

**Upazila roundup**

**NARAYANGANJ  
Drug bank opens**

Sept 3 : A drug bank was opened in a 200-bed hospital here today, reports UNB.  
State Minister for Post and Telecommunication M Shamsul Islam inaugurated the drug bank.  
Poor and helpless patients of the hospital will be provided with medicine free of cost from the medical bank established with the patronage of Narayanganj Inner Wheel Club.  
The State Minister said the government was determined to fulfill the basic needs of the people and urged the doctors to reach medicare facility to the common man.  
Later, he visited the telephone exchange here.  
Earlier, the minister inaugurated a week-long tree plantation programme sponsored by the Narayanganj New Town Rotary Club.

**MAULVI BAZAR  
2.68 lakh acres  
put under Aman  
cultivation**

Sept 3 : About 2.68 lakh acres of land have been brought under Aman cultivation in six upazilas of the district during the current season, reports UNB.  
According to the Agricultural Extension Department, high yielding variety of Aman and pajam have been cultivated on 2.06 lakh acres and local variety on 62,004 acres.  
Bangladesh Agricultural Development Corporation (BADCO) has distributed seeds, fertilizers, insecticides and other inputs to the farmers for proper implementation of the scheme.  
Bangladesh Krishi Bank and other commercial banks have already disbursed loans to make the plan a success.  
Besides, Agricultural Extension Department has arranged 35 demonstration plots for teaching modern methods of Aman cultivation.

**CHANDPUR  
15000 saplings  
distributed**

Sept 3 : About 15 thousand saplings of different varieties of trees have been planted in different parts of Sadar upazila in last two months, reports UNB.  
According to Forest Department, the saplings included Guava, Jackfruits, Lebu, Wood-apple, Amra, Olive, Sharifa, Zambura, and many other fruit-bearing saplings while non-fruit-bearing saplings include Mehagoni, Shishu, Raintree, Shikrorei, Arjini, Champa, Bakul, Krishnachura, Akashmoni etc. which are helpful for making furniture.  
The saplings have been planted in the school, college and office premises.

**FARIDPUR  
New project  
to finance small  
enterprises**

Sept 3 : A Small Enterprise Development Project (SEDP) has been launched under private initiative to create employment opportunities through establishment of small and cottage industries, reports UNB.  
The project, financed jointly by Norad and Uttara Bank will disburse Tk 10.8 crore among the entrepreneurs in Madaripur and Faridpur districts.  
It aims at creating 3600 new jobs by financing establishment, development and expansion of 1200 cottage and small scale industries and trading ventures.  
A Promotor said that 25 per cent of the total fund is reserved and will be disbursed only among the women entrepreneurs.  
He further disclosed that 10 per cent of the total fund of the project is shared by the Uttara Bank and 90 per cent is funded by Norad.  
A function was arranged in connection with first disbursement of sanctioned loan to four entrepreneurs here at Uttara Bank premises on Aug 21.

**RANGAMATI  
Forged currency  
notes detected  
in Sonali Bank**

Sept 3 : Sonali Bank officials have detected forged currency notes and apprehended two persons, police sources said here today, reports UNB.  
The bank seized Tk 3,500 in seven Tk 500 denomination notes from their cash counter which was produced for change into smaller denomination.

The bank officials informed the police and the producer and his associate were taken into custody.  
The persons who were allegedly involved in forging currency and circulation them were said to be the members of an organised group. The arrested persons were identified as Sadhan Masik Karbari (38), son of Dharma Mohan Karbari and Khichen Marma (24), son of Mongma Sui Marma. Both of them hail from Bonarupa of Rangamati.  
A case has been instituted with Rangamati Kotwali police in this connection.

**BOGRA  
Excise officials  
asked to check  
tax evasion**

Sept 3 : State Minister for Finance M Mojib Rahman yesterday asked the excise officials to take effective measures for checking tax evasion, reports BSS.  
The State Minister, while visiting the Shantahar Customs Station here, said tendency of tax evasion was higher in our country.  
He urged the excise officials to increase realisation of tax to help mobilise internal resources and rise above criticisms made against them by the people.  
"Without mobilising local resources the development activities of the country cannot be accelerated with only foreign assistance," he said.  
Mr Mojib also addressed a meeting of cross section of people at Adamdighi.  
He called upon the people there to participate spontaneously in the coming referendum.

