Upazila roundup

BHOLA

Coir rope industry faces problems

April 1: Coir rope industry of the district is beset with manifold problems due to lack of capital, equipment and patronage, reports UNB.

At least 5,000 people of seven upazilas have been directly or indirectly affected by worsening condition of the industry.

The situation aggravated following price hikes of raw materials like cotr of coconut, wood and rod.

A labourer can produce two sheers of coir rope per day. But the selling price of one seer of cotr rope is Taka 35 which is too meagre in comparison with production cost.

Huge foreign currency can be saved by enhancing production of coir rope which may replace plastic rope now being imported from developed countries, said an industrialist.

Owners have urged the authorities to provide adequate financial support like bank loan to help survive the indus-

CHANDPUR

Absconding criminal arrested after 14 years

April 1: After 14 years, local police finally got hold of an absconding criminal from a rural market in Matlab upazila here, reports UNB.

According to sources, Md. Quddus of Chilatoli village under Matlab upazila was wanted by the police in connection with several cases of murder. loot and arson.

Quddus was arrested from Narayanpur bazar in Matlab upazila last week after he remained in hiding for about 14

The court rejected his bati petition and sent him to Chandpur sub-jatl.

MAULAVI BAZAR

Husband gets life-term for killing wife

April 1: The District and Sessions Judge here has awarded transportation for life to one Sreedhar Suree of Raighat under Srimangal upazila for murdering his wife, reports

Court sources said Sreedhar hit his wife Chitamoni with a bamboo stick during a quarrel a year back.

The learned Judge after examining the evidences and records found Sreedhar guilty and awarded the punishment recently.

Chicken pox

Sporadic cases of chicken pox have been reported from the different places of the district including the district

No report of small pox has yet been reported. Steps have already been taken against the disease by he local health department.

BARISAL

13.31 lakh saplings distributed

orestation Department of Barisal zone has sold a total of 13.31,214 saplings of different fruit-bearing and fire-wood trees in six southern districts of the country during the last season, reports BSS.

April 1 : Off-shore Aff-

The districts covered by this programme are, Barisal, Jhalakati, Pirojpur, Bhola, Patuakhali and Barguna.

According to an official source, the plants were sold from ten different nurseries of these districts among the rowers. The plants are of Mehagani, Shisu, Karai Raintree, Ipil-ipil, Amlaki. Jhau, Debdaru, Segun, Kadam, Jack-fruit, lemon Amrha, Jalpai. Saveda, Kamranga. Orange, Papaya, Black-berries, Kad-bel, Dalim, Coconut and Wood-apple.

Of the total 60,000 plants were sold from the nursery of Bartsal Sadar, 1,88,033 from Kashipur. 2,12,971 from Gournadi, 2.05,707 from Jhalakati, 1,68,837 from Pirojpur, 3,09,355 from Bhola. 87,187 from Charlession. 65,000 from Monpura, 16,024 from Bakergonj and 18,000 from the nursery Shashigonj.

JAMALPUR

Ashtami Snan

April 1 : Ashtami Snan, a religious festival of the Hindus. was held at Sharishabari Upeztla under Jamalpur district recently, reports BSS.

A large number of devotees took part in the Ashtami Snan in the river Brahmaputra.

A three-day mela was also held at Sharishabari to mark the occasion.

Basanti Puja was also celebrated by 'Sharishabari Ashtami Snan celebration commit-

SATKHIRA

Kidnappers seek Tk 3 lakh ransom

April 1 : Kidnappers abducted a youngman and have demanded ransom of Taka three lakh against his release, police said here today, reports

According to witnesses, some armed hooligans recently abducted Shahidul Islam (17). from a paddy field at Sholpur of the district and allegedly took him to Hasanabad under 24 Pargana district in India.

The kidnappers later in a letter demanded Taka three lakh from Peer Ali of Brojopatuli village in Kaliganj upazila for his son's release.

A case was filed at Kaliganj police but Shahidul is yet to be

MALJDEE COURT

No ambulance in hospital

April 1: Hundreds of patients are deprived of emergency treatment at the Noakhali Modern Hospital for want of an ambulance, reports

The only ambulance in possession of the hospital went out of order a year back and is not yet repaired, Civil Surgeon

Serious patients travelling from remote areas have to use more than one mode of transport to reach the hospital.

It is learnt that urgent calls and delivery cases from far away places were regretted by the hospital.

Rajbari

4 house wives commit suicide

April 1: Four housewives allegedly committed suicide by taking poison in a week in different unions under Sadar upazila of the district, police said today reports UNB.

The victims were Marjina Begum (20) of Mazanpur union. Rokeya Begum (25), of Banibaha union, Khatun Begum (40), of Panchooria union and Biva (20), of Chanddani union.

Family feuds were the reasons behind their alleged suicide, it is learnt.

Four cases of unnatural deaths were registered with

KURIGRAM

Obituary

From Our Correspondent



April 1 : Mr. Atul Chandra Chowdhury, a renowned businessman and ex-President of Kurigram Marchants Association and founder member of Hindu Kalyan Trust, Dhaka and a social worker of Kurigram died of heart attack in Rangpur Medical College Hospital re-

He was 73. He left behind his wife, three sons, three daughters and many friends and admirers to mourn his

The funeral ceremony was one at Kurigram funeral-pyre.

DINAJPUR

3 women rescued

April 1 Bangladesh Rifles rescued three women and arrested three human traffickers Tuesday from Bantarpara village under Birol upazila of the district, reports UNB.

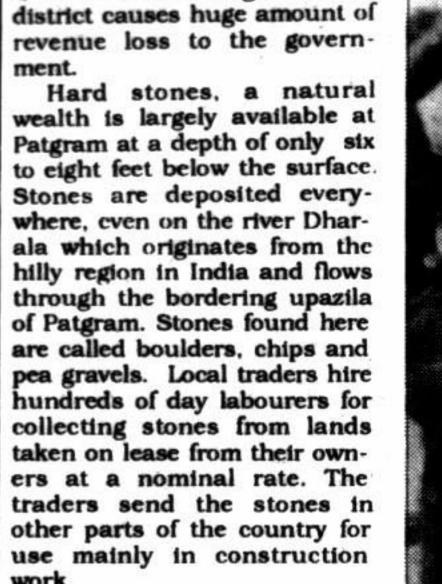
Acting on a tip, BDR jawans led by Major Murad along with a magistrate raided the house of Ahela Begum of the village and nabbed them.

The traffickers were identified as Alamgir Hossain, Abdus Salam and Seraj Khan and the names of the rescued women are: Nargis Akhtar, Rokeya Akhtar and Salma Akhtar.

The victims admitted to the Magistrate that they were picked up from Dhaka by the traffickers who allured them of providing jobs in India.

Govt loses huge revenue for illegal stone collection

From Our Correspondent



KURIGRAM. Apr 1 : Illegal

extraction of stones from vast

tracts of land in Patgram of the

Another raw material, silica sand, is also available in good quantity here. This is used in glass industries. So far the concerned authorities have taken no positive measure to extract stones and sand in an organised way causing huge loss to the public exchequer.

Neem trees near extinction

'Neem trees' in Kurigram, Rangpur, Lalmonirhat, Gaibandha and Nilphamari district of greater Rangpur are on the verge of extinction mainly due to lack of maintenance and absence of plantation programme.

The region, once rich in neem trees on the vast tracts of fallow land, is now almost void of 'Neem'. The villagers use the twigs of the tree as tooth brushes and treat skin diseases with the essence of raw leaves and skin of the tree Physicians say that 'Neem' leaves can also be used as an effective drug for the treatment of malaria. The tree may also be used as pesticide. More use of Neem leaves and their

Notes from

Bhola

From Our Correspondent

ensed rikshaws are alarmingly

increasing in the Bhola town

creating traffic jam and

According to the sources,

inconvenience to the people .

about 5000 rikshaws most of

them without licence are now

plying on different roads

blocking vehicular and pedes-

mostly inexperienced young

boys who often make

entering into the town outlying

unions only to multiply the

Red Crescent

projects

Society is implementing 14

projects at a cost of Taka 2.10

crores in three costal districts

Barguna and Patuakhali. Of the

total projects six will be con-

structed in Bhola and four each

in Barguna and Patuakhali

According to the official

sources, the projects include

construction of cyclone pro-

tection centres at the offshore

Problems of

job-seekers

change centre in the town

causing much problems to the

70 miles to enroll their names

because there is no employ-

ment exchange centre in Bhola

district. They complained that

they have to spend a lot of

They have urged the con-

cerned authorities to establish

an employment exchange cen-

Food crisis

in Sunamganj

From Our Correspondent

sis obtaining in Sunamgani duc

to last year's crop damage is

this year as wheat for Food for

Works Programme may not be

available for 47 projects this

year. Sanctions for 2,000 met

ric tons (mt) of wheat that

would provide food to about

15,000 labourers * have not

been cleared by the concerned

abandoned projects are: Six in

each of Sunamean Sudar and

Sulla upazila, four each in Derai

and Biswamvarpur, eight each

in Chhatak and Jagannathpur.

Dharmapassa three, Jamalgani

two and one in Duarabazar.

Upazilawise break-up of the

ministry yet.

likely to deteriorate further

SYLHET. Apr 1: A food eri-

money for the purpose.

tre at an earliest.

Job seekers have to travel

job seekers in the district .

Absence of employment ex-

areas of the district.

The districts are Bhola.

Bangladesh Red Crescent

The rikshaw pullers are

Besides, more rikshaws are

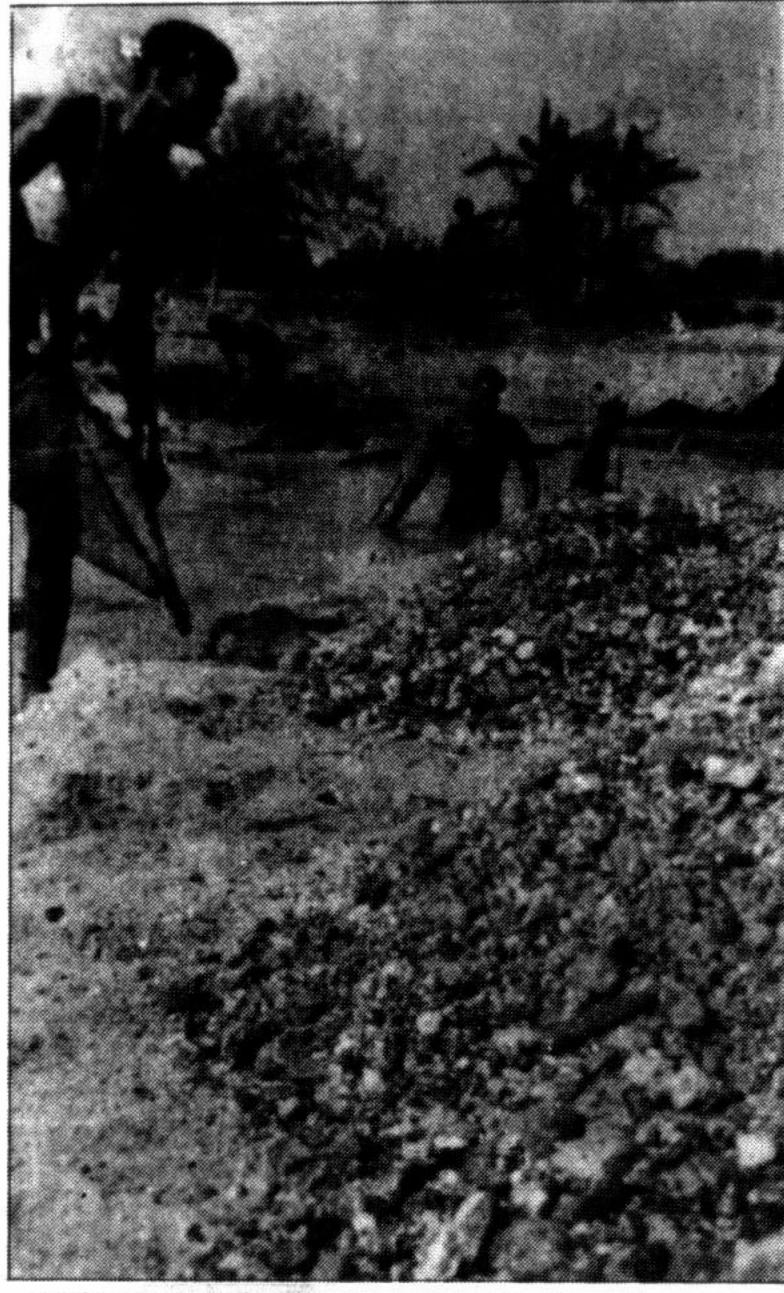
trians movements.

accidents.

problems.

districts.

