the country, the people of the principal river post town here observed the 'Ekushey February' with due solemnity.

Various political parties, socio-cultural and juvenile organisations drew up elaborate programmes of their own to mark the occasion. The programmes included 'Provatth ferr' placing of floral wreaths at the foot of local central Shaheed Minar in bare-footed, holdings of seminars, discussion meeting on the significance of the day.

Special prayers were offered in all places of worship for the salvation of the departed souls of the martyrs of the Language Movement.

The local Shudhizon Library in cooperation with Lions Club of Narayanganj Great organised a cooperation with Lions Club of Narayanganj Great organised a hand writing competition for the students of Class IV, V and VI to observe the day.

The President of the Library Dr. Karunamay Goswami gave away the prizes among the winner.

Besides Narayanganj Sanskritik Jote, Leo Club of Narayanganj city, Papiras and Shapla celebrated the occasion in a befitting manner.

SIRAJGANJ

SKOP gherao programme

February 24: Local leaders of Sramik Karmachari Otkya Parishad (SKOP) here have announced road blockade and gherao programme from Sunday to press home their demands, reports UNB.

According to sources, the announcement came after hunger strike by over one hundred leaders and workers for immediate reopening of the district's only cotton mill.

The mill was laid off November 17 by the mill authority without prior notice.

Thousands of workers and their dependents have been suffering a lot since then, it is learnt.

Attempts made by the district administration to reopen the mill have failed as the owner not available.

RANGPUR

8 mastans jailed

February 24: Rangpur district administration has taken all possible measures for maintaining law and order during the Jatiya Sangsad polls on February 27.

Deputy Commissioner, Rangpur, Mr. Giasuddin Ahmed told BSS that the administration has already alerted the law enforcing agency to take stern action against those found indulging in anti-election activities in the district.

Meanwhile, eight persons known as Jatiya Party mastans were arrested and given one month's detention for anti-election activities in the district during the last few days.

The Deputy Commissioner said peaceful atmosphere is prevailing all over the district and no major untoward incident was so far reported.

BRAHMANBARIA

Significance of cultural activities discussed

February 24: Significance of cultural activities in the mass movement of 1990 was discussed at a function held on February 18 at the local Shilpakala Academy premises, reports BSS.

The function was organised in observance of the 8th founding anniversary of Shahitya Academy Brahmanbaria. Noted writer and intellectual Badruddin Umar was the chief guest of the function. Presided over by Prof. Shantanu Khatun, an adviser of the Academy, the meeting was addressed, among others, by Mr. Joydul Hossain, Secretary of Shahitya Academy



Plucking 'kul', a sour-sweet fruit liked by the children and the old alike. - Star photo by Shafuddin Bitu.

Adulterated foodstuffs causing health hazard

From Our Correspondent

KUSHTIA, Feb 24: Adulteration of food stuffs is rampant in all the markets of six upazilas of the district. It has become a usual practice of the businessmen causing anxiety among the people here.

Due to consumption of adulterated foodstuff various stomach ailments and skin diseases have registered on alarming rise in the area. Adulterated goods are being sold freely in the markets. Pure edibles, milk, ghee, butteroil are hardly available.

Besides, some vendors are found selling adulterated food

in front of schools. As a result, the school children have been suffering from diseases. No preventive measures have yet been taken by the local health department in this regard, it is alleged.

use of chemical fertilizers by the farmers.

Paddy production in certain areas of Bheramara and Mirpur upazilas under G.K.Project commanded area had already decreased abnormally.

The health complexes in different upazilas of the district are beset with manifold problems for a long time. Paucity of necessary medicines, lack of facilities in operation theatre, absence of ambulance, blood bank, dental and ophthalmic instruments have aggravated the situation.

47 die of diarrhoea in Netrakona

From Our Correspondent

NETRAKONA, Feb 24: At least 47 people died and about one 1000 were attacked by diarrhoea, dysentery and other water born diseases in different villages under Kalmakanda upazila in Netrakona district during the last 40 days.

But official sources, however confirmed the death figure at 35. The worst affected villages are Chaila Pachganj and different villages of Kharnol Rangchati and Kalmakanda unions. Hospital sources said a large number of

Postal officials asked to work sincerely

RAJSHAHI, Feb 24: The Adviser for Communication, Post, and Telephone and Telegraph, Mr. A. B. M. G. Kibria, on Saturday said, the postal officers could ensure welfare services to the people of the country with their dedication and enthusiasm, reports BSS.

He was addressing the participants of the fifth induction training course for four weeks, started from February 9 for BCS (postal) officers at Postal Academy's conference hall of Rajshahi here Saturday evening as chief guest. Chaired by the Post Master General (Northern zone) Mr. Laskar the function was also addressed by the Principal of the Postal Academy of Rajshahi Mr. Giasuddin Ahmed.

The Adviser stressed the need for building up the career of officials by developing their efficiency and skill.

He said, the social engineers of the nation would be made efficient and skilled through conducting different

Notes from Chuadanga

From A Correspondent

The Annual Meeting of Meherpur Red Crescent Unit was held on recently in the local Zila Parishad office under the chairmanship of Mr. Mamtazur Rahman, Deputy Commissioner, Meherpur. Proceedings of the last year was also approved. The meeting discussed various aspects of humanitarian activities in the area.

Tk 1.6 cr BKB loan disbursed

Thirteen B.K.B. branches of the district distributed Agricultural Loans amounting to Taka one crore and six lakhs to 421 businessmen and farmers from July to December last year.