**JHENIDAH  
Dacoits loot  
valuables from  
coach passengers**

Sept 3 : Night coach dacoity was committed a Choraheel in Shailkupa upazila on Jhenidah-Kushtia highway on Sunday night. It is reported that a gang of dacoits numbering about ten barricaded the road.  
When the Kushtia bound night coach of Suman Paribahan from Dhaka reached Choraheel at 3 a.m. the dacoits attacked the passengers with sharp weapons and decamped with cash and other valuables worth about Taka 50 thousands and sneaked in the dark.

**MYMENSINGH  
3 policemen  
suspended**

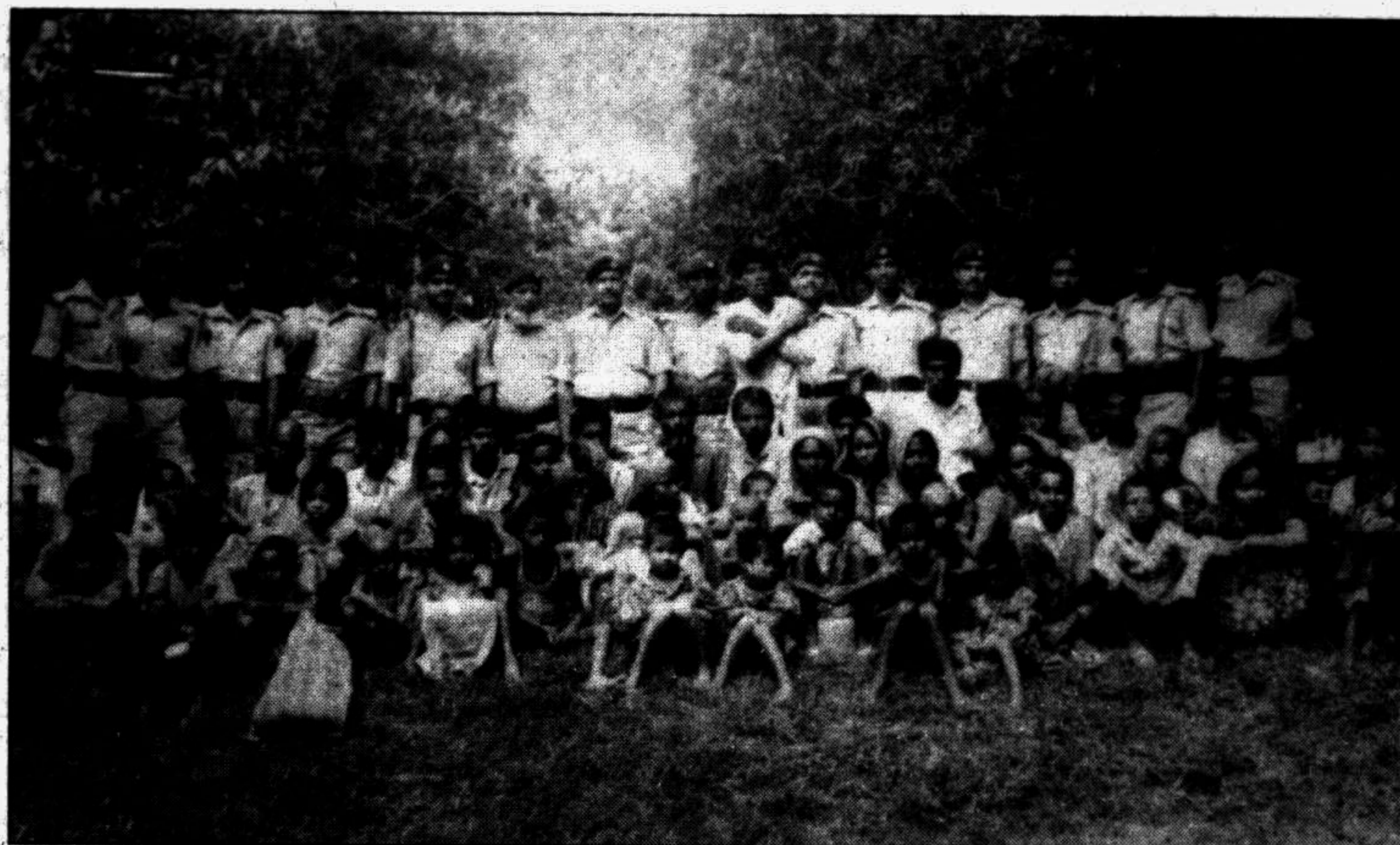
Sept 3 : Three police personnel including an ASI of Kotwali police station were suspended after four arrested persons escaped from the thana prison, official sources said. The sources said four persons arrested on various charges and kept in the thana prison escaped in the early hours of Saturday. The Police Super visited the spot and ordered suspension of three police personnel on charges of negligence of duty. The suspended police personnel are ASI Tomjuddin, constables Azizul Hoque and MD Mirza Alam.

