

Upazila roundup

PABNA

2 BNP leaders expelled

July 26 : Bangladesh Nationalist Party has expelled two leaders from its Chatmohar upazila unit for their alleged anti-party activities, reports UNB.

The leaders expelled recently are : Md Belalur Rahman—Vice President and Md Ismail Hossain—Organising Secretary of the upazila BNP.

Advocate Abdul Aziz, Secretary of the upazila said Thursday that the accused members were involved in anti-party activities for a long time.

When contacted, the expelled leaders told UNB that they were served no show cause notice prior to their expulsion. They termed the action as illegal and unconstitutional.

SHERPUR

Flood situation improves

July 26 : Flood situation in the district has improved further with the recession of flood waters in the main rivers, reports UNB.

The flood, so far affected about two lakh people in 23 unions of the district where standing crops on 40,000 acres of land were damaged.

About 740 dwelling houses totally, 3,897 houses partially and 23 educational institutions including 10 high schools were damaged by the flood.

The communication between the district headquarters and three upazilas still remained disrupted as most of the roads were washed away by the flood.

Meanwhile, gastro-intestinal and water-born diseases have broken out in many flood affected areas. District Civil Surgeon, however, informed that anti-epidemic measures were taken to check the spread of the diseases.

BOGRA

Diarrhoea claims 3 lives

July 26 : Diarrhoea claimed three lives and attacked hundreds of others in Sariakandi upazila of the district over the last four days, reports UNB.

With the recession of flood water in the district, diarrhoea, dysentery and other gastro-intestinal diseases have broken out in an alarming proportion creating panic among the people.

The situation aggravated due to paucity of pure water, firewood, food and medicines in the affected areas.

About one lakh people were affected and standing crops on about 50,000 acres of land in the district were damaged by the flood.

RANGPUR

4 get life-term for murder

July 26 : Four people were sentenced to life imprisonment for killing an Ansar commander, court sources said here today, reports UNB.

The Additional District and Sessions Judge Abdur Rahman Patwari awarded the punishment recently after examining the records and evidences.

The accused Ayenuddin, Pushpa, Noor Mohammad Mondal and Abul Khan were also fined Taka 5,000 each, in default, to suffer six months rigorous imprisonment more.

According to prosecution story, the victim Mojibur Rahman, an Ansar commander was killed by the accused on October 26, 1988 while he was returning home.

The victim fell prey to the enmity of the accused persons when he protested their anti-social activities in the area.

After investigation police submitted chargesheets against the accused persons.

Public Prosecutor Advocate Abdus Sattar conducted the case on behalf of the state while Advocate Motiar Rahman, Advocate Mozammel Hossain and Advocate Abdul Hamid moved for the accused.

MADARIPUR

Misceants kill old man

July 26 : An old man of village Bhanwanti Shanker in Kalkini upazila was killed by some unknown assailants, police said here today, reports UNB.

According to villagers, the victim Ali Asgar Khan (70), while catching fish in a pond recently a gang of assailants attacked him with lethal weapons. He died on the spot.

The reason behind the murder could not be ascertained. Police sent the body to morgue for autopsy.

A case has been registered with local police in this connection.

SATKHIRA

AL office ransacked, 9 injured

July 26 : At least nine people were injured, five of them seriously, when a rival group attacked the office of district Awami League Wednesday night, reports UNB.

Of the injured, five were admitted to Sadar hospital with serious injuries, medical sources said.

Witnesses said the attackers, allegedly members of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) and Jatiya Party, attacked the office of AL at 9 pm, ransacked it and injured the inmates. They also ransacked the adjoining Pubali Bank, Cooperative Bank and a video shop.

The clash was a sequel of Tuesday's incident in which one student was injured when JCD and Chhatra League (A-A) attacked each other at the local government college.

A tense situation prevails in the town. Heavy contingent of police were deployed in and around the campus to avoid any untoward incident.

TANGAIL

Ashura observed

TANGAIL, July 26: Holy Ashura was observed here with due solemnity, reports BSS.

Quran Khwani, Milad Mahfil, distribution of tobarak, discussion meetings were held in this connection by various socio-cultural organisations. Tangail Islamic Foundation, Santosh Islamic University and Syed Ahmadia Yatim Khana held separate functions on the occasion.

Professor Sayedul Islam spoke on the significance of Ashura in discussion meeting of Islamic Foundation.

Erosion victims

Erosion affected people along Jamuna are passing days in Kakuia Bazar area in Kana Union.

Over 300 families of five villages of Kakuia Union have put up temporary shelters in the bazar.

JHENIDAH

JP rally demands Ershad's release

July 26 : District unit of Jatiya Party organised a public rally at the Agrani Bank square here Saturday afternoon demanding unconditional release of former president Ershad, reports UNB.

Chaired by the president of the unit Ashraful Abedin Asha, the speakers at the rally also demanded release of other Jatiya Party leaders including Mizan Chowdhury and Anwar Hossain Manju.

They criticised the government for deteriorating law and order situation in the country, failure in arresting the price hikes of essential commodities and introduction of VAT system.

The rally was also addressed by Golam Mostafa Butul, secretary of the district unit of JP.

A procession was brought out after the rally.

Meanwhile, activists of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal brought out a procession on the same day in the town demanding hanging of deposed president General Ershad for his misuse of power and misappropriation of public money.

Girl commits suicide

A young girl allegedly committed suicide by taking en-drin at her residence in Padami village under Shalakupe upazila Thursday.

Family sources said, the victim Dilaruba (15), a student of class eight of Sheikhpara girls high school allegedly killed herself following a family feud.

Her body was sent to morgue for autopsy. A case has been filed in this connection.

MAULVI BAZAR

7 dacoits arrested

July 26 : Seven notorious dacoits have been arrested from the Rashidabad rest house of the town, reports UNB.

They were wanted by police in connection with various cases.

Acting on a tip, police raided the rest house recently and nabbed Farid, Jahir, Saïdur Rahman, Bachchu, Saïdullah, Alauddin and Kamal. Another report from the district says Kulsura railway police recently recovered a beheaded body of an unidentified woman from railway track near Daidabad area.

The body was later sent to Sadar hospital for autopsy. A case was also filed.



With the onset of monsoon khal, beels, haors and baors are filled with water and rural people become active in fishing. Photo shows some people busy fishing while others looking on at a village in Munshiganj district. — Star photo

Drinking water scarce in Barisal pourea area

From Our Correspondent

BARISAL, July 25 : Acute scarcity of pure drinking water persists in municipal area of this district for quite a long time. The exists six pumps can hardly meet the requirement. Only eleven lakh gallons are being supplied against the requirements of about 30 lakh gallons of water per day. Misuse of water through open hydrants and other leakage is about 10 is per cent.

Shortage of water is prevailing almost everywhere in the pourea area — in hospitals, different residential areas, college premises and in government quarters.

Contamination with germs and bacteria in water is a long felt problem of the inhabitants of Barisal pourea area.

No effective measures have been taken as yet to ensure purity of water.

According to the Public Health Engineering Department (PHE) samples of water taken from five different places showed high degree of contamination.

Such a situation is mostly due to negligence on the part of concerned quarters to clean

underground water reservoirs.

The report of PHE revealed that due to absence of regular washing and maintenance of water tanks pipelines supply water is being contaminated and eventually being responsible for diarrhoeal diseases of thousands of people of the town every year.

Besides, smooth supply of pure drinking water of Barisal pourea area was included under the five district water supply project in 1984 which was due to be implemented with financial assistance from Asian

Development Bank (ADB). The project started in 1989 with an estimated cost of 12 crore Taka in Barisal. The estimate was later revised to 18 crore Taka as it has been started after five years.

Under this project 78 km new pipelines, five overhead water tanks and 12 deep tubewells were constructed. Each overhead water tank has a capacity of storing 2,20,000 gallons.

About 50 km water pipeline will also be connected with the new pipeline, it is learnt.

Work on the project is al-

most complete and the overhead water tanks have been put into operation.

But deep tubewells designed to lift 20 litres of water per second is lifting only 10 litres per second.

Besides, at many points water pipelines both old and new have created various types of problems.

According to informed sources, it is feared that in old narrow diameter water pipelines may not bear the heavy pressure of water being supplied through thick diameter new pipelines.

Tk 4cr allocated to improve rural communication network

From Our Correspondent

DINAJPUR, July 26 : The government has allocated Taka four crore in three northern districts of Dinajpur, Thakurgaon and Panchagarh during 1990-91 financial year to improve the rural communication network.

According to the reports, Taka 1,59,48,000 has been allocated for constructing 57 culverts in 13 upazilas under Dinajpur district, in Taka 55,77,000 for constructing 21 culverts in five upazilas of Thakurgaon, in Taka 1,70,37,000 for constructing 46 culverts in five upazilas of Panchagarh during the current year.

The Asian Development Bank under 13 rural development projects is providing monetary assistance for the scheme.

About 80 per cent work will be completed by August, it is hoped.

Four persons were killed several others injured in separate road accidents here, according to the police and hospital sources.

Rehana Begum (28), wife of Wahidul Karim Bablu of Chiripatty under Dinajpur Town was seriously injured when a tractor collided with a minibus. The driver and helper of the bus and Rehan's baby received minor injuries while Rehana who was seriously injured was rushed to the Dinajpur General Hospital where the doctors declared her dead. The baby was saved miraculously with slight injuries.

Police seized the tractor but the driver fled away.

In another incident at Balubari under Dinajpur town a speeding truck dashed one motorcycle coming from opposite direction injuring three people. Seriously injured Ratan Kumar (35) was admitted to the General Hospital while others were released after first aid. The truck driver, however, managed to escape.

Three people were killed on the spot when a tractor fell down on the labours standing nearby. Birul upazila police said. The victims were identified as Sateyandra (27) and Parbasha (28) both from Birul upazila and Taslim (32), helper of the ill fated tractor. The bodies were sent to morgue for autopsy. Cases have been registered in this regard.

Titas Gas goes to Mymensingh in Sept

From Our Correspondent

NETRAKONA, July 26 : Mymensingh town will come under the faculty to Titas Gas supply from September this year with the completion of the Taka 322 crore Brahmaputra basin project, according to a Titas Gas source.

The project funded by Asian Development Bank (ADB) will also facilitate consumers in Netrakona, Kishoreganj, Sherpur, Jamalpur, Trishal, Valuka and Gaffarganj.

The proposed 100 megawatt power station in Mymensingh will also get energy from the project. In the 20 years perspective of the project, 238 industries, 874 commercial and 84,833 domestic lines will be installed.

The project which was approved in 1989, has the provisions for supplying gas to the

western part of the country by setting up pipes on Jamuna bridge.

The project is now supplying gas to Jamuna Fertilizer Factory. The factory will go into operation in full swing from July and will consume as much as 40 million cubic feet of gas a day.

One electrocuted

A local businessman was electrocuted while trying to bring out some salt bags from his godown at Barhata road of the town.

Family sources said the victim Swapna Kumar Shaha (36), suddenly came in contact with a live electric wire and raised alarm. He was rushed to the Sadar Hospital where the doctors declared him dead.

Poultry rearing plan in cluster villages

From Our Correspondent

KISHOREGANJ, July 26 : A scheme has been taken up to distribute 540 HYV ducks and 106 HYV hens worth Taka 35,040 free of cost among the 146 distressed families of nine cluster villages in six upazilas of the district.

According to the Agricultural Extension Department source, 32 ducks and 32 hens will be distributed under Swanirwar programme among the 16 families of Parabhangta cluster village of Kishoreganj Sadar upazila, 250 ducks among the 50 families of Palatanda cluster village of Karimganj upazila, 40 ducks among the eight families of Kamalpur cluster village of Mitamin upazila, 78 ducks and 52 hens among the 26 families of Hossaindi and Charkama cluster village of Pakundia upazila, 44 ducks and 22 hens among the 22 families of the Achanpur and Balladi cluster villages of Bajitpur upazila and 96 ducks among the 24 families of Chayasuti and Manuharpur cluster villages of Kultarhar upazila.

Deputy Director (AED) Kishoreganj said that the distribution has already been started. AED has also set up 290 vegetables demonstration plots in nine cluster villages in the district to acquaint the farmers with the modern methods of cultivation during the current season.

The monthly law and order committee meeting of Kishoreganj district was held at the conference hall of the Deputy Commissioner with

Kazi Nastrul Islam, Deputy Commissioner in the chair recently.

It was attended by Azizur Rahman, Additional Deputy Magistrate, Lutfur Rahman, SP, Md Musharrif Hossain Bhuayan, ASP Sadar circle and ASP Hossainpur circle, Md Lutfur Rahman, Upazila Chairman and the UNO's of all the upazilas, officials and other members of the committee.

The overall law and order situation prevailing in the town and other places of the district was reviewed in the meeting and the members of the law enforcing agencies were directed to gear up their activities for further improvement of law and order situation.

429 edn institutions damaged by floods in Maulvi Bazar

From Our Correspondent

MAULVI BAZAR, July 26 : The devastating flood of May this year caused severe damage to the education institutions in Maulvi Bazar district.

Maulvi Bazar district education office sources said total 429 educational institutions have been damaged. Of these about 74 have been totally and 345 have been damaged partially. Seventy four schools and madrasahs are still close now.

When contacted district education authority source told the newsmen that they have no fund to repair all these damaged institutions. "We are preparing a detailed report on the extent of damages and requirement of fund for the re-

pair work," said the source.

4 die from dog bite

Four persons died from dog bite in Tulkhana Mohalla of Baniachong upazila recently.

The victims are Shahinur (14), son of Altab Hussain, Mujib (8), son of Faziul Miah, Chhanu (12), son of Garib Hussain and Abu (10).

In another incident, Abdul Motin (25) of Rekh Mohalla under the same upazila died from snake bite.

One Ayoub Ullah (60) of Sherpur area of Maulvi Bazar Sadar upazila drowned in the river Kushiyara. His body was

found after five days of incident near Pechi Bazar.

An excellent circular

The rickshaw drivers Union of Kulsura Upazila under Maulvi Bazar district recently distributed an excellent circular among its members and it has appreciated by all.

Prices of hides and skins down

MAULVI BAZAR, July 26 : The prices of hides and skins of sacrificed animals have shown a downward trend in most of the greater Sylhet district this year, reports UNB.

According to sources, hides and skins of cows and goats have decreased by Tk 300 and Tk 100 per piece respectively.

Now, a standard size of cow's skin is being sold at Tk 300 as against Tk 600 last year and goat's skin at Tk 50 as against Tk 150.

It is learnt that the prices have come down due to less demand of the purchasers.



RAJBARI : Shortage of railway bogies and irregular train service cause much sufferings to the passengers. Photo shows passengers travelling on footboard and engine rickling their lives. — Star photo

10 absconding criminals held

From Our Correspondent

MAULVI BAZAR, July 26 : Kulsura Thana police arrested 10 absconding criminals from different villages of Hazipur Union under Kulsura Upazila.

Chicken pox breaks out in B'baria

From Our Correspondent

BRAHMANBARIA, July 24 : Chicken pox has broken out in Brahmanbaria district.

The worst affected areas of the district are Sarial, Nabinnagar, Nasirnagar and Brahmanbaria Sadar upazilas.

According to the reports, 50 persons were affected by the disease. Meanwhile, it also broke out in an epidemic form at Barura and Makandapur under Sarial and Sadar upazila recently. The people of the affected areas have urged the authorities concerned to take necessary steps to combat the disease.

Smuggled goods recovered

Smuggled goods worth Taka 10,60,550 were seized and one person was arrested by the BDR personnel headed by Captain Zail of Kalicatcha 32 Battalion under Brahmanbaria district, in anti-smuggling drive at Baghasua and Kuttapara under Sarail upazila recently.

According to the reports, the seizure included 1,623 pieces of Indian sarees, 1,502 metres of cloth and some taxi spare parts. One Feruz was arrested and others were managed to escape.

A case was filed in this connection with Sarail Thana.

Road in bad shape

Two highways connecting the district town with Sarail and Kasha upazilas are in bad shape causing untold sufferings to the travellers.

Innumerable potholes and cracks have developed at different points on Katatia, Kuttapara, Saydabad to Kasha and Islamabad to Barura roads making vehicular journey hazardous and risky. Accidents have become frequent on the routes.

Vehicle owners complained that they are incurring loss in repairing their vehicles. They urged the Roads and Highways authorities to take immediate steps in this regard.

Wheat procurement faces setback

JHENIDAH, July 26 : Wheat procurement target has been facing a setback in the district due to its higher prices in the local markets than procurement rate, reports UNB.

According to official sources, the procurement target has been fixed at 2,000 metric tons in six upazilas of the district. But so far about 299 MTs of wheat have been procured, the sources added.

Upazila-wise breakup of the target is as follows : Sadar 300 metric tons (MTs), Saikupa 300 Mts, Harinakunda 100 Mts, Kaliganj 400 Mts, Kotchandpur 200 Mts and Moheshpur 700 Mts.

A total of nine procurement centres were opened in six upazilas of the district.

The wheat is being sold between Tk 240 and 250 per mounds in the local markets as against the procurement rate of Tk 220.

Smuggled goods seized

Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) seized smuggled goods worth about Tk 9.63 crore from different places of four northern districts during the last six months.

BDR sources said contraband's worth about Tk six crore were recovered while being smuggled into the country and illegal goods worth about Tk 3 crore were seized while being smuggled out of the country.

The incoming contraband included sugar, cattleheads, spices, imitation ornaments while goods going out of the country included VCPs, copper wire, watches, spare parts and fish.

A total of 142 smugglers were arrested in this connection.

Skin of Royal Bengal Tiger recovered

From Our Correspondent

BAGERHAT, July 26 : Morrelganj police under Bagerhat district arrested three persons and recovered skin of a Royal Bengal Tiger of Sundarban Forest recently.

Acting on a secret information, a police squad of Morrelganj PS raided the house of one Abdur Rahman Khan of village Amurbunia under Morrelganj upazila and recovered the skin after searching the house. Police also arrested Abdur Rahman Khan, Nur Mohammad Khan and Abdul Ali Mullick in this connection. Police lodged a case with Morrelganj PS in this connection.

Skin of live bullock belonging to one Al-haj Kherajuddin of village Tengrakhal under Kachua upazila was stripped off at night recently.

Arms recovered, 2 arrested in Rangpur

RANGPUR, July 26 : Police arrested Wednesday two people with one pipe gun, two rounds of bullets, one cocktail and a knife from Jahaj Company area of the town, reports UNB.

Acting on a tip, police raided the area and arrested Ramjan Ali (38), and Abdus Sattar (35), while another accomplice managed to escape by a motor cycle.

According to their confessional statements they were preparing to commit a dacoity in the area.

A case has been lodged in this connection.