CHUADANGA

Death anniversary of Lalan Shah observed

From Our Correspondent March 21: A day-long "Sandhu" conference was held

at village Purapara under Damurhuda Upazila o Chuadanga district in connection with the observance of 100th death anniversary of Baul Kabi Lalan Shah recently.

The day long "Sandhu' conference included discussion meeting, presentation of Baul songs, Laian geeti and rally of the Bauls and Suffs.

Hundreds of Bauls and Sufis from different areas of the country took part in the "Sandhu" conference. Mr Aminul Islam Khan, ADC General, Chuadanga was present as the chief guest.

The "Sandhu" conference was organised by "Purapara Suff-Boul and Sandhu-Guru Kallayan Sangha" Damurhuda.

Founding anniversary The 25th founding anniver-

sary of Chuadanga Academy (High School) was observed here in a befitting manner. In this connection a day-

long programme was chalked out earlier which included discussion meeting, old students and guardians rally, prize distribution and cultural function.

Professor, Gazi Abdus Salam, Chairman, Jessore Board was present on the occasion as the chief guest.

RAJSHAHI

Installation ceremony

From Our Correspondent March 21: The installation ceremony of Rajshahi University Zoha Hall Union officebearers was held at Kazi Nazrul Islam auditorium recently. Vice-Chancellor, Prof Amanullah Ahmed was present as the chief guest. Hall Provost Mr. Nur Mohammad presided over the function and conducted

the oath taking of 12 office

bearer of Hall Union.

The function was addressed by Treasurer, Dr. Akhtaruzzaman, VP Mr Matiur Rahman, GS Mr. Nurul Islam Bally this connection a geeti alekhya styled "Jhanda Urao Pal Tolo Sindabad" under the auspices of Saimum Shilpa Ghosti was held.

Volleyball tourney

Inter college volleyball tournament of Raishahi University concluded here recently. Suhrawardy Hall clinched the championship beating Motiher Hall by 3-0

Vice-Chancellor of RU was present as the chief guest in the final match and distributed the prizes among the winners. In all, 13 teams including 9

residential hall of the varsity participated in the tourna-

ISHWARGANJ

Farmers' rally From A Correspondent

March 21: A farmers' rally was held at Ishwargani upazila in Mymensingh district recently. After the rally a meeting was held presided over by A . Mannan. The agriculture executive in the village Nichtulander. Dr. A. Sobhan, Consultant of I.D.A. was present as chief guest.

The meeting was also addressed by Mr. Reajul Karim (I.D.A), Mr. Shahidullah Fakir, Mr Gourendra Chandra Bishshwash (consultant), Shaymol Mondal, Crencis Rojario, consultant, Macdonald Jim Green and I.D.A. Project Manager Kazi Hasanuzzaman. NARAIL

Rural hats, bazars in bad

From Our Correspondent

shape

March 21: At least 35 hats and bazars in Kalia, Lohagara, and parts of Sadar upazila in Narail district are in bad shape for a long time in the absence of proper maintenance. Shortage of space, indiscriminate construction of sheds, bad drainage and acute scarcity of pure water prevail in all these hats and bazars.

Faulty drainage system in all the three upazilas causes waterlogging even after moderate shower. During monsoon most of the hats and bazars remain under ankle to knee-deep wa-

NETRAKONA

Conductor snatches away passenger's ornaments

March 21: A bus conductor allegedly snatched away a van-

ity bag contained five tolas of gold ornaments of a female passenger on Tuesday morning near Shamganj Bazar - 12 kms from here on Netrakona-Mymensingh highway, reports

Police quoting a written complaint filed with Netrakona police station said the crime was committed in a Netrakona bound passenger bus from Dhaka.

The victim female passenger was identified as Professor Shamsunnahar Khanom, wife of Professor Ruhul Amin. Police seized the bus.

BRAHMANBARIA

Siltation hampers navigation

March 21: Emergence of innumerable chars and massive siltation in the river Meghna ncar Ashuganj-Bhairab Railway Station has been adversely af fecting the smooth plying of ferry services, reports UNB.

Informed sources said onrush of hilly waters from the upper region of Sylhet district and low tides in the Meghna river and frequent floodings normally bring siltations in the river bed and gradually lead to emergence of new chars him dering riverine transportation in the northern region.

A few big chars have emerged in the river bed near Ashuganj power plant and a few other new shoals are visible adjacent to the Ashuganj-Bhairab Railway bridge due to accumulation of a large quantity of alluvial soil from the upper region of Sylhet.

Experts called for immediate dredging of river beds to facilitate uninterrupted naviga-

C' NAWABGANJ

Adverse effects of smuggled Indian pesticides

March 21: Smuggled Indian insecticides are causing adverse effects to the crops and all over the Chapainawabgani, Rajshahi, Naogaon and Natore districts, reports UNB.

According to informed sources, organised gangs of smugglers are bringing the Indian insecticides into the country in large quantity and selling them in the markets along the border belt at cheaper prices.

The Indian insecticide, thiodin, banned for its harmful effect in India also, is cradicating all types of insects even those useful for land fertility. The poultry birds also become victims of this insecticide.

Market sources said cultivators are purchasing these smuggled insecticides spontaneously as the local BADC godowns have been unable to ensure adequate supply of quality insecticides at reasonable prices in the open market.

The farmers alleged that the insecticides imported by the government are sold at high prices.

The agricultural experts said due to extensive use of Indian insecticides, the yield of paddy has registered a fall all over these districts. It is felt that a massive

campaign against Indian insecticide should be launched all over the country explaining the adverse affects of the crops and lands. KURIGRAM

New SP seeks cooperation

From Our Correspondent

March 21: Mr. Mobarak Ali Khan newly appointed Superintendent of Police, Kurigram held a meeting with the local journalists at his office chamber recently.

In the meeting the S.P. called upon the representatives of different national dailies to extend their wholehearted co-operation to the police administration through objective reporting of the activities of the police force and development activities of the district administration.

He assured of his all out cooperation to the local journalists in discharging their professional responsibilities without fear or favour.

The meeting was attended, among others, by Mr. Tofail Hossain (Ittefaq), Mr.Rabindra Nath Ray (Sangbad), Mr. Sajjad Hossain (Sangram), Mr. K.A. Samrat (Editor of the weekly Dharla), Mr Kudrut -e-Elahi Sawpon (Inquilab), Mr Harunor-Rashid (Micliat) and H.B Khan.

Annual sports The annual sports

competition of Kurigram River View High School was held recently with much enthusiasm which was inaugurated by Mr Mostafa Khandokar, Secretary, DSA, Kurigram.



During monsoon there was plenty of fish in this marshy tract at a village in Tangibari of Munshiganj district. Children - Star photo. are trying to catch smaller fish which remain stuck up in the liquid mud after the recession of water.

Farmers demand interest exemption on loan

From Our Correspondent

NETRAKONA, Mar 21: A big procession was brought out by the loance farmers of Kalmakanda upazila recently to press home their demand for exemption of interest on the outstanding loans they took earlier from different banks and withdrawal of warrants of arrests against defaulter loanee farmers.

The processionals paraded the main streets of the upazila town and chanted slogans in support of their demands.

A farmers' rally was also held in this connection at Kalmakanda High School ground which was chaired by Mr. Habibur Rahman. It was addressed, by Messrs Nabi Hosasain, Abdur Rahman and Abdul Ali. Later, they handed over a memorandum to the Upazila Nirbahi Office, Kalmakanda.

19 fire incidents last year

Two persons were killed and two calttleheads roasted alive, and properties worth about Taka eight lakh were burnt in 19 fire incidents in different areas of Netrakona

money.

15 lakh.

Tuesday.

Gold bars

recovered

From Our Correspondent

sonnel recovered two tolas of

gold and a cash amount of taka

COMILLA, Mar 21: BDR per-

Bangladesh Rifles 29 battal-

ion seized two gold bars

persons are: Subud Chandra

Bishwas, Sushil Chandra

Bishwas, Ratan Gosh (Dulal),

Zashimuddin and Rezzaq Mia.

Some of them may be Indian

citizens but it is not con-

executives held recently.

district last year. This was stated at a seminar held on Saturday in connection with Fire Service Week. It was also said that property worth about Taka 19 lakh were also saved from the devastating fire following the timely measure

taken by Netrakona Fire Scr-

vice and Civil Defence Depart-

Presided over by Mr. Nabi Hosasain, Deputy Assistant Director of Netrakona district Fire Service and Civil Defence Department the seminar was addressed by Additional Commissioner (Revenue), Netrakona, Mr. Bimol Kumar Kundo.

Kurigram

Our Kurigram Corres pondent adds : A big procession was brought out by 20,000 loance farmers from nine upazilas of Kurigram district recently to press home their 8-point demand. The processionists paraded the main streets of Kurigram chanting slogans in support of their demand including exemption of interest on the outstanding loans they took

They also handed over a memorandum to the Deputy Commissioner, Kurigram.

After the procession a rally was held at the Shahid Minar campus which was chaired by Mr MA Karim, President of Kurigram Zila Loance Farmers Association.

The rally was addressed by Mr Nurun Nabi, Secretary of Loance Farmers Association, Mr Shaik Dewan (Fulbari), Mr Mujibur Rahman (Nageshwarl), Mr Lutfur Rahman, Mr Harunur Rashid and Mr MA Karim.

Mr Karim demanded exemption of all interest on outstanding loans, which the farmers took from the banks carlier. He also demanded withdrawal of warrant of arrest issued against the defaulters immediately considering the helplessness of the poor farmers.

Best teachers

Shaik Abu Baker Siddique, Professor of Bengali and Principal in-charge of Kurigram Government College has been adjudged as the best lecturer of Kurigram district while Md Sahabuddin o from various banks carlier. Kurigram River View High

Lalon Mausoleum, situated

at Scuria, a village two miles

away from Kushtia town has

been built on the grave of the

great folk poet and spiritual

leader of the Bauls Fakir Lalon

Shah who died about a century

Mystery shrouds the birth of Lalon Shah and the details of

his life are not also known as

nothing written is available

about him. But Lalon Shah who

lived within the Zamindari of

Rabindra Nath Tagore left a

tremendous impact on him

ago at this place.

School and Maulana Abdul Jalil of Kurigram Alia Madrasha have been adjudged as the best Secondary school teacher and Madrasha teacher respectively.

Mr Khairul Alam, ADC, Kurigram distributed the prizes as chief guest among the best teachers at Kurigram Town Hall at a function which was chaired by Mr MA Mannan, District Education

Mosquito menace

Kurigram town dwellers have been suffering from mosquito menace but no preventive measures have been taken to eradicate the menace which has make the civic life unbearable. Mosquito bites cause variety

of diseases among which malaria, filarists and encephalitis are notable. It is assumed that the

existence of the diseases is quite alarming and no age is immune to infection. According to a physician,

patients suffering from encephalitis are often treated

These were the exclusive days

for the Bauls who come from

their leader, Lalon Shah

through music which are their

food of love and they play on all

the days and nights, keeping

everybody spell bound.

Prominent Bauls who normally

participate Fakir Chand, Khoda

Baksh, Kheimat Ali, Jharu

Shah, Ranjita, Nemai Shah,

Sukur Shah, Khorshed Shah

Kushtia town wears a festive

look. The Bauls, both men and

women, pay homage to their

spiritual leader, Lalon Shah

who was a metaphysical

thinker. These Bauls who are

mystics in a typical way are

free from all desire, quite in-

different to the worldly gains

and consider themselves dead.

In fact they are dead with re-

gard to every pain and sorrow.

beings belong to one single

caste. The structure of the Baul

cult is based on humanism and

in this regard Sufism of Islam

has made a greater impact on

They believe that all human

During these days whole of

They pay rich tributes to

Lalon disciples throng mausoleum

Kushtia wears a

festive look

From A Correspondent

far and near.

and Laily.

Political scene

Jamaat's call to maintain sanctity of Ramzan

From Our Correspondent

NETRAKONA, March 21: Jamaat-e-Islam and its front organisations jointly held rally recently in front of the office of the Deputy Commissioner demanding appropriate measure to keep the sanctity of the Holy Ramzan.

The rally was presided over by Moulana Asgar and addressed by Fazlul Kartm, the Amir of Netrakona district unit of Jamaat-e-Islam.

In his speech he called upon the district administration to ensure adequate supply of water, power and to have measures to control price spiral. Later the rally was followed by a procession which paraded the main roads of the town.

Sirajganj

Our Sirajganj Correspon dent says: Out of 62 candidates contested from seven con stituencies under Strajganj district 31 lost their security deposit for getting less than cight per cent of votes during the recent parliamentary polls. Candidates who lost their security deposit are Professor

M. A. Matin from Sirajganj-6 and 7 constituencies, M. A. Matin (Muslim League) from Stratganj-5 and Abdul Matin of UCL from Siraiganj-6 con stituency, seven candidates of Zaker Party, two JP, two each of Worker's Party and BSD (Mahboob) two of Khilafat Andolan, four of JSD (Rab), one of Freedom Party and eleven independent candidates. Kurigram

Our Kurigram Correspondent says: Out of 45 contested candidates in the Jatiya Sangsad Election 30 have lost their security deposit.

According to the Returning Officers the candidates were Kurigram-1 (Nageswari-Bhurungamari) - Mr. Khairul Alam (BNP), Zahedul Haq (BSD), Fazlul Haq (IOJ), Kafilur Rahman Bepary (Zaker Party), Abdul Hat (CPB). Kurigram-2 (Sadar, Rajbari

and Fulbari) - Mr Abdus Salam (BNP). ANM Solaiman (Jamaat), AKM Shamsuzzuha Ratan (Janata Dal), Ansar Ali USD Inul. Advocate Korom Ali (Zaker Party), Advocate Gulani Murshid (Ind), Advocate Zakarla (IOJ), Matlubur Rahman (JSI) Rab), Shubhrangsu Chakravarty (BSD), Harunur Rashid Lal (CPB) and Mrs Saveda Gulrukh Mahal Scraft (Muslim League).

Kurigram-3 (Ulipur) — Mr. Muhiul Islam Hokkani (BNP), Lutfur Rahman (JSD-Inu). Aminul Islam (Zaker Party), Abdul Quddus (Jamaat), Sowmendra Pandey (BKSAL) and Abdul Jalil (Ind)

Kurigram 4 (Chilmart, Rowmari, Rujibpur) - Mr. Golam Haider (CPB), ABM Motnul Islam (Freedom Party), Nurul Islam (Khet Majur Party). Amjad Hossain (Jatiya Mukti Party), Anwar Hossain (Ind), Abdul Kashem (Ind), Sadakat Hossain (Ind).

Discussion on free polls

Our Madaripur Correspon dent adds: Bangladesh Mukta Nirbachan Andolan, Fadaridpur Unit, arranged a discussion meeting in favour of free and fair election at the local Press Club recently

The meeting was presided over by Matiur Rahman and attended by Mujibur Rahman and Shahjahan Khan.

The speakers underscored the need for free and fair polls to ease the transition to

democracy in the country. To observe the election performance the organisation formed a team of two persons.

Trishal

A Correspondent from Mymensingh adds: A protest rally was held by the Trishal Branch of Bangladesh Islami Chhatira Shibir recently at the death of Firoz Mahmud, a Chhatra Shibir leader of Chittagong. The rally paraded the main thoroughfares of Trisal town. Later upazila President addressed the gathering.

A discussion meeting was held at the upazila office on the occasion of the Shahid Day. Mr Asaduzzaman Khan, the former Zila President and Misbahuddin Khan, Vice-Principal of Nazrul College spoke as the chief guest an special guest respectively. Kishoreganj

Our Kishoregani Correspondent adds: Awami League and its front organisations observed Bangabandhu's 71st Birth Anniversary in a befitting manner in Kishoreganj district. AL, Juba League, Chhatra

ers garlanded the portrait of Bangabandhu Shaikh Mujibur Rahman in the district AL of Prayers were offered and

League, workers and support-

Milad Mahfil was held for salvation of the departed soul. A discussion meeting was also held in the AL office. Speakers urged the work ers to take a fresh vow to

establish an exploitation free society which was the dream of Banagabandhu Shaikh Mujib. BKSAL also organised a Mi-

lad Mahfil and discussion meeting in observance of the



Mr Mohammad Ashraf, Deputy Commissioner of Mymensingh distributing prizes of indoor games competition of the Press Club for 1989-90 recently in a function recently at the Club auditorium. - Star photo

1 burnt to death, four injured

Fire havoc in Dinajpur

From Our Correspondent

DINAJPUR, March 21: Onc person was burnt alive and four others received serious burn injuries in as many as 16 fire incidents in nine upazilas of the district during the last two weeks. About 800 dwellings were completely gutted. The extent of damage caused to property has been estimated at Taka four crore, according to a dependable source.

in sadar upazila four person including one child and one housewife received serious burn injuries and ten houses including properties worth about Taka two lakh were gut ted in Uthrail Union Parishad. In Parbatipur upazila, seven houses and properties worth about Taka five lakh were damaged in Hughi village, 12 houses and properties worth about Taka two lakh in Katabari village and eight houses and properties worth about Taka one lakh were damaged in Raghunathpur Nayapara village.

In Birol upazila, 12 houses and properties worth Taka two lakh were gutted in Matial village under Dhamair Union Parished (UP), 14 houses and properties worth Taka 10 lakh in the village Nizampur under the same UP and 57 houses and properties worth about Taka 10 lakh were guttled and one newon received serious harn injuries in the village

Ranipukur under Ranipur UP. In Chirirbandar upazila, 97 houses and properties worth about Taka 30 lakh in the vil lage Naderal of Bannakurihat under Bholanathpur UP and two houses were gutted and one Nazrul Islam (18) of village Nasratpur was burnt alive.

Uncovered foodstuff being sold at Nandail markets From Our Correspondent

NANDAIL, Mar 21: Uncovered sweet meats and other foodstuff are being sold at open air shops in different hats and bazars under Nandail upazila exposing people to serious health hazards.

It is learnt that a groups of foodstuff sellers are found to set their shops on the footpaths of various markets at Nandail. The commodities are put on uncovered pots which are seem to be polluted with

A section of the people purchase such foodstuff at a comparatively cheap rate and most of them are being affected with stomach diseases.

No action has been taken by the concerned authorities to check this problem.

that Tagore himself admitted weighing two tola and the it in his Hibbert Lecture deliv-BCG, Measles and Polio injecaforesaid amount of money and ered at Oxford, England in tions were given during the arrested five persons from a period. house in Comilla town on The vaccine were given to According to the reports on 10,587 children in Sadar a secret information, BDR perupazila, 5,912 in Chagalnayia, sonnel led by Major Istiaq 6922 in Daganbhuiyan, 7,782 in Sonagazi, 6,323 in Ahmed searched that house and recovered gold bars and Parshuram and 1,199 children cash Taka. The five arrested

sources added.

Comilla: Arrested persons with gold bars and cash

38,725 children vaccinated

ity areas in the district during

in the municipal areas.

cines have already ben given to

the children and about 64 per

cent work of the programme

has also been completed, the

Mohammad, Provost of Zoha Hall addressing the installation ceremony of hall union

- Star photo.

FENI, Mar 21: Civil Surgeon office has vaccinated 38,725 children under the expanded programme on immunization in five upazilas and municipal

1990-91 fiscal, reports UNB. Official sources said DIT.

1930. In Kushtia, twice a year, the Bauls, disciples of Lalon Shah meet at Lalon Mausoleum, once in the month of March during the full moon (Falgoony Purnima) and again in the month of October. For three days they meet at Lalon Akhra' in Scuria village. Men At least 24,803 BCC vac-

> nights. They take 'Ganja' and it is quite customary with them.

and women go on singing and

dancing throughout days and

Diseases claim one lakh poultry birds in Chandpur From Our Correspondent

Poultry diseases have been broken out in an epidemie form in different upazilas of the district causing heavy loss of poultry birds in the rural ar-

have died of different diseases during last one month.

Rajshahi: Prof Amanullah Ahmed, Vice-Chancellor of Rajshahi University and Mr Nur - Star photo Livestock Department.

CHANDPUR, Mar 21

About one lakh poultry birds

The diseases are spreading fast in different areas and no protective and curative measures have been taken by the