**BRAHMANBARIA  
One killed in  
clash over  
fishing**

Sept 3 : Surujmia (40) was killed and three others were injured seriously in a clash between two rival groups for catching fish at Mallihata under Brahmanbaria Sadar upazila yesterday morning. According to police, two rival groups armed with lethal weapons clashed for fishing in a water body.  
As a result, one person was killed on the spot and three others were injured. The body was sent to Sadar Hospital for autopsy. A case was filed with Brahmanbaria police in this connection.

**MAULVI BAZAR  
30 HSC examinees  
expelled**

Sept 3 : At least 30 HSC examinees were expelled for adopting unfair means in the examinations in seven centres of the district, reports UNB.  
Of them, 13 examinees were expelled on the first day, five on the second day and 12 on the third day of the examinations, official sources said.  
District administration has taken strict measures to maintain law and order in the examination centres.



**CNAWABGANJ:** Sixty-two persons including 30 babies and 15 women rescued by the BDR jawans of 31 Battalion from the clutches of human trafficker recently. The rescued persons were brought from Comilla and Brahmanbaria to smuggle out to India and Pakistan. — Star photo.

**Jute markets dull all over,  
farmers at stake**

From Our Correspondent

**CHUADANGA, Sept 3:** Jute market throughout the district is too dull now. Jute in the local markets are being sold between Taka 270 and 280 per maund.  
Jute purchasing agencies neither in public nor in private sectors have opened their purchasing centres in any place of the district. As a result, the jute growers have been suffering much.  
During the current jute cultivation season, over one lakh bales of raw jute are expected to be produced in the district.  
The jute production in Chuadanga district is very encouraging this year. The growers have alleged that they have to sell their produce at a price lower than that cost of production.  
The production cost of per maund jute is nearly four hundred per maund, according to

growers' estimate.  
According to a survey conducted by this correspondent the jute markets throughout Chuadanga district were still dull and the growers level price is yet to cross 300 per maund in most of the places. There is no purchasing centres of BJMC and BJC in the district. As a result the sufferings of the jute growers of the district know no bounds.

Chuadanga district covers a vast border areas with India. The jute produced along the border area villages of Jibannagar and Damurhuda upazilas of the district needs immediate purchase. Otherwise it is feared that the jute produced in the border area villages of the said two upazilas of the district might be smuggled one of the country.

UNB from Jamalpur adds: Jute growers are being forced to sell their produce at prices below the production cost due to absence of government purchasing centres and buyers.  
Local people said the district recorded bumper production of jute this year. Fresh jute has already flooded the markets, but the growers are not getting reasonable price of their produce.  
Market sources said fresh jute is now selling at Tk 125 to 150 per maund while the official sources put the production cost of per maund jute at Tk 350 in the district.  
It is feared that if fair price is not ensured a large quantity of jute would be smuggled out to India.

