

**Upazila roundup**

**SAVAR**

**2 children killed in road mishap**

July 12: Two children were killed on the spot in two separate road accidents here yesterday, reports UNB.

Police and witnesses said that an unidentified child (8) died on the spot when a speeding Dhaka bound bus from Aricha knocked him down in front of Savar Cantonment on the Dhaka-Aricha Highway.

In another incident, Lito (6) died on the spot when a truck ran over him near village Ramrabon on the Kalampur-Saturia road. Lito met the accident while he was crossing the road.

Both the bodies were sent to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DHCH) for post mortem.

Two separate cases were lodged with Dhamrai police station in this connection.

**KISHOREGANJ**

**Students boycott classes**

July 12: Students of Azimuddin High School in the town here have been abstaining from attending their classes since Wednesday to press home their demand, reports UNB.

They are demanding immediate removal of their headmaster for his alleged corruption, misuse of power and misappropriation of school funds. The headmaster is now in leave.

The students also brought out a procession in the town Thursday chanting various slogans in support of their demand.

A tense situation is prevailing in the school for the last few days affecting education adversely.

Guardians have urged the authorities to take immediate steps for restoring congenial academic atmosphere in the school.

**MAULVI BAZAR**

**Tk 21.19 cr crop loss in recent flood**

July 12: The total loss of agricultural products by recent flood stands at Taka 21.19 crore in the district, reports UNB.

According to Agriculture Extension Department (AED), broadcast aman and boro crops on about 42,100 acres, vegetables on 1,533 acres and seedlings on 2,500 acres of land were destroyed by the recent flood.

AED has already taken steps for boosting production of aman crops on 2.43 lakh acres of land.

Deputy Director of AED told UNB that his department sought a grant of Taka 7.75 crore for rehabilitating the flood affected farmers.

He said Taka 4.87 would be needed for purchasing cattle-heads, seeds, fertilizers and other agricultural inputs and another Taka 3.87 crore for soft-term loan.

Meanwhile, a massive afforestation programme has been taken up in greater Sylhet district.

According to official sources, over three lakh saplings of different varieties of trees will be planted during the current season.

**KURIGRAM**

**20,000 marooned**

July 12: At least 20,000 people were marooned and thousand acres of land with standing crops inundated in three upazilas of the district by devastating flood and onrush of hilly waters, reports UNB.

Water levels of Brahmaputra and Dharla rivers are flowing above the danger mark in the last two days.

The affected upazilas are Sadar, Ulipur and Chilmart.

The situation worsened due to heavy downpour in the last few days. Romna, Chilmari, Nayarhat, Austomirchar and Raniganj unions went under flood water.

About 500 families of Jorgacha and Maghpara villages remained water-logged for the last few days.

Hundreds of flood affected shelterless people took shelter on the embankments and passing their days in extreme misery.

**BOGRA**

**Diarrhoea claims 15 lives**

July 12: Diarrhoea situation has taken a serious turn with the death of 15 people in five upazilas of the district during the last four days, reports UNB.

The disease is engulfing near areas and 500 others were attacked in the upazilas during the period. Thaltamasgram village in Nandigram upazila is worst hit.

So far, 65 people died in the district with the outbreak of the disease a few months back. But officials confirmed only 35 deaths.

Paucity of drinking water and adulterated food were attributed to the spread of the disease.

Several medical teams are working in the affected areas, officials said.

**MANIKGANJ**

**Erosion renders 60,000 families homeless**

July 12: About 60,000 families in three upazilas of the district were rendered homeless due to the erosion by the rivers Jamuna and Padma during the last five years, official sources said here today, reports UNB.

About 100 square km of the upazilas were also lost into the rivers during the period.

The upazilas are Daulatpur, Shivalaya and Harirampur.

Eight unions in Daulatpur and Harirampur upazilas have also been devoured during the period, they added.

About 3,000 educational institutions including some colleges in Shivalaya, Daulatpur and Harirampur upazilas were damaged.

According to Upazila Chairman, 25,000 houses in 120 villages in Daulatpur, 35,000 houses in 150 villages in Harirampur and 95,000 houses in Shivalaya upazila were engulfed by the erosion during the period.

**GHORASHAL**

**One killed as tempo turns turtle**

July 12: An unidentified man was killed and five others were injured when a tempo turned turtle near the railway station here yesterday afternoon, police said, reports UNB.

The overloaded three-wheeler turned upside down at 2 pm killing the man on the spot, witnesses said.

The injured were released after being treated locally.

Palash police seized the vehicle but the driver fled.

**C' NAWABGANJ**

**4 killed in separate incidents**

July 12: Four people died in separate incidents in the district over the last week, police sources said today, reports UNB.

According to family sources, heroin addict Shabul (35) of village Phathanpara in Nababgonj Poursashava allegedly committed suicide by taking insecticide. Family feud was said to be the reason behind the suicide.

One Shahabuddin (36), was electrocuted at Mohipur-Gobralata village in sadar upazila. The victim while walking in a mangrove suddenly came in contact with a live wire of an illegal electric line and died on the spot.

In another incident Yusuf Ali (32) and Sadekul (11) died on the spot when they suddenly slipped into a safety tank of a sanitary latrine at Rohanpur in Gomostapur upazila of the district.

According to witnesses, both the victims were repairing the safety tank and died due to poisonous gas. At this another man entered into the tank to rescue them was also injured seriously. He cried for help and other workers then dragged them out of the tank.

He was sent to Rajshahi Medical College Hospital in a critical condition.

Separate cases were filed in this connection.

**SHERPUR**

**Property worth Tk one lakh gutted**

July 12: At least six houses were gutted and a cow was roasted alive when a devastating fire broke out at Ganasharipara village in Sadar upazila on Tuesday midnight, reports UNB.

Villagers said that the fire originated from a cow-shed of Ashraf Ali of the village and soon engulfed the nearby houses destroying valuable property worth about Taka 1 lakh.

After frantic efforts the villagers brought the fire under control.



Angling is not necessarily an adult's job which is evident from the picture that shows a couple of kids trying their hand in a shallow pond created by rain waters at a village in Sirajganj. —Star photo by Enamul Huq

**Miscreants let loose reign of terror**

From Our Correspondent

JESSORE, July 12: Over 5000 people of Kandia, Natuapara and Majdia have been captives of armed miscreants headed by terrorist Ali Hossain. The villagers have been passing sleepless nights in fear for the last few days.

According to the reports, the terrorist Ali Hossain along with his gang-mates seriously wounded 70-year-old Ismail Biswa, and his five sons Malique, Razzaque, Samad, Altaf and Nawab Ali, on June 21 last. All the injured were admitted to Jessore General Hospital where Altaf who was in a coma succumbed to his injuries after seven days.

On a visit to Kandia this correspondent met some police officers including an ASP who were returning from the affected village. They said that people in fear are moving in batches apprehending another attack by Ali and his group.

Ismail Biswa said that the miscreants did not even consider his old age and they injured him and his five sons with axes, ramdaos and rods.

According to the villagers the miscreants create terror in the areas and collect tolls at night, sometimes they start looting, raping and harassing the people for not co-operating with them in many ways. They recently ransacked the houses of Hazari Pal and Surdhir Pal and snatched away cash, ornaments, paddy and rice, 13 cattle heads and other valuables in consecutive nights. As a result, the victims left the village with their families.

Ismail Biswas and the local people demanded exemplary punishment to the killers to establish a peaceful atmosphere in the area. They urged the police to be more active and vigilant.

**Smuggled goods recovered: 5 Indians arrested**

From Our Correspondent

CHUADANGA, July 12: Smuggled goods worth over one lakh Taka were seized and five Indian nationals were arrested from the different border areas of Jibannagar upazila under Chuadanga district during the last week by the BDR personnel.

The goods include 50 pieces of Indian sarees, 20 kgs of clovers, 90 pieces of wrist watch, spare parts, clocks and one quintal of saga.

The arrested five Indian nationals are Ashu Das, Prakash Das, Shubodhar Rao, Dulal Das and Okel Das. They are the residents of Nadia district in West Bengal.

A public meeting was held against corruption, smuggling and bribe at local Bara Bazar recently under the auspices of Chuadanga district of Bangladesh Jatiyatobadi Juba Dal.

The meeting was presided over by local Jatiyatobadi Juba Dal leader Khondokar Abdul Jabbar Sona. Ali Hossain Sardar a local leader of BNP was the chief guest. Among others, its was addressed by Emdadul Haq Dabu, Abu Zafer Montu, Mahbubul Haq Ratan, Sirajul Islam and Rezaul Karim.

The speakers in the meeting alleged that civil and police administration ignore smuggling and blackmarketing activities in the district. They indicated some persons who became millionaires in a night. They also demanded removal of RMO and Civil Surgeon of local Sadar Hospital for being involved in irregularities, mismanagement and corruption prevailing in the hospital.

