

Upazila roundup

MAULVI BAZAR

Baby food price rises

From Our correspondent
March 15: Prices of all brands of baby food have risen sharply in the markets of Maulvi Bazar causing anxiety to the consumers.
Market sources said, a tin of Anchor (2 kg) was selling at Tk 270, Red Cow (2 Kg) was being sold at Taka 265, Dano of the same quantity between Taka 265 and Taka 270. Viva, (1 Kg) at Tk 90 to 110 and Cerelac and My Boy (400 gm pack milk cereal) at Taka 105.
Some dishonest traders are making windfall profits by creating artificial scarcity of the milk for the babies.
Meanwhile, prices of essential commodities recorded a rise adversely affecting the low income group of people.

NARAIL

Chicken pox breaks out

From Our Correspondent
March 15: Chicken Pox has broken out all over the district. Both the town and the rural areas have been affected.

It is reported that a large number of people of different areas has been affected with chicken pox. The sufferers include both children and adults.

No preventive measures have yet been taken by concerned authorities, it is alleged.
Curative medicines are also reportedly rare in different markets, hospital and health complexes of the district lack in sufficient stock of such medicines.

KUSHITIA

4 arrested for kidnapping housewife

From Our Correspondent
March 15: Kushiya police arrested four persons on charge of kidnapping a newly married girl Salina Khatoun (17) of village Airpara under Kushiya Sadar Upazila.
It is reported that a group of people assembled in the house of Nurul Islam, ex-chairman, Goshami Durgapur union parishad and kidnapped his niece at gun point.
Kushiya Police rescued the kidnapped girl on March 5.
A case has been filed in this regard.

Scout's rally

The three-day first scout rally of Meherpur Sadar upazila was held at the local government primary school recently. Mr. Sayedul Haque Bhuiya presided over the function.
Mr. Mamtazur Rahman, D.C. and Mr. Anwar Hossain, S.P. were present as chief guest and special guest respectively.

MADARIPUR

Decision to stop teachers benefit resented

From Our Correspondent
March 15: A meeting of Madrasah, schools and college teachers was held at Madaripur Public High School premises on recently. A good number of teachers attended the meeting. Prof. Sarder Abul Faiz was in the chair.
All the speakers expressed resentment over the government decision to stop the government benefit towards the teachers salary of the Madrasah teaching staff and demanded immediate withdrawal of the decision.
The meeting was addressed by Moulana Shamsul Hoq, Dr. Shamsuddin Ahmed and Md. Shajahan.

COMILLA

Meena Bazar

From Our Correspondent
March 15: The annual Meena Bazar of Comilla Mahila Station Club has been started recently with 20 stalls.
Mr. Kazi Farid Ahmed inaugurated the Bazar. The Bazar will be continue for seven days.
Among others, Comilla Diabetic Society, Bangladesh Red Crescent Society, Comilla branch, Mahila Parishad, Shajoni and various cottage industries participated in the Meena Bazar.

Seva AGM held

The annual general meeting of Seva was held at Bejoypur high school premises recently.
The Director General of BARD, Comilla Mr. Margub Mursheed was the chief guest and the special guest was prof. Abdul Wahab, Editor of Daily Ruposhi Bangla.
The inaugural session was addressed by Mr. Yasin, President Gramin Unnayan Samity

and Mr. Salauddin Ahmed, Executive Director of Seva.
The meeting was presided over by Major (rid) Nawal Mia.

KHULNA

Mosquito menace

March 15: Mosquito menace has increased in the town following stoppage of insecticide spraying on pucca and kutcha drains in the town, reports UNB.
According to official sources, there are 36.78 kilometre pucca drains, 30.27 km semi-pucca and 233.89 km kutcha drains in the town. The drains mostly remain covered with filth and stagnant water giving rise to bulk breeding of mosquitoes.
Sources in Khulna Municipal Corporation admitted that the situation aggravated as spraying of insecticide to combat the menace exhausted in the month of November last year. Later no insecticides could be purchased by the authorities due to what they said "recent political turmoil".
Mayor-in-charge of the corporation, however, said that shortage of fund caused the delay in purchasing required insecticide.

BRAHMANBARIA

Acid thrown on housewife

March 15: Miscreants threw acid on a housewife at village Salmabad under Bancharampur upazila injuring her seriously, police said here today, reports UNB.
Family sources said a neighbour tried to establish illicit relationship with the victim, Kulum Begum, wife of Giasuddin but failed.
The neighbour along with his accomplices threw acid on her when she went out of her house to respond to nature's call at dead of night recently.
A case has been lodged in this connection.