**C'nawabganj**  
Our Chapainawabganj Correspondent adds: Low price

of jute and inadequate bank loan discourage the farmers of Chapainawabganj district to cultivate jute.  
The production target of jute in the district has not been achieved during the last five years due to low price of the produce.  
Having been deprived of price of jute from consecutive five years the growers of this district have reduced their acreage of jute cultivation to a great extent.  
Chapainawabganj district is a good place for the production of jute seeds. But the jute seed growers are also deprived of the actual price of seeds.  
When asked a jute cultivator told that they now cultivate jute only for ropes and jute sticks to meet up their own requirements.  
This awful condition is prevailing all over the country.

**Meghna devours 1500 dwellings  
in Chandpur Sadar**

From Our Correspondent

**CHANDPUR, Sept 3:** The mighty Meghna devoured 1500 dwellings in Hanarchar Union under Chandpur Sadar upazila.  
As a result, about five thousand people were rendered homeless during the last few days. It is reported that about

one kilometre area under Hanarchar Union were eroded. Four village of Hanarchar Union were badly affected by the erosion. The badly affected villages are Sadullahpur, Gobindapur, Mirzapur and Hanarchar. Hundreds of ero-

sion affected victims are preparing to migrate to the town and other places in search of their livelihood while some of the victims have taken shelter on the embankment of Chandpur Irrigation project. Hanarchar Primary School, one mosque and one bazar have already been eroded. More schools and houses may be washed away very soon by the erosion of the river. Prof Md Abdullah MP told this correspondent that the erosion of the river Meghna is continuing in the area alarmingly. He visited the affected areas and assured them of necessary help. The people of the area are very busy in dismantling their houses. People are very panicky.

**Adulterated foodstuffs on sale**  
Meanwhile, adulterated and uncovered foodstuffs are being sold in hotels and restaurants in Chandpur district.  
It is reported that a section of dishonest and illiterate persons have been selling adulterated and uncovered foodstuffs in different hotels and restaurants in Chandpur town. Besides adulterated foodstuffs are being sold in seven upazila markets. Rotten food is also being sold in the hotels and restaurants.  
Innocent people are suffering from various diseases like diarrhoea and dysentery after

eating adulterated and uncovered foodstuffs. There are sanitary inspectors in the district. It is alleged that they do not take any action for selling these adulterated and uncovered foodstuffs.  
There are a large number of hotels and restaurants in Chandpur town. The owners of the hotels and restaurants are running their business in an unhygienic condition.

**Mujib's death  
anniversary**

The 16th death anniversary of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman was observed at Chandpur with due solemnity.  
Awami League, Chhatra League, Jubo League, Sramik League jointly brought out a procession in the town. They chanted slogans demanding trial of the killers of Bangabandhu. The programmes of the day included Quran Khwani, Milad Mahafil and discussion meeting. Bangladesh Awami League Chandpur unit organised a discussion meeting at Chandpur Town Hall. The meeting was presided over by Advocate Abdul Awal and addressed among others, by Abdul Karim Patwari, Advocate Ruhul Amin, Advocate Abu Zafar Mahmuddin, Mujibur Rahman Bhuiyan and Advocate Strajul Islam.

**Landlords realise  
excessive rent**

From Our Correspondent

**MAULVI BAZAR, Sept 3:** Houses with "To let" signs are rarely seen in this busy district town for quite a long time. Absence of accommodation has caused considerable rise in the rate of rent. The rent for a small family quarter is not less than Taka 1500 per month.  
Besides, advance amount is charged from the tenants. Shortage of residential houses and rise in monthly rent have hit the fixed and low income group people badly.  
A large number of employees working in private and

government offices live alone in messes or stay in lodging leaving behind their families. As a result, their children are being deprived of proper care and educational facilities. Increased house rents will continue till new homes are built. Non-availability of land at reasonable rate and high price of construction materials have discouraged people to build houses. Affluent section of the people of the town is reluctant to construct residential houses because of heavy financial involvement and high rate of interest in HBFC loan.