BHOLA. April 1 : Unlic-



KURIGRAM: Collecting stones from the river Dharla. -Star photo.

Work on 805 schemes

in progress

skin can be helpful in treating a number of atlments. Local people urge the government to protect neem trees and undertake fresh plantation in the re-

Property gutted Property worth Taka one

FARIDPUR, Apr 1 : Devel-

opment work on 805 schemes

is going on schedule in the

greater Faridpur district, a

review meeting was told here.

conference room of the newly

built IDP building, March 23

was presided over by Enamul

Islam Siddique, engineering

adviser, and attended by the

executive engineers and con-

cerned officials of the district

administration. Development

Madaripur, Gopalganj, Rajbari

and Faridpur districts were

that a total of Taka 20.80 crore

was allocated against 805

schemes which include re-

construction of 74 km feeder

roads and construction of 22

new bridges in the area. A total

KISHOREGANJ, Apr 1: At

least 65 per cent shallow

rigation purposes are being

used in the countrymade boats

hampering irrigation in the

tubewell engines for the non-

irrigation purposes is increas-

ing day by day and conse-

quently agricultural production

has dropped in all 13 upazilas

of the district during the last

the shallow tubewell engines

were sanctioned for the agri-

cultural purposes and rules

have now been relaxed. The

sources admitted that there

stalks in traditional way.

The BADC sources said that

The trend of using shallow

tubewell engines meant for ir-

of 2467 metric tons of wheat

reviewed.

district.

activities in Shariatpur.

The meeting held at the

lakh 25,000 were gutted in two separate fire incidents which took place in Bhurungamari Upazila recently. In one incident dwellings of Abdul Quader at village Chatgopalpur in Tilai Union were gutted. In second fire incident,

was also allocated for the

der infrastructure develop-

ment programmes, 80 under

flood rehabilitaion programme

and reconstruction of 73.5 km

road and plans for 17 new

bridges under Food for Works

Programme were going on

taken by the IGEB in the zone

were jointly financed by SIDA

and NORAD. The Third Flood

Rehabilitation Programme is

funded by IDA while World

Food Programme is financing

and supplying necessary quan-

under the Food for Works Pro-

gear up work on the schemes

so that those can be executed

by the end of the current fis-

was a marked increase in the

supply of engines in the mar

kets. In view of excess supply

in the market the authorities

approved the sale of these

engines for non-irrigation pur-

poses, the source further

Bangladesh Krishi Bank

aware that the shallow tube-

the countrymade boats, rice

and flour mills. They said that

against some owners o

engines for non-payment of

purchase of shallow tubewell

—Star photo.

engines.

PABNA: The district is famous for producing different

kinds of pulses. Here a farmer is extracting the crop from

The meeting decided to

The projects and schemes

schedule.

The meeting was informed tity of wheat for the schemes

Tubewell engines being

used in boats

From Our Correspondent

Work on 725 schemes un-

Another report adds: View High School of the district has been facing multifarious problems including short-

about 10 dwellings of Shahaj

Uddin with all belongings in

the same village were gutted.

School faces

problem

age of teachers, accommodation, furniture and inadequate equipment in science laboratory and lack of necessary appliances for games and sports.

The school was established in 1915 as ME school and later on upgraded into a high school. The roll strength of the

school is nearly 700 but the

seat arrangement cannot meet the need for want of necessary number of benches. Besides, other furniture including chair, table and almi-

rahs are quite insufficient. Due to inadequate number of books in the library, the students can hardly run their studies. Science laboratory accommodated in a small room has been running without requisite modern science equipment resulting in untold difficulties for the science students.

The students of this school are badly in need of sports appliances.

Shortage of teachers is hampering the education of the school. There are 15 teaching staff excluding the Head Master for running the classes. Besides, there are six other non-teaching staff in the school. Despite its good academic atmosphere the school cannot accommodate students seeking admission into respective classes.