RANGPUR

Boy killed

March 15: A boy was killed Wednesday when his shawl got wrapped with a running shallow tubewell machine at Kandi village of Pirgacha upazila, police here said, reports UNB.
The incident occurred when the victim Ayub Hossain (15) was operating the machine in the night. He died on the spot.
A case was filed with the police in this connection. The owner of the tubewell remained absconding since the incident.

MYMENSINGH

Karim memorial gold medal, stipends

March 15: Professor Karim Memorial Gold medal and stipends were awarded at a function on March 9 at Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU), reports BSS.
The function was presided over by Prof. Muhammad Husain. Chairman of Prof. Karim Memorial Trust and Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture, The Vice-Chancellor of BAU Prof. M. Asadur Rahman was the chief guest at the function.
The stipend was named after the late Prof. Karim who succeeded in developing biogas technology in Bangladesh.
Prodeed Kumar Saha of the Faculty of Agricultural Engineering and Technology was awarded gold medal. M. Khalulur Rahman of the Department of Agricultural Chemistry and A.K.M. Munirul Huq of the department of Soil Science were awarded stipends worth Taka 1,500 each. Besides, three students of K.B. Governments Primary School were awarded monthly stipend of Taka 50 each for securing highest marks in the annual examination of 1990.

BARISAL

Brojo Mohan College sports held

From Our Correspondent
March 15: The 97th annual sports of government Brojo Mohan College was held at the college: play ground with great enthusiasm.
In all 68 participants participated in the sports in 3 groups.
Mohammad Mostaque Mahmud and Saha Anwar Chowdhury became champion and runner-up respectively from post graduate group while Gazi Saaidul Hossain and Mohammad Mahbulul Morshed became champion and runner-up from higher secondary students group respectively.



Dress as you like: she is in gypsy dress at a school function in Narayanganj. —Star photo by Shafuiddin Bitu.

Islamic University faces multifarious problems

From Our Correspondent
KUSHITIA, March 15: The lone Islamic University of the country now under construction at Dulalpur-Shantidanga faces multifarious problems. The university is however, functioning.
A decision was taken to establish an Islamic University in Bangladesh in O.I.C. conference at Mecca. Foundation stone of university was laid in the village of Shantidanga-Dulalpur, the border of Kushiya-Jessore in 1979. Later it was shifted to Gazipur area in 1983, again it was brought back to its previous place of Dulalpur which is still under construction even after so many years.
According to the sources, absence of accommodation, transport and teachers the education of the students is being hampered greatly.
Classes are being held in the premises on "Mats" due to lack of sufficient classrooms. Very few students got seats in the hall. About 60 to 70 per cent of the students are compelled to live in pitiable condition hiring flats, and in mess or lodging, spending huge amount of money.
Teachers and employees of the University have been facing serious problems as the University authorities has not been able to take any step to provide accommodation.
Facilities in all sections of the University are limited. As a result, education of the students has been hampered since long.
Due to shortage of Professors, the classes which are being held in four subjects are taken by Lecturers instead of Professors and Associate Professors.
The construction work of major portion has not yet been completed and on the other hand the previous work has also been stopped due to unknown reasons.
The people of the area urged the concerned authorities to take necessary steps immediately to continue the studies of the students.

Property worth Tk 20cr gutted in five years

From Our Correspondent
MADARIPUR, Mar 15: Property worth about Taka 20 crore were gutted during the last five years in Madaripur and Shariatpur districts, according to reliable sources.
Fire service and civil defence stations have not yet been established in the Sadar Upazila of Shariatpur while the fire service station in Madaripur, established in 1959, is yet to be commissioned.
Local people have urged the concerned authorities to establish fire service stations at the headquarters of the districts and take steps to equip the upazila headquarters with the fire extinguishers.
Munir Hossain (25), son of Motalab Miah of village Jhotala under Kalkini Upazila succumbed to his serious burn injuries recently.
Munir Hossain fell victim to a fire incident while he was sleeping in a hut erected in the paddy field for housing a power pump installed for irrigation purpose.
He was rushed to Kalkini Hospital where he succumbed to his injuries.

Tubewell owners exploit farmers

From Our Correspondent
NANDAIL, March 15: Numerous Irri-Boro cultivators are facing financial hardship as the deep tubewell owners are collecting exorbitant rates in advance in the district.
It is alleged that the deep tubewells allocated for the welfare of the poor peasants are in possession of fake farmers who exploit the real farmers.
They collect huge amount lending these tubewells on different schemes. On the other hand, poor peasants are bound to manage money either by selling their cattle head and lands or by selling ornaments.
Moreover, these owners are cultivating their lands free of cost as their fuel cost is being met up with the money re-

Kushtia Red Crescent Society Ad hoc body

From A Correspondent
KUSHITIA, Mar 15: An ad hoc committee of the Red Crescent Society of Bangladesh Kushtia unit has been formed by its Chairman Major General (Retd) A.F.M. Abdul Huq after superseding the previous committee.
Syed Hafiz Ahmed, Deputy Commissioner, Kushtia and Chairman Zila Parishad has been appointed Chairman of the Society while S.M. Kausar, President Kushtia Zila Press Club and Mohammad Hossain Mohon have been appointed secretary and Vice-Chairman of the Society respectively.
Other members of 11-member committee are Kazi Abu Sharif, ADC (General), Kh. Abul Bashar, UNO, Kushtia Sadar, Md. Habibur Rahman, District Education officer, Md. Matiar Rahman, District Controller of Food, Dr. Kudrat-Khoda Medical officer, Kushtia Police Hospital, Md. Alauddin Ahmed, District Relief and Rehabilitation Officer, Alhaz Mozaffar Rahman Life Member and Mrs. Asma Begum, Head Mistress, Chand Sulana Girl's High School.

Food officer arrested

Officer in-Charge of Kumarkhali Food Storage Godown has been arrested on charge of misappropriating foodgrains worth Taka three lakh ninety two thousand, it was learnt officially.
It is reported that on getting information, District Controller of Food examined the food godowns of Kumarkhali by officers appointed for the purpose and detected the shortfall of food stock.
A case has been registered with Kumarkhali police station in this connection.

6 commit suicide in Satkhira, Brahmanbaria

SATKHIRA, Mar 15: Four women here committed suicide in one day by taking poison, reports UNB.
Fazila Khatun 25, wife of Atiur Rahman of Dakhin Sreepur under Kaliganj Upazila, took poison owing to family feud on Saturday.
Aziza Bibi (24), wife of Munsif Mozammel of Kuskandi village in Sadar upazila, killed herself following a family discord on the same day.
Zobeda Khatun, wife of Bakkar of Kuskandi of the same upazila, took away her life on the day after a family quarrel over dowry.
Rowronra Bibi (22), wife of Anwar Ali, committed suicide by taking pesticides after she failed to withstand economic hardships in the family.
A report from Brahmanbaria adds: Two people committed suicide Saturday in separate incidents in different parts of the district, police said.
According to family sources, Md. Taib Miah (16), son of Md Younus Miah of village Gungikhal under Nasirnagar upazila, killed himself by taking poison. But the reason behind the suicide could not be known.
In another incident, Hasina Khatoun (25), wife of Murshid Miah of Satura village under Nabinagar upazila, took away her life by taking pesticides the same day, he relatives said.
Reason of her suicide could not be ascertained.

3 get life term for murder

GAIBANDHA, Mar 15: Three people have been sentenced to life imprisonment in connection with a murder case, according to court sources, reports UNB.
The court also fined Tk 1000 each for Mamtaz Ali, Abdur Rashid and Badsha Miah, in default, to suffer one month rigorous imprisonment more.
The judgement was delivered by the District and Sessions Judge Abdul Hye recently.
The case, in brief, is that Mamtaz of Palashbari of Gaibandha along with accomplices Rashid and Badsha killed his sister-in-law Firoza Khatun by cutting her throat near Sakoa bridge on May 11, 1989. He murdered her as she turned down his marriage proposal.
Following investigation, police charge-sheeted the accused.
After examining the records and evidences, the judge awarded the punishment.

Growers gherao sugar mill authorities

DINAJPUR, Mar 15: Thousands of Sugarcane growers gheraoed Joypurhat Sugar Mill authorities for immediate payment of their outstanding dues, reports UNB.
Besides, they are also members of Krishak Samabaya Samities which provide them enough bank loan facilities and the poor peasants are not allowed to become the members of samities.
It is learnt that these owners also impose penalty on the

Political scene Another act of cruelty

Star report
In another act of cruelty reported from Kishoreganj district a husband tortured his wife for casting vote in favour of the candidate of her choice. The husband got infuriated a few days after February 27 parliamentary polls when he learnt that his wife Rahima Begum did not vote for the candidate that he asked her to do. The unkid husband, Altaf Hossain, having blind obedience to a particular political party divorced Rahima before giving her a sound beating.
On the day of election Altaf Hossain took Rahima to the polling centre at Mumurdia Union in Kishoreganj-2 Constituency and adequately briefed her about what she should do. Rahima did not tell Altaf about the political party she had liked. But Altaf managed to learn it later from Rahima.
The incident has caused strong resentment among the local people against Altaf.
This is the second incident of divorce reported by Star Correspondent. The first such brutal act was reported from Pabna where a housewife, Shukjan, mother of seven sons, was divorced for casting vote against the will of her husband.

Our Madaripur Correspondent adds: In observance of historic March 7, Madaripur Shanti Shangshao organised a meeting at the local Puran Bazar with Mr. A. Kalam in the chair.
The meeting was addressed by Almas Khan, Kabir Hossain and Shahidur Rahman.
Bangladesh Gobeshona Parishad and Madaripur election observer groups congratulated all concerned for holding the JS election in Madaripur in a free atmosphere.
Forkan Ahmed, President, Bangladeshi Gobeshona Parishad and team leader of the observer group thanked the interim government for conducting the election in a free and orderly manner.

Shariatpur
Supporters and workers of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal on Friday brought out a procession to celebrate the victory of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) in the election.
The jubilant processionists paraded the main streets of Shariatpur town chanting various slogans.

Obituary
Our Maulvi Bazar Correspondent adds: Advocate Aatur Rahman, Vice President of Maulvi Bazar district BNP and one time student leader of Maulvi Bazar died of a heart attack at Dhaka recently he was 42.
The deceased was one of the contestant of last parliamentary polls from Maulvi Bazar-2 on BNP ticket.
He left behind his wife, two minor sons and three brothers. He was buried at Hazrat Sayed Shah Mustafa (R) Dargah Sharif premises in Maulvi Bazar town.

ML leader joins BNP
Advocate Amirul Islam, Joint Secretary, Bangladesh Muslim League (Yousuf) and Convenor, Kushtia district committee joined the BNP being imbued with the dynamic leadership of Begum Khaleda Zia.
He resigned from all committees of Muslim League.

Teacher Shortage in Kishoreganj college

From Our Correspondent
KISHOREGANJ, Mar 15: G.D. government college, the only government college in the district has been smarting under multifarious problems since long adversely affecting the students' academic curriculum.
The college established in 1943 was nationalised in 1980 and has now 2500 students on the roll under Sadar upazila.
It is learnt that 14 posts of Associate Professors, five posts of Assistant Professors, seven posts of Lecturers, posts of Demonstrator, Librarian, Assistant Librarian, Accountant, Upper Division Assistant, LDACUM Typist, Technician and Cashier are lying vacant since long. As a result, students are facing serious problems to continue their studies. Science students are the worst sufferer due to absence of scientific apparatus in the laboratory.
Besides, acute shortage of residential accommodation for the teachers, class rooms and hostel has aggravated the situation.
No steps have yet been taken to fulfil the various needs. The college authorities, students, and guardians have urged the concerned authorities to take appropriate steps to ensure the normal functioning of the college.
Fishermen of all 13 upazilas of the district are facing manifold problems including scarcity of funds and fishing materials.
According to the reports, a large number of fishermen in different areas of the district is unable to procure fishing appliances like boats, nets, etc due to absence of necessary capital. As a result they are compelled to borrow money from the local 'Mahajans' at a very high rate of interest.
Besides, due to massive siltation in the beels, haors and rivers fish production has declined to a great extent.
According to the sources of Fisheries Department the yearly demand for fish is 36922.482 metric tons but the average yearly produce is 15713.656 metric tons due to which the district is facing shortage of 21208.826 metric tons of fish annually. About 65,000 professional fishermen depend on fishing to earn their livelihood and due to non-availability of fishing materials, necessary, easy loans, absence of training facilities for scientific cultivation they are facing serious economic hardships.
According to the official sources, nine posts of Assistant Fisheries Officers are lying vacant since long.

Tk 2.34 cr smuggled goods recovered in Dinajpur

From Our Correspondent
DINAJPUR, March 15: The Bangladesh Rifles personnel of Dinajpur Sector recovered different kinds of smuggled goods worth about Taka 2.34 crore during the last one year.
According to the report, the Sector Headquarter of Dinajpur Kuthbari 8, 16, 11 and 23 battalions of the sector recovered different kinds of smuggled goods worth about Taka 2,33,85,256 last year.
Of the total goods, only the 16 No. Rifles Battalion recovered goods worth about Taka 1,17,60,462. Besides, more than 200 alleged smugglers were arrested and 2,712 cases have been registered with different thanas during the year.
Gold ring in stomach of 'Pangas'
A gold made ring was found in the liver of a Pangas fish here recently.
According to the report, one Manglu, member of UNO, Binnakuri Union Parishad under Chhitrbandar upazila bought a Pangas fish weighing four kg from Binnakuri hat.