It is learnt from a BKB source that the loans have been distributed for establishment of mills and factories like biscuit, flour and purchasing of tractor, power tiller, bullocks for cultivation.

It is also learnt that the BKB branches have realised outstanding loan to Taka one crore 70 lakhs from the loanees. It is gathered that U. P. members have helped the Bank officials to realise loans from the debtors.

Madhusudan's death anniversary

The 167th death anniversary of Michael Modhusudan Dutta was celebrated in Sagardari Michael Academy recently. A seminar presided over by Gazi Solaiman, Chairman of the Academy was held in this connection.

Dr. Ashraf Siddiki, chief guest of the seminar in his address said that Modhusudan Dutta, is not only the pride of Jessore, his literary works still remain as supplement to modern life and world. He was an architect of the modern Bengali literature. He added Messrs. Shamsul Arefin, a BNP candidate of Jessore-6 constituency, Amir Hossain,

Political scene

A husband's dream to see his wife as 'First Lady'

Star Report

A devoted husband canvassing for his wife to win the voters is something different that has attracted public attention. Such an act not only provides consolation for those husbands under 'constant pressure at home front' but an inspiration to become more helpful to their wives.

Mrs. Meena Saifur is contesting from four constituencies in Sylhet on the ticket of her husband's party, Islamic Samajtantrik Dal (ISD). Her election symbol is coconut.

Mr. Saifur Rahman, chief of ISD is moving from door to door seeking votes for coconut.

Last week, the anxious husband, held a Press conference and announced his party's election manifesto. The only significant point of manifesto relates to a fervent appeal to the people to vote for Meena Saifur.

Mr. Saifur Rahman, a businessman who had a modest beginning as tea stall owner, told newsmen that one day he hopes to become the President of the country.

The party chief agreed to the suggestion of a newsmen that if he is elected to the office of President, Meena Saifur would automatically become the 'First Lady.'

Our Kushtia correspondent writes: Election campaign has been gaining momentum in Kushtia with the coming of election date nearer and reached its highest peak now. The candidates have already geared up their election campaign backed by their supporters.

Hundreds of colourful posters, banners, festoons, placards, wall writings and life-size symbols have been put up in all the public places. The posters, banners and portraits of past and present leaders of Awami League, BNP and Jatiya Party are in display in different parts of the constituencies.

Different political parties including Awami League, BNP, UCL, Jatiya Party, JSD(Inu), JSD (Rab), Jamaat and independent candidates are holding election processions and public meeting in different Union of the constituencies. With the death of Marfat Ali JSD (Rab) candidate for Kushtia two constituency at the hands of armed miscreants election of the said constituency have been postponed.

Now 31 candidates are running after election on February 27 for parliament seats and approaching door to door backed by their supporters.

In Kushtia-one constituency main contestants are BNP candidate Ahasanul Haq Molla, Jatiya Party leader Md. Korban Ali, a former Minister of State for Food and JSD (Rab) candidate Md. Yakub Ali, former Upazila Chairman.

In Kushtia-three constituency main contestants are Md. Anwar Ali, Awami League General Secretary of Kushtia branch and present Poura Chairman and BNP candidate A.K.M. Abdul Khaleque (Chantu) who fought upazila election as independent candidate and secured more than 26,000 votes. Jamaat leader and Amir of Kushtia Dr. Anisur Rahman is also countable while central student leader Nur Ahmed Bakul is also a formidable candidate.

In Kushtia four constituency main contestants are Nur Alam Ziku, President JSD (Rab), Awami League leader Abdul Awal and BNP leader Mehdi Ahmed Rummy.

The Returning Officers of Kushtia have been taking necessary steps for holding a free, fair and impartial election.

Ballot battle more decisive than bullets

BSS from Thakurgaon adds: Battle by ballots is more decisive than a battle by bullets, and it will be proved in the Jatiya Sangsad elections on February 27, said Mr. Pankaj Bhattacharya, General Secretary of NAP and a leader of 8-party alliance at a public meeting on Wednesday at Pirganj.

Mr. Bhattacharya said that Presidential form of govern-

ment was but a one man rule exposed to an autocratic system. He said that an alliance which had entered into agreement to fight for parliamentary democracy now re-

A report from Chittagong says: Chittagong city Jatiya Party Acting President and Chittagong-10 constituency candidate Harun-ar-Rashid Khan said that none could stop



Election procession at village Volta in Narsingdi district. - Star photo

tracted from the commitment. Criticising the Jatiya Party, he said that they had no right to seek vote because their rule was autocratic. He also criticised Jamaat and said that this party had been preaching fanaticism.

Lavish expenditure alleged

A message from Netrakona adds: Former Food Minister and a central committee member of Awami League Mr. Abdul Momen alleged that some candidates were spending lavishly in violation of government orders to limit election expenses at Taka three lakh.

He called upon the people to identify and reject them. Mr. Momen was addressing a number of meetings on Wednesday at Mohanganj and Khallajuri upazilas.

He made an appeal to the people to vote for Awami League candidates for materialising the dreams of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

the onward march of Jatiya Party which was rooted in the hearts of common people, a JP Press release said.

He demanded withdrawal of cases against the party leaders to ensure a free and fair election on February 27.

BNP to guarantee people's rule

A message from Munshiganj states: The BNP leader, Prof. Badruddoza Chowdhury in Saturday called upon the people irrespective of caste and creed to vote for the BNP candidates in the coming Jatiya Sangsad elections to bring an end to autocracy once for all.

Prof. Chowdhury was addressing an election meeting at Bhagaykul Bazar under Sreenagar upazila here on Saturday.



An election camp at Narayanganj. -Star photo