The people of the area including guardians have urged the government to nationalise this age-old school so that the students can prosecute their studies properly.

Craze for BAC coupon

From Our Correspondent

SYLHET, Apr 1 : Newspaper copies carrying British Airways Corporation's (BAC) 'World's Biggest Offer are selling for Taka 30 to Taka 50 each here and the hawkers are searching every subscriber's house for retrieving any coupon There is a craze for the coupons and some people seized the opportunity to photostat it from paper and sell them for Taka five each on the very first day of the publication of the offer with coupon.

Later on when people realised that the photostat would not do they went crazy for a coupon and the price went upto Taka 50 each. America's OP-I programme created similar sensation among people here. This time they, too, are visiting this town in search of a coupon, refusing to understand that the present offer and the OPprogramme are quite different. To the newspaper hawkers they have made their reservation for any paper that may next publish the coupon.

On the other hand, the BHOLA, Apr 1: In the absence of the House Building sources said that they were well engines had been used for they had already started cases bank loans granted for the

> bursement systems has become so complex that is takes much time to avail of the loan facilities.

that following upgradition of Bhola into a district its population has increased considerably but only a handful of houses were constructed.

Repression of women in the

districts has increased due to unregistered marriages.

A survey revealed that in ab-

Political scene

BNP firm to root out corruption

From Our Correspondent

CHUADANGA: The local unit of Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) held a Press conference at Chuadanga Press Club recently.

The BNP leaders called upon the authorities concerned to stop all sorts of corruption, irregularities and mismanagement in the Sadar Hospital . Otherwise they will launch a vigorous movement against the corruption elements, they added.

The Press conference was addressed by BNP leaders Sardar Ali Hossain, Abdul Jabbar

Sona and Wahiduzzaman Bulu. The leaders sought the cooperation of the people to eliminate corruption from the society.

Kushtia

Our Kushtia Correspondent adds: Local unit of BNP and APSU observed the Black Day on March 24. On this day in 1982, ousted President Ershad usurped power in a coup from elected President Justice Abdus Sattar.

BNP leaders urged the people to root out autocratic from the soil of Bangladesh for ever.

Khaleda Zia greeted

Our Jamalpur Correspondent writes : More organisations hailed Begum Khaleda Zia for her assumption of the office of Prime Minister.

The signatories to the statements hoped that the first woman Prime Minister of the country Begum Khaleda Zia would successfully lead the nation towards a productive politics, she would take initiative to root out all sorts of corruptions germinated during the autocratic regime.

They also hoped that Begum Zia would earnestly take measures to solve their respective problems.

The organisations are: Bangladesh Journalists Association (BJA). Jamalpur unit. Jamuna Fertilizer Sramik Union, Jatiyatabadi Sramik Dal, District unit, Jamalpur Government Asek Mahmud College Chhatra Sangsad, Chamber of Commerce, former Zila Parishad Chairman and ex-MP, Mr Riza Khan, Nazrul Islam Dulu Advocate, President Bar Association Jamalpur unit, District Truck Drivers Union, District Roads Transport Sramik Union, Cotractors Association, Bornali Sangha, District Mahila Forum, T and T Sramik Union.

Union, Family Planning Association, District Zaker Party, Dewanganj Sugar Mills, Fourth Class Employees Union , Bahadurabad Ghat Railway Sramik Union, Sarishabari Al-Haj Jute Mill Sramik Union, District Officers Club, Jamalpur Town Club, Provati Sangha, Railway Sramik Dal, District Rickshaw Drivers Sramik Union, Jamalpur Press

Jamalpur district Awami League congratulating the Opposition leader Sheikh Hasina hoped that the development of the country would now be expedited by establishing democracy in all spheres.

District Eight and Five-Party alliances congratulated Begum Zia as the Prime Minis ter and her Council of Ministers and hoped that they would come forward to implement the joint declarations of the three political alliances.

Kurigram MP accorded reception

Our Kurigram Correspondent writes: A hearty reception was accorded to Mr Amjad Hossain Talukdar, newly elected MP from Kurigram-3 seat (Ulipur), by the Awami League workers of Kurigram Pourasava on March 29.

