Upazila roundup

PABNA

Jamaat activist stabbed to death

June 16: A Jamaat activist was stabbed to death by miscreant at Atua Krishnapur in sadar upazila on Tuesday, police here said, reports UNB.

The victim Mashiur Rahman (25) was attacked by the armed miscreants on way home killing him on the spot. A case was filed with local

police against 11 people in this connection.

SIRAJGANJ

Cropland inundated

June 16: About 200 bighas of cropland in Sonali bazar area here were inundated Friday night following rise in water level in the Jamuna river, reports UNB.

Sources said low-lying areas near the Vartia and Char Maya embankment have also gone under water. The under construction embankment in the area may be washed away any

Local Water Development Board (WDB) sources said hundreds of people were also rendered shelterless near the Kazipur embankment here.

Meanwhile, a large number of people of Kazipur, Sadar Belkuchi, Chowhalee and Shahzadpur upazilas were rendered homeless by the continuous crosion of Jamuna.

Standing crops on thousand acres of land were destroyed by the flash flood.

CHITTAGONG Immunization

Week observed June 16: A colourful rally was held here yesterday in observance of the 'National Immunization Week' 1991 by Chittagong City Corporation

(CCC), reports BSS. The rally, participated by different government, nongovernment and voluntary organisations, started from City Corporation and passed

through main roads of the city. Earlier, Mayor of Chittagong Mir Mohammad Nasir Uddin formally inaugurated the week. Speaking briefly, the Mayor said the main objective of the week was to make conscious the women and motivate them of the six most deadly diseases.

MAGURA

Five revenue collection office to be built

June 16: The district Revenue Department has sanctioned Taka 9.88 lakh for construction of five revenue collection office in the district during the current fiscal year, reports UNB.

Of the total, Taka 7.75 lakh has been sanctioned for construction of Magura Sadar Upazila Revenue Office, Taka 66,300 for Magura Municipal Tahsil Office, Tk 50,000 each for Langolband and Kadirpara Union Tahsil Offices in Sreepur Upazila and the rest Taka 46,800 for Bunagati Union Tahsi Office under Salikha Upazila

The work on the project is expected to be completed by the end of this month.

Poultry birds

A scheme has been taken up to distribute 350 HYV hens and 220 HYV ducks worth about Taka 22,000 free of cost among the 89 distressed families of four cluster villages in the district.

According to official sources, 100 ducks and 70 hens will be distributed under 'Swanirvar Programme' among the 30 families of Chaulia cluster village of Sadar, 196 hens among the 28 families of Raidharpur cluster village of Sreepur, 75 ducks and 35 hens among the 15 families of Dewdanga clauster village in Salikha and 45 ducks and 49 hens among 16 families of Bethulia cluster village of Mohammadpur upazila.

The distribution of poultry birds has already been started and is expected to be completed by this month.

SHERPUR

Lightning kills 10 in one month

June 16: At least 10 people were killed by lightning in the district over the last one month, police sources said yesterday, reports UNB.

Of them two were killed in Nokla, two in Nalitabari, three in Sadar and two in Sreebordi

Most of the incidents took place while the victims were working in their crop fields.

SATKHIRA

Potters in distress

June 16: More than 10,000 artisans here are likely to go out of job as cheaper aluminium products started replacing clay-made utensils in markets, reports UNB.

Sources say buyers show more interest in comparatively cheaper and durable aluminium utensils than fragile pottery.

Besides, price hikes of raw materials have raised the cost of pottery, producers said.

They alleged that banks reluctance to finance the sector has forced many potters in Kaliganj, Shymnagore, Tala, Assauni and Kalaora upazilas to leave their ancestral profes-

Potters of the upazilas have urged the authorities to provide financial support to help sustain the traditional industry.

BARISAL

2400 tons wheat sanctioned

June 16: The government has sanctioned 2,400 metric tons of wheat for the implementation of a number of rural development projects in six southern districts under postcyclone rehabilitation programme, reports BSS.