They demanded stoppage of all sorts of corruption in the district and asked police administration and the officials not to ignore the sentiment of common people.

**12 killed in Jhenidah**

JHENIDAH, July 12: Twelve people died in separate incidents in the district on Monday, police sources here said, reports UNB.

Of them, six were killed by miscreants, four allegedly committed suicide and two others drowned.

Three people were gunned down by some miscreants belonging to an underground party at Bazargopalpur in Sadar upazila during the period. The victims are Khalil (27), Kalu (28) and Mujbar (30) of the village.

A child Alauddin (3), son of Abdul Jalil of Bishoykhali village in Sadar upazila drowned in a pond near his residence.

In another incident an old man named Jabbar Khan (75), of Milebarei village was stabbed to death by unknown assailants while he was sleeping at his residence.

Besides, a boy named Sohail (15), student of class ten in Miheshpur Poursashava was also drowned in a pond after falling from a tree.

One Aminur Rahman (21), of Nowdagram village in Moheshpur upazila was killed by snake bite.

The other victim Sohail (15), son of ex-commissioner of Moheshpur Poursashava Ashrafal Haque Mollah died instantly when he fell down from a tree.

Besides, Kuttubur (19), wife of Dudan Ali of Gobindapur village, Ayesha Khatun (40), wife of Samir Uddin of Matleza village, Majeda Khatun (12), daughter of Shamsheer Ali of Mohammampur village and Zulekha Begum (22), wife of Bilal Hossain of Dalipur village in Shailakupa upazila were allegedly committed suicide by taking poison during the period.

Separate cases were filed with different police stations.

**Jamuna erosion leaves 5,000 homeless in Bera**

PABNA, July 12: About 5,000 families of Bera upazila of the district were rendered homeless by erosion of the river Jamuna during last two months.

Raushan Ali, Chairman of Bera upazila told UNB that a total of 12 villages and about 7,000 handloom factories were washed away leaving more than 10,000 handloom workers jobless.

Besides, five primary schools, two high schools, two post offices, and about 10 government offices of the upazila were also washed away.

The affected villages are Dewantartota, Kalayanpur, Nakalia Singharshan, Madhupur, Atlathi, Ragunathpur, Purnavarengana and Ganopatia.

**Bus journey hazardous in Narail**

NARAIL, July 12: Bus journey has become hazardous in the district due to overloading and reckless driving causing inconvenience to the passengers, reports UNB.

According to informed sources, the drivers overloading their buses and mini buses overtake each other in a mad-race on the roads. They stop their vehicles at unspecified points to take more passengers. They even dump the passengers on the roofs.

It is alleged that the conductors charge exorbitant fares with much annoyance of the passengers. There are allegations that most of the drivers have no driving licences.

The passengers remain stranded for hours together in the middle of the route when some old bus engines go out of order. In many routes the buses also carry cargoes along with the passengers.



MYMENSINGH: Dr MA Mazid, Additional Director of Fisheries Research Institute distributing certificates among the participants of a month-long training course on fish farm management held at the Fisheries Research Institute recently. —Star photo

**Pests damage crops on 30,000 acres**

From Our Correspondent

SHERPUR, July 12: Standing crops on 30,000 acres of land have been seriously damaged by pests in all upazilas of Sherpur district.

According to the farmers, the leaves of the standing crops and jute plants are being eaten up by these pests. If proper measures are not taken to combat the pest attack the crop production may fall considerably, it is feared.

Besides, due to price hike of insecticides farmers are unable to spray their fields to eradicate the pests. On the other hand adulterated insecticides have proved to be ineffective to kill the pests.

It is strongly felt that in absence of positive measures to curb the pest menace the situation may go out of control. Some farmers demanded aerial spray in all the upazilas of the district.

**Relief activities reviewed in Bandarban**

BANDARBAN, July 12: The relief and rehabilitation activities in Bandarban hill district were reviewed at a meeting held recently at the rest house of Chittagong Hill Tracts Development Board here, reports BSS.

Minister for Communications Col (rtd) Oli Ahmed presided over the meeting. Bohang Raja and former Minister Mong Swe Prue Chowdhury, Mrs. Manya Ching MP, Bir Bahadur MP, Local Government Council members, Upazila Chairman, district-level officers and leaders of different political parties attended the meeting.

The Minister urged the concerned persons to take strict measures to implement the relief and rehabilitation works for the victims of cyclone of May 29.

**New plan to expand tele link in S. districts**

BARISAL, July 12: New projects are being taken up for implementation in the next two months for expansion of telecommunication facilities in four southern districts of the country, reports UNB.

The four districts are: Bhola, Jhalakati, Borguna and Pirojpur.

Additional telephone exchanges will be installed in Bhola this month to increase the total number of telecommunication channels to 16.

The 16 channels will be fully operational for both incoming and outgoing calls.

According to T & T source, steps have also been taken to install new telecommunication equipment in Borguna and Pirojpur within the next month.

**Wheat distributed**

BSS adds: A total of 2,848 metric tons of wheat were distributed among 7,595 destitute families of five upazilas of Barisal district under vulnerable group development programme (VGDP) of the government in the 1990-91 fiscal year.

**Dacoits kill three persons in Mymensingh**

From BAU Correspondent

MYMENSINGH, July 12: Three persons were killed by dacoits in separate incidents in Trishal, Gafargaon and Dhaka railway station on Saturday night.

A gang of dacoits attacked the house of Abul Kashem of Darirampur village of Trishal on Saturday midnight.

They stabbed Rahima Khatun (50), a relative of Kashem when she tried to resist them. She died on the spot.

The dacoits decamped with property worth over Tk one lakh including Tk 17 thousand in cash. A case was filed with Trishal police.

Another gang of dacoits looted two shops of Daulatpur village of Gafargaon.

The dacoits stabbed one Abdul Hakim (65) on their way back after villagers resisted them. Hakim died on the spot. A case was filed with Gafargaon thana.

Meanwhile, one Makbul Mia, 29, a train passenger was stabbed him to death by dacoits in a compartment of train at Diska rail station Saturday night, a GRP source said.

A five-member gang of dacoits attacked a compartment of the Bahadurabad-bound train coming from Chittagong when it stopped at Diska station.

The dacoits looted goods and money worth Tk 50 thousand and stabbed Makbul Mia because he tried to resist them.

Police after a long search arrested four dacoits and took them to custody. The looted goods were not recovered.

**Corruption-free admn govt's aim: Osman**

RAJSHAHI, July 12: State Minister for Establishment Osman Gani Khan said here yesterday that the present government was determined to build up an honest, efficient and corruption-free administration to attain socio-economic development of the country, reports BSS.

Termining the government and government employees as complementary, the Minister said, government was to formulate the policies to run the national affairs and it was the government employees responsibility to implement those policies.

The State Minister said this, while addressing all divisional and district level officers of Rajshahi as the chief guest at Moniruddin Akand auditorium of the Zila Parishad here.

NA Habibullah, Divisional Commissioner of Rajshahi presided over the meeting.

He pointed out that the infrastructure of the country could not develop satisfactorily and the hopes and aspirations of the people could not be fulfilled during the last regime. Government employees are the part and parcel of the masses, he added.

He urged the government officials to discharge their responsibilities with honesty, efficiency and dedication.

State Minister said the country achieved independence at the cost of great sacrifice and bloodshed and the dignity of independence should be protected.

He reiterated that present government under the dynamic leadership of Begum Khaleda Zia was ready to take necessary step to protect and give a fruitful shape to the democratic process which was achieved through the last political movement.

He said a progressive and accountable government only can ensure the stream of development by mitigating the prevailing crisis of the country. Keeping this in mind the BNP government had made all necessary arrangements in this respect.

**4 killed in road mishap**

From Our Correspondent

PABNA, July 12: Five persons were killed and four others injured in three separate road accidents in Pabna Tuesday.

Hayatun Bawa (70) and Nayeab Ali (65) of village Garurhat under Athoria upazila died on the spot when a Nagarbari-bound minibus dashed their rickshaw van from behind at Madhupur on the Pabna-Nagarbari highway.

An unidentified woman aged about 35 died on the spot and her seven-year old son was injured seriously when a Nagarbari-bound bus knocked them down near Bera on Bogra-Nagarbari highway. The child was admitted to Bera upazila hospital.

**Call to develop slum areas**

Meanwhile, Mayor of Rajshahi City Corporation Mizanur Rahman Munnu yesterday expressed deep concern over increasing slum areas and urged all concerned to cooperate to mitigate the problem.

He was addressing the inaugural session of two-day divisional half-yearly world plan meeting of slum development project under Local Government Engineering Bureau at the conference room of Rajshahi City Corporation here yesterday.