In this connection a discussion meeting was arranged at Kurigram Juba League Officer which was chaired by Advocate Amanullah. It was addressed by Mr Zafor Ali. Mr Majibar Rahman, Mr Azizur Rahman Master and Mr Nazrul Islam.

Pabna

Our Pabna Correspondent writes: Osman Ghani Khan. State Minister for Establishment said that BNP government would repeal all black laws they inherited as legacy of the past government. He also assured all possible help to the local newspapers for their survival and improvement. Osman Ghani Khan was addressing journalists at an Iftar Party at Pabna Press Club recently.

High officials, local elite and journalists attended the Iftar

The Minister further said that BNP Government was determined to eliminate corruption from all spheres of life and sought journalists' cooperation in this regard. Pabna Press Club President Advocate Ranesh Maitra welcomed the Minister and demanded repeal of black laws and narrated problems of Pabna Press Club.

4 to die for murder

From Our Correspondent

CHANDPUR. April | Mr Md Azizul Haque District and Sessions Judge, Chandpur has awarded death sentence to four persons in a sensational murder case on March 26.

Roads and Highway Sramik

The accused persons are Moonir Hossain, Mizanur Rahman, Abu Taher and Mustafa. Besides, the Judge sentenced Shafiqur Rahman Selim, Abdul Mannan, Elias, Abul Basher, Babul and Dulal to suffer rigorous imprisonment for life with a fine of Taka five thousand each.

The prosecution story, in brief, is that Abdur Rab Master along with Muslim Raut, a friend, went to collect medicine for his sick wife and was attacked by the accused at Raghoir beel at Shahrasti

upazila on April 7, 1989. Abdur Rab Master, head teacher of Malogaon government primary school of Deshgaon village in Hajiganj upazila, was beheaded by the miscre-

day. Police arrested some accused and recovered some ev-Later police charge sheeted 12 people and the Judge after examining the evidences and records found 11 guilty of the

Muslim who received grevi-

ous injuries recognised the at-

tackers and filed a case next

crime. Abu Taher Khan was acquitted of the charge. The court also ordered to nab the absconding five accused who were tried in ab-

Jibannagar UZ lacks civic amenities

From Our Correspondent

CHUADANGA. Jibannagar upazila a big business centre under Chuadanga district lacks minimum civic amenities.

Absence of proper drainage system, recreational facilities a d good roads, sanitary arrangements, modern markets are the problems for which people are suffering much.

Due to lack of good drainage system dirty water, weeds and garbages are found accumulated everywhere which have been turned into ideal breed ing centres of mosquitoes.

Moreover, due to absence of drains stagnant filths emit bad odour all the time polluting the whole area of the town.

town are very narrow and have developed numerous potholes and cracks which impede smooth movement of both vehicles and pedestrians. Water remains stagnant after a slight rainfall doubling the sufferings of pedestrians and vehicles. On the other hand due to absence of public totlets and urinals

April 1 people respond to call of na ture in the bazar areas and beside the building walls.

> Jibannagar upazila urged the concerned authorities to look into the matter immediately.

A new weekly named Chuadanga Barta" has come out here on March 16 last.

colourful function was arranged at the local Sree Monto Town Hall on the day by the weekly authority which included the publication ceremony.

Commissioner of Khulna Mr AKM Fazlul Haque Mia was present on the occasion as the chief guest.

Chuadanga, Mr Saiful Islam Pinu, Chairman, Chuadanga Sadar Upazila Parishad Maulana Abdus Satter Chairman, Jibannagar Upazila Parishad, Sk Selim and Mr Mokbular Rahman spoke on the occasion.

HBFC office From Our Correspondent

Finance Corporation (HBFC) office at Bhola people of the district are lagging behind in respect of construction of new buildings to face the accommodation problem. The regional office of the HBFC is located at Khulna and hence the interest of Bhola district people suffers greatly. It is expensive for the people of Bhola to go to Khulna for loan, it is

Moreover, the loan dis-It may be mentioned here

sence of marriage deeds, it is not possible on the part of the wives to taka legal measure against the husbands who allegedly taka recourse to physical torture, divorce and even murder .

Bhola needs

Women repression

Most of the roads in the

The inhabitants of

New weekly

In this connection

The divisional

Mr Tajul Islam, DC.