According to an official source, the work of the projects include repair of kutcha roads, cleaning of bushes and water hyacinths, development of educational institutions and other places of public utility.

phone exchange.

it is alleged.

no excess bill is to be paid.

Jamalpur Telephone Exchange

office are alleged to have

collected illegal money from

these telephone subscribers.

The collected amount is

shared by the officials. Sources

say that inspite of several

transfer orders, some officials

have been still working there.

They reportedly got their

transfer orders cancelled by

local exchange remain dis-

rupted for days together, local

journalists fail to send mes-

sages to national dailies in/

Dhaka due to frequent disrup-

plained of frequent cross-con-

nections and other distur-

bances in the telephone sets.

The local telephone office sel-

don attends to the trunk calls

of the people. Some linemen

and operators illegally realise

nels at the NWD introduced a

few years ago are new

functioning. But call load is too

heavy for only eight lines

which cannot cope with the

Moreover, only eight chan-

money from the subscribers.

Subscribers also com-

tion in the lines.

situation.

Most of the lines under the

means of illegal gratification.

The test relief programmes have been taken up in the badly affected areas of the districts of Barisal, Jhalakati, Bhola, Pirojpur, Patuakhali and Barguna, the source added.

Of the total, 200 metric tons of wheat have been sanctioned for Barisal district, 1,000 metric tons for Barguna, 250 metric tons each for Jhalakati and Pirojpur dis-

Power-tillers

The government has taken up a programme to supply 140 power-tillers free of cost to the cyclone-affected poor farmers of six southern districts.

According to an official source, the districtwise allocation of power-tillers is as follows : Barisal 25, Barguna 25 Patuakhali 15, Pirojpur 15 Bhola 50 and Jhalakati 10.

KURIGRAM

Academic feat

From Our Correspondent June 16: Miss Sayeda Zahan Smritec obtained second grade scholarship in the



Scholarship Primary Examination of '90. She appeared from Kurigram Girls High School, of old town.

She is the eldest daughter of Abu Sayeed, lecturer, Kurigram Government College and Mrs Khurshida Begam.

MAULVIBAZAR

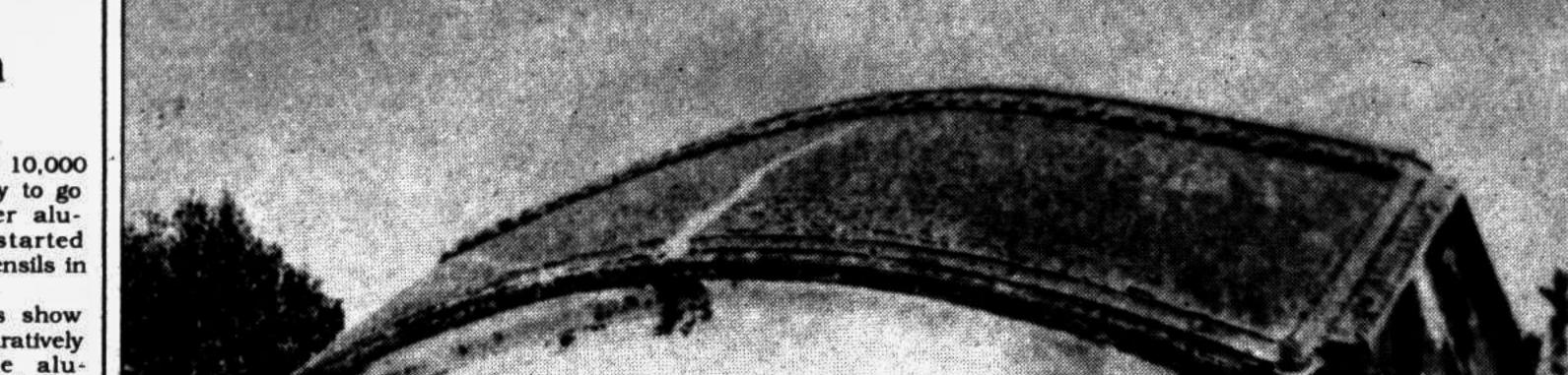
Bus stand not completed in 10 years

June 16: A project taken up by the Chittagong Divisional Development Board in 1979-80 financial year to construct a bus stand at the town is yet to

be completed, reports UNB. informed sources said Comilia Regional Development Board (CRDB) had also allocated an amount of Taka 4 lakh for the construction of the bus stand in 1985-86 financial year which was later diverted for the development activities of