**Spurious antibiotic  
injections recovered**

**FARIDPUR, Sept 3:** Faridpur Kotwali police recovered 297 ampules of spurious antibiotic injections from local medicine market and arrested one person in this connection, reports BSS.  
According to officer-in-charge of Kotwali police station, one Abu Zafar Mallick brought 297 ampules of a foreign made (Holland) Penadur La injections (Penicillin) to sell to the druggists. Abu Zafar demanded relatively lower price than the selling price of the drug which evoked suspicion among the police of the matter.  
Police arrested the person and recovered the spurious drugs. The injections were tested later by the local Drug Superintendent who found simple white powder but the containers and labels were almost perfect.  
Each ampule is sold in the market at Taka 80 while the accused demanded only Taka 40.

According to an official source, a Village Defence Party (VDP) leader chased one Mustafizur Rahman Mukul (17) for his suspicious movements in village Gohsepur under Boalmari upazila of Faridpur district. The VDP leader arrested him and recovered one pipe gun and two rounds of cartridges.  
Later on, he was handed over to police. The accused confessed that being unnerved by recent police operation he had taken shelter in the village.

**Arms recovered**  
One unauthorised arm and live cartridges were recovered from the possession of a youngman who was arrested in Boalmari upazila recently.

**Tributes paid  
to Nazrul**

**TANGAIL, Sept 3:** Tributes were paid to the national poet Kazi Nazrul Islam at a function on Monday organised by Tangail Nazrul Shena School to mark the 15th death anniversary of the poet, reports BSS.  
The function was inaugurated by Prof Maniruzzaman, Executive Director of Nazrul Institute, Dhaka. Noted poet and literature Dr Ashraf Siddiqui was the chief guest of the function. Presided over by Mr Aftabuzzaman Khan Firoz, among others Khilkhil Kazi and Mishti Kazi spoke on the occasion. Dr Ashraf Siddiqui discussed various aspects of the life and works of the rebel poet and said Nazrul fought relentlessly against all sorts of injustice and oppression during the British Rule.  
The function was followed by a musical soiree.

**Notes from  
Cox's Bazar**

**From Our Correspondent**  
**COX'S BAZAR, Sept 3:** Diarrhoea has claimed 15 lives within 10 days in Moheshkhali upazila leaving several others affected in Moheshkhali and Teknaf upazilas under the district.

Malnutrition and consumption of stale food are attributed to the outbreak of the disease. A large number of tubercles is still lying inoperative in different rural areas resulting in scarcity of pure drinking water. Use of kutcha latrines and defecation in open places which is known to be another reason for the fast spread of the disease.  
The worst affected areas are Sholapur, Shaplapur unions in Moheshkhali and Baharchara, Shahpur Deep in Teknaf upazila under Cox's Bazar district.

**Employment exchange  
centre needed**  
Absence of an employment exchange centre in Cox's Bazar district is causing much problems to the job-seekers. They have to travel to another district to enroll their names. The job-seekers complained that they have to spend a lot of money for the purpose. They urged the concerned authorities to establish an employment exchange centre in the district.

**Child labour**  
Number of child labourers is on the increase in the district town and its adjoining areas with the influx of floating population in the district. Though the labour laws do not permit to engage children under 16 years of age group in hard work, none pays heed to the matter. A large number of children is being compelled to take odd jobs their livelihood. They are mostly engaged as helpers in tempoo, restaurants, hotels, brickfields and different workshops while minor girls are engaged in household works.

**105 arrested  
in Kushtia**

**KUSHTIA, Sept 3:** Police so far arrested 105 persons and recovered 14 pipe guns, 20 pistols, one shutter, 20 rifle ammunition, five cartridges and five ramdao from their possessions under operation 'Doorbar' began on August 18, reports BSS.  
Police said of the arrested persons some are accused of various crimes and cases were lodged against them. They were absconding. Other arrested persons include terrorists, hijackers, burglars, drug addicts and possessors of illegