

### Upazila roundup

#### BHOLA

##### 13 shops gutted

May 23: A devastating fire Tuesday gutted 13 shops at Mirzakalu Bazar under Burhanuddin Upazila, 25 miles from here, reports BSS.

Goods burnt to ashes included rice, medicine, hardware and cloth. Several hotels and restaurants were also gutted.

Fire brigade rushed to the spot and brought the fire under control.

Fire service sources said the fire might have originated from electric short circuit.

#### BARISAL

##### Call to discourage gratuitous relief

May 23: State Minister for education Prof. Eunus Khan asked concerned officials to discourage gratuitous relief and instead motivate people to be engaged in nation building activities through test relief work, reports BSS.

The State Minister who was presiding over a relief coordination meeting of the district at the circuit house, emphasised the need for proper coordination of relief activities.

#### MYMENSINGH

##### 624 SSC examinees expelled

From Our BAU Correspondent

May 23: Six hundred twenty-four SSC examinees were expelled for adopting unfair means in different centres of Mymensingh district.

Of them, 193 in Bengali, 221 in English, 34 in Geography, 98 in Mathematics, and 76 in General and Social Science. Strict measures have been taken to check the unfair means in the examination halls.

#### SYLHET

##### Call to help flood affected people

May 23: State Minister for Social Welfare and Women's Affairs Tariqul Islam yesterday urged all political parties and wealthy section of the society irrespective of their political affiliations to come forward with humanitarian assistance for the flood affected people of the country, reports BSS.

He was speaking at a meeting of the public representatives, officials of district administration and army personnel associated with relief and rescue operation in Sylhet district.

The State Minister directed all concerned to gear up relief and rescue operation in the flood affected areas, according to an official source.

Later Mr Islam accompanied by local MPs visited the flood affected Zakiganj upazila. He distributed baby food and other emergency relief goods among the flood affected families in Zakiganj.

#### MAGURA

##### Newsman assaulted

May 23: Some workers of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) allegedly assaulted Arzoo Siddique, the district correspondent of UNB at the local press club gate here Tuesday noon, reports UNB.

Witnesses said they man-handled Arzoo while he was coming to the club from his house.

A protest meeting held at the press club later condemned the incident and demanded punishment of the attackers.

Local MP Asaduzzaman also condemned the assault.

#### KUSHIA

##### Believe it or not

May 23: It is all for love, a woman having two children married her father-in-law in Kayamari village of Daulatpur upazila of the district, reports UNB.

Sources said Rehana (25) had been having an affair with Gulam Rasul (55), in absence of her husband.

Abu Hanif, her husband and son of Golam Rasul, was away from home in connection with job during when, according to neighbours, their affairs developed.

Hanif who came to know the fact divorced her wife Rehana. Later marriage between Rasul and Rehana was solemnised on May 5 in presence of some neighbours.

#### FARIDPUR

##### Police inspector arrested

May 23: A Police Inspector of Dhaka Kotwali Police Station was arrested for seducing a minor girl at a local hotel here on Sunday night, reports UNB.

Acting on a tip, local police rushed to the hotel and caught him red-handed.

Mosharrar Hossain, the arrested inspector while coming to Dhaka from his home with the daughter of his sister-in-law stayed at a local hotel on the night. But at the midnight he seduced the girl, Maksuda (14).

#### BARISAL

##### 1223 tubewells to be installed

May 23: In an attempt to facilitate drinking water supply, Public Health Engineering Department (PHED) has taken up a programme to install 1,223 tubewells in seven southern districts, reports UNB.

The tubewells will be sunk at a cost of Taka 14 crore in Barisal, Jhalakathi, Pirojpur, Bhola, Patuakhali, Bogura and Faridpur districts in collaboration with Public Works Department.

The programme includes installation of 823 deep and 225 shallow tubewells in the districts.



People affected by the catastrophic cyclone of April 29 waiting for relief in Kutubdia island in Chittagong.

—Star photo

## Use of Boron may increase wheat output

From Our Correspondent

MYMENSINGH, May 23: Boron, a chemical compound when applied to soil or crop can improve the grain formation and increase yield of wheat to a greater extent.

Wheat is an important cereal and ranks second after rice in Bangladesh. Its demand as food grain is increasing day by day and the country is to import huge volume of wheat every year. The highest wheat production in the country was recorded in the year 1983-84, and thereafter the production is declining, reported to be 15 per cent on an average through the years 1985-90.

Wheat production in the last growing season has been seriously affected in greater Rangpur district due to grain-unfilling problem. Grain-

unfilling is now identified as a major cause of such low wheat production in the country. Such acute problem creates an awareness among the wheat scientists in the country.

Considering this problem, a research has been initiated by Dr Md Jahir Uddin and Dr Ismail Hossain at Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU), Mymensingh in 1989 to investigate the cause and solution of this problem. Their work is financed by the International Foundation for Science (IFS), Sweden. The results so far obtained by the BAU Scientists are very much interesting and encouraging.

Dr Md Jahir Uddin, Associate Professor, Department of Soil Science,

BAU, has carried out some field experiments with Boron, copper and Molybdenum at BAU Farm (Mymensingh), BARI Sub-station (Rangpur) and Wheat Research Centre (Dinajpur) for the last two years. Dr Jahir Uddin said boron supplement to soil or crop can greatly improve the grain formation and ultimately increase yield. Plants grown in boron treated plots produced well developed as well as more grains in spike, resulting in yield increase by 70 to 80 per cent. He pointed out that as a source of this element boron or boric acid at the rate of 3 kg B<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> can be applied to soil during final land preparation. Alternatively, boric acid in solution can be sprayed at the rate of 400 ppm B on plants at the age of five weeks. Further

he added that intensive cropping with HYV and limited use of manures (e.g. cowdung, green manures) might be the principal factors for occurrence of micronutrient deficiency in Bangladesh agriculture.

Dr Ismail Hossain, Assistant Professor, Department of Plant Pathology, BAU, who works with wheat diseases viewed that grain formation in wheat fails because of severe infection of wheat plants by leaf blight disease. This particular disease is more prevalent and devastating in the country. Initially the affected plants show blighting of leaves and later the spikes turn brownish black.

The severely infected spikes become grainless. This disease can be controlled by

fungicidal spray (e.g. Rovral, Tilt). However, a cheap and easy means of overcoming this problem is to use boron fertilizer. He studied the disease status of wheat in experimental fields of Dr Jahir Uddin for the last two years. Dr Hossain said boron treated plants resisted the attack of leaf blight. Consequently the spikes were normal, golden in colour, grains were healthy and yield was enhanced. He mentioned, none of the cultivated varieties of wheat in the country are found to be resistant to leaf blight.

The scientist further said, high temperature and water stress, induced by late sowing might aggravate the situation of leaf blight prevalence or boron deficiency.

## 2.75 lakh acres to be put under Aus farming

From Our Correspondent

JHENIDAH, May 23: Agriculture Extension Department has taken up a programme to bring 2,71,895 hectares of land under Aus cultivation in 10 districts of Khulna division this season.

Agriculture Extension Department sources said of the total 3,95,15 hectares of land will be brought under the cultivation in Jhenidah, 3,03,52 hectares in Jessore, 1,85,55 hectares in Narail, 3,23,88 hectares in Magura, 5,384 hectares in Khulna, 1,64,50 hectares in Bagerhat, 7,851 hectares in Satkhira, 6,27,08 hectares in Kushtia, 3,58,80 hectares in Chuadanga and 2,28,12 hectares in Meherpur district.

It may be mentioned that of the total 5,32,43 hectares will be brought under High Yielding Variety (HYV) while 2,18,652 hectares under local variety (LV).

With the successful cultivation of the programme about 3.10 lakh metric tons of rice is expected to be produced in this season, the source added.

#### Rash driving

Reckless driving of motorised vehicles in Satkhira town and its adjoining areas have been threatening the movement of pedestrians and causing frequent accidents.

Rash driving crossing speed limit, and buses carry passengers beyond capacity without bothering the inconvenience of the passengers lead to frequent accidents.

Motor bike riders also drive vehicles at a speed of 60 km to 70 km per hour endangering the lives of the passer-by.

Besides increasing number of rickshaws has further aggravated the situation, where 60 per cent of the rickshaws are without licence.

## 1200 ponds lying unutilised in Narail

From Our Correspondent

NARAIL, May 23: About 1,200 ponds have been lying unutilised Lohagara, Kalia and Narail Sadar upazilas of the district.

About 50 per cent of ponds under share ownership have been silted and dried up due to lack of maintenance. Besides, a large number of ponds are covered with water hyacinth hampering fish cultivation.

According to the sources, reexcavation and application of proper methods of pisciculture can boost up fish production to three crore taka per annum in the district.

According to the co-operative farmers, concerned authorities should come forward with a motivation approach of

co-operative farming to the share holders of the derelict ponds, to realise their loss and benefit.

Moreover, reexcavation of silted ponds, introduction of scientific methods of fish cultivations, training on pisciculture and adequate fishery loan to the fish producers should be given, it is felt.

#### Bus journey hazardous

Bus journey is becoming extremely hazardous due to improper time-table and reckless driving in the district.

Buses do not follow their scheduled timings. Besides, to fetch more passengers bus drivers stay longer time on

each stop. As a result, the buses become overloaded and the drivers hurry to reach their destinations and drive more recklessly to cover their scheduled timings which results in serious accidents.

Many drivers have no driving licence they do not have proper training.

On the other hand the condition of the buses is so bad that very often engine goes out of order creating numbers inconveniences to the passengers specially to the office-goers.

Moreover, passenger buses even carry huge volume of cargo like ducks, chickens, goats and fruits etc. frequently thereby doubling the sufferings of the passengers.

## Floating people on rise in Kurigram

From Our Correspondent

KURIGRAM, May 23: Influx of floating people to the town has been further increased due to mounting poverty and unemployment in rural areas of Kurigram district.

These floating people have turned destitutes because of protracted erosion, floods and lack of employment opportunities. They took shelter in government abandoned houses, railway stations, bus terminals, on flood control embankment and on khas land by erecting shums.

It is learnt that due to unemployment and financial stringency landless and erosion affected families of charland are rushing towards the towns.

They step for begging when they fall to avail of any work. Due to non-availability of water and conservancy services, they respond to the call of nature in open places resulting in environmental pollution.

About 300 families are leading a miserable life on Kurigram Town Protection

Embankment. According to one destitute family member, he possesses one acre of land at his village home but it had been devoured by the mighty river Dharla about two years ago. Then he took shelter on Kurigram Town Protection Embankment which was also damaged recently.

Moreover, as the government is yet to sanction loan for building houses damaged during the floods or erosions these destitute families are unable to erect their houses afresh due to abnormal price hike of house building materials.

As a result they have either rushed to urban areas for shelter or they live under the open sky.

One Kaderi Begum (40), a housewife of village Fakirpara in Shimulbari union of Fulbari Upazila of Kurigram district committed suicide by hanging herself recently. Family trouble was the cause of her suicide, it is gathered. The body was sent to Kurigram morgue for post mortem.

## 4 killed in Faridpur road accidents

From Our Correspondent

FARIDPUR, May 23: Four persons were killed and 36 injured in separate road accidents in the district recently. A bus (Jessore-BA-54) turned turtle and fell into a ditch while over taking another bus near Gonga-bardi Agricultural College. Faridpur about 20 persons including the driver were injured in the accident.

Two persons were killed and 15 others injured when a bus and a truck collided headon on Faridpur-Barisal road near Mamudpur bridge.

Nimi Das (30) was killed on the spot while a truck (Faridpur-Tha-250) and a bus (Dhaka-Ja-3124) collided near Bismillah Shah Darga, Faridpur.

In another incident a girl was killed and the Motor cyclist was injured near Churmurdi bus stand on Faridpur-Barisal road.

Diarrhoea claimed 18 lives and attacked 514 others in Faridpur district. About 123 medical teams are working in the affected areas.

In all 129 persons were admitted to Faridpur Sadar Hospital, and there is sufficient medicine and saline wa-

ter in the stock. According to the reports, water supplied by Faridpur Pourashava is found contaminated in some areas of the town. The iron contents in drinking water is high in almost all the places of Faridpur district.

## Four injured in clash

From Our Correspondent

PABNA, May 23: Four persons were injured in a clash following a brawl over carrom-board playing at Sauthia upazila under Pabna district recently.

The injured were Hamid (20), son of Dukhila Pramanik, Rezaul (22), son of Altab Uddin, Hafiqur (18) and his father Nabab Ali (50) of the village Tetulia under Nandanpur union.

Bangladesh Chhatra League bagged 12 posts including VP and GS at Athgoria College student union election held recently.

The other two posts were secured by Bangladesh Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal.

## AUCTION NOTICE

The Court of 1st Sub-Judge, Comilla Money Decree Execution Suit No-40/1990 Sonali Bank, Comilla Principal Branch PS-Kotwali, Upazila-Sadar, District, Comilla. Head Office, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka

.....Plaintiff decree holder V.S

Md. Kabir Hossain, Ex-Cashier, Sonali Bank, Comilla Principal Branch, s/o Md. Fazlur Rahman Sarkar, Vill-Chandpur, PS-Kotwali, District-Comilla.

1. This is for general information of all concerned that the land/property as stated in the schedule below will be put to auction sale for realisation an outstanding decretal amount of Tk 2,25,744/- (Taka two lakh twenty five thousand seven hundred forty four) only in the aforesaid case.
2. The bid of the highest auction-purchaser will be accepted on 10-06-91.
3. Intending tenderers will have to deposit 5% of the quoted price as Earnest Money (refundable) in the form of Bank Draft/Pay Order in favour of Sub-Judge, 1st Court along with sealed tenders/proposals in the office of the undersigned within 9-06-91, the latest.
4. Tenders will be opened on 10-06-91 at 12 noon in presence of tenderers (if any). 50% of the quoted amount will have to be deposited within 3 (three) days of acceptance of tender/proposal and rest of the amount should be deposited within 30 (thirty) days of acceptance of tender.
5. If the auction-purchaser fails to deposit the amount within the stipulated period, Earnest Money including 50% of the auction price (arising out of situation) will be confiscated and the bidder may be deprived of the property.
6. The aforesaid auction sale is subject to existing rules and regulations.
7. The court will approve auction. It reserves the right to accept or reject any auction after due consideration.

#### SCHEDULE

District-Comilla, PS-Kotwali, Upazila-Sadar, Mauja-Chandpur, C.S Khatian No-2, R. S. Khatian No. 52. .04 acres of land with dwellings on it in 3 different daags.

BY ORDER (SERESTADAR) 1ST SUB-JUDGE COURT COMILLA.

S. B./PUB/16/129/91 DFP (BA) 4111-19/5 G-133

## 5000 families homeless in Maulvi Bazar

From Our Correspondent

MAULVI BAZAR, May 23: Shafiqur Rahman (42), a farmer of Balikandi village lost everything including his pucca house in the devastating flood like about 100 families on the northern bank of the river Monu under Chandnighat union of Maulvi Bazar Sadar Upazila.

The flood waters coming through the 1000-foot long breach in Monu river dyke washed away the house of Shafiqur Rahman who with his family is leading a miserable life. He has to start life anew.

People living on both sides of Monu river flood control embankment and Monu river dyke with in Maulvi Bazar and Rajnagar upazilas have been left to the mercy of flood every year during monsoon like Shafiqur Rahman.

During the recent flood on May 8, the flood water of the river Monu coming through several breaches that occurred in the Monu dyke badly affected at least 50 villages namely Malikona, Ashrakapon, Prebnagar, Shasmohal, Gromindasri, Dhewpassa, Balikandi, Ballarbhag, Shabia,

Gujrat, Akhalkura, Sampashi, Ashia etc. Under Rajnagar and Maulvi Bazar sadar upazilas. About five thousand families of these villages took shelter on the flood control embankments and in different relief camps.

The construction of flood control embankment along the northern bank of the river Monu encircling haor Kawadighi and about 50 villages along the river bank has been left out.

A separate dyke was constructed along river under food

far works programme. These villages are situated between Monu project embankment and Monu river dyke. When the river Monu is in spate during monsoon several breaches develop at different points of the dyke due to weak and unplanned construction and these villages are inundated.

These 50 villages of Tengra and Mansurnagar unions under Rajnagar upazila and Chandnighat, Ekatona and Akhalkura unions under Maulvi Bazar Sadar upazila having a people of 50,000 are affected by the flood every year.



BARISAL: A house razed to the ground following the recent tornado at Gouranadi upazila. —Star photo by Aroop Talukder