Maulvibazar Women's College. But due to the absence of a bus stand passengers of Dhaka, Comilla, Habiganj, Brahmanbaria, Sylhet and Sunamgani have been facing much inconveniences for a long time.

Local people urged the authorities to construct the bus stand with public toilets both for female and male passengers without further delay.



KISHOREGANJ: This inn of historical importance attached to the mosque of Shah Mahmud at village Egaroshindur needs early renovation. -Photo by Iqbal Siddiqui

Corruption grips Jamalpur phone exchange

From Our Correspondent

JAMALPUR, June 16: The According to a written allegovernment every year incurs a gation, over 562 maunds of huge loss of revenue earnings wheat were allocated for the due to mismanagement and construction of cluster village malpractice in the local tele-"Thikana Bandhan". Of the total wheat received in two phases, The subscribers and others only 219 maunds were utilised with urgent messages for their and the rest 343 maunds were kith and kins residing at far

allegedly grabbed by the proflung places have to wait for ject Chairman. hours together to get a line. It is reliably learnt that no Whereas, anyone who brides proper measurement or survey Taka 60 gets the line quickly, in terms of earthwork was done when the wheat was re-It is further alleged that ceived from Melandah LSD

some telephone holders have godown monthly contracts and even if The complainants have dethey talk for hours over phone manded immediate action against the alleged misappropriation of government wheat. Some operator's at

On a complaint lodged in this regard, Mr Motiur Rahman, UNO of Melandah upazila made an on the spot visit but could not identify the lapses as the project Chairman misled the UNO during the enquiry. It may be noted that following further complaints lodged with different higher authorities, further investigation was made by Alok Kumar Dhar, Project Implementation Officer of Melandah, But no report has yet been submitted to the concerned authorities for unknown reason.

When contacted Shahjahan, however, the project Chairman termed the allegation baseless.

52 in 3 weeks in Kurigram From Our Correspondent KURIGRAM, June 16: At least 52 persons were killed

by lightning in five upazilas of Kurigram during the last three Sources of Rowmari Fulbari, Nageswari, Ulipur and Bhurungamari Upazila

Lightning kills

Parishads said most of the victims were cultivators and struck to death by thunderbolt while they were working in the field. Lightning struck to death

three brothers of a family of village Monaipakur under Nageswari Upazila. They are Akbar, Ekabbar and Majibur. Soon after the incident, mother of the victims also committed suicide by taking



KURIGRAM: Hundreds of female labourers brought out a procession recently in protest against the non-payment of wheat by Upazila Parishad for their earth work. -Star photo

Massive afforestation plan in N. region

two years under the Community Forest Development Scheme.

The Forest Department has planted saplings on both sides of different roads, highways, railway tracks, embankments, union parishad roads and forest areas of the districts.

Illegal business of wine, country liquor (tary), marijuana and opium has become rampant at Dinajpur.

under Sadullapur upazila recently.

Besides, many gaygirls carrying on immoral activities in the town. They lotter around footpaths, colleges and court areas for clients. The youngmen including students fall prey to them.

Open VCR show has been continuing in the town for the last three months. Blue films and Indian films are deviating the young people. The people of the town

have complained to the authority concerned but no action has yet been taken.

GAIBANDHA: Hashish plant seized by the Narcotic and Liquor Department from a village

Father gets life-term for killing daughter

From Our Correspondent

BAGERHAT, June 16: Md. Alauddin Sardar, District and Sessions Judge of Bagerhat, in a judgment delivered on June 2, convicted one Abbas Uddin, an Income Tax practitioner of Khulna and his associate Nur Islam of village Debraj under Morrelganj upazila in the district of Bagerhat and sentenced them to transportation for life and to pay a fine of Taka 5,000 each in default to suffer another rigorous imprisonment for six months on the charge of killing the former's (Abbas Uddin's) daughter Beauty (15).

The prosecution story in short is that accused father Abbas Uddin wanted to grab the properties of his first wife's daughter Beauty (15). With this end in view he handed over his daughter (Beauty) to the other accused Nur Islam for giving her in marriage to a distant place. Nur Islam took her to Feni district town where she was forcibly given in marriage with a rickshawpuller. But the daughter did not accept the marriage. When the matter was brought to the notice of Abbas Uddin he became furious with his daughter and gave Nur

Islam a sum of Taka 2,500 and asked him to kill his daughter. Then Nur Islam took Beauty to his own village Debraj where he strangulated her to death at the night of December 25, 1987 and threw the dead body into a canal.

On the following day police recovered the body and sent it to the morgue for autopsy. Being informed of the matter police arrested Nur Islam and brought him before a Magistrate to whom he confessed everything.

After this statement and receiving the postmortem repots as homicide police registered a murder case with Morrelgani P.S. and submitted a chargesheet to the court against father Abbas Uddin, his associate Nur Islam and three others after properly investigating the matter.

The learned judge after examining the witnesses and evidences found accused father Abbas Uddin and Nur Islam guilty U/S 302 and 109 of BPC and U/S 302 and 34 of BPC respectively and awarded them the aforesaid punishment.

Transport strike paralyses road link in S.Zone

From Our Correspondent

BARISAL, June 16: Transport strike for the last three days has cut off road communication with 13 routes connecting Patuakhali, Jhalakati and Borguna from the district headquarters here.

The strike was called by the Southern Road Transport Workers Union Monday last following the arrest of the driver, conductor and helper of a passenger bus in connection with a robbery. A daring dacoity was committed in a passenger bus at the Barisal-Banaripara road.

The passenger later filed a case against the driver, conductor and helper of the bus accusing them of being involved in the dacoity. Barisal police arrested the accused, however, they were released after interrogation.

Following the arrest, the transport workers union called a strike for an indefinite period demanding increased patrols by highway police and protesting the arrest on mere suspicion. A memo to this cffect was submitted to the Deputy Commissioner. Mean

58,785 acres will be put under Aus farming

MAGURA, June 16: The district Agriculture Extension Department (AED) has taken up a scheme to cultivate 58,785 acres of land under Aus paddy in four upazilas of the district, reports UNB.

According to official sources, 10,800 acres will be brought under high yielding variety and the rest 47,985 acres under local variety.

Upazila-wise break up is as follows: Magura Sadar 22,410 acres, Mohammadpur 13,305 acres, Salikha 7, 105 acres and Sreepur 15,965 acres.

Meanwhile, the department has fixed the production target at 20,150 metric tons of paddy worth about Taka 22.16 crore during the current season.

For the successful implementation of the scheme Bangladesh Agriculture Development Corporation distributed seeds, pesticides and other agricultural inputs among the farmers at fair

AED also has set up 24 demonstration plots in four upazilas of the district to acquaint the farmers with the modern methods of cultivation. affected as buses and trucks remain off the roads for the last three days. Only four BRTC buses are plying on the roads now. Numerous passengers remain stranded at various points and transport of goods is also being severely hampered. A large quantity of Hilsa fish at Barisal ghat is waiting to be transported by road to other destinations.

while, all road links with the

rest of the country have been

Notes from Dinajpur

From Our Correspondent DINAJPUR, June 16: Acute shortage of bullocks in greater Dinajpur district is posing a great problem to seasonal cultivation.

It is learnt that 50 per cent farmers of the district carry on agricultural work on share basis due to shortage of bullocks.

The shortage is being gradually intensified due to slaughter of at least 400 bullocks per week in different hats and bazars of the district.

According to an estimate, 125 bullocks in Thakurgaon, 115 in Panchagarh and 265 bullocks in Dinajpur district are slaughtered every week.

On the other hand about 80 thousand bullocks were slaughtered in these districts during the Liberation War.

According to sources, an area of about 26 lakh acres of land is under cultivation in these three districts. About two lakh pairs of bullocks are necessary to till this vast area. But there are only 1,12,000 pairs of bullocks in this districts which is insufficient to fulfil the purpose.

On the other hand, slaughtering of the bullocks increased to a great extent because of fish shortage in the markets of these districts.

It is reported that the agricultural department has failed to supply tractors and other agricultural equipment to the peasants in these districts. Besides, farmers are unable to purchase bullocks from the market because of high price.

Fodder scarcity

Cultivators in these districts are selling out their cows and bullocks for want of fodder for the last few years. If this shortage continues indefinitely, cultivation will eventually be hampered.

About 40 per cent crops and grass in these three districts were damaged by flood and drought and about 20 per cent crops and grass were damaged by the flood in 1988 and 1989.

A section of cow dealers is taking advantage of this situation who is buying hundreds of cows and bullocks from the cultivators at low price.

Large number of such ablebodied cows and bullocks is supplied to the markets regularly by the dealers of different districts and some traders are dong windfall profit.

Cattle disease

About 5,000 cattleheads die of various diseases every year in these three districts. This also contributes to the shortage of bullocks. About 4,000 cattleheads

died of different diseases in

the districts during the last six months and a good number have been suffering from various disease. The cultivators alleged that

they always return from the local Veterinary Hospitals without getting any medicine.

Wheat misappropriated Misappropriation of government wheat worth over Taka 1.5 lakh by the Chairman, Cluster Village Project of No 3 Mahmudpur union under From Our Correspondent Melandah upazila was un-DINAJPUR, June 16 : A The Forest Department had comprehensive afforestation already planted over twenty scheme has been taken up in lakh saplings during the last

earthed recently. Chhatra League 16 northern districts of Panchagarh, Thakurgaon, sweeps Chhatak Dinajpur, Nilphamari, Rangpur, Lalmonirhat, Kurigram, College elections SUNAMGANJ, June 16

The joint panel of Chhatra League (S-A) and Jatiya Chhatra League swept the Chhatak College Students Un-ion election Saturday, bagging all seats, reports UNB. Their nearest rival was Jatiyatabadi Chhtra Dal (JCD), Asian Development Bank has

Shahidur Rahman Laskar was elected Vice-President and Pranoy Kumar Acharya Munna General Secretary of the 17-seat union.

the student wing of ruling

College sources said 349 votes were cast out of the total

Sadat college BSS from Tangail adds: A 17-members body of Sadat University Government College Students Union was elected on Wednesday.

All but the post of Assistant Secretary went to Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal. A total of 71 candidates under four panels and three in-

dependents contested the 17

posts. Prof. Mir Shorab Ali was

the Election Commissioner. Madaripur Our Madaripur Correspondent adds: Madaripur Nazimuddin Government College Student Union Election will be held on June

Gaibandha, Joipurhat, Bogra, Sirajganj, Pabna, Natore, Naogaon, Chapainawabganj and According to the report, an amount of Taka 30 erore has been sanctioned by the govcrnment for executing the scheme and widening of existing forests in the districts. The

provided the forest department with this amount. Liquor is being sold - to different persons in bottles and jars without any hesitation. And there is also a centre for selling marijuana, opium etc which are being smuggled into the country from India and Nepal, it is reliably learnt.

Diarrhoea claims 3 in Kushtia

Diarrhoea claimed three lives and attacked several others in

(8), two brothers of village Paragpur of Daulatpur upazila and Masum Ali (8) of Mirpur The disease that broke out

KUSHTIA, June 16

the district during the last week, reports UNB. Hospital sources said the victims were Kala (10), Feroze

last month has been engulfing new areas causing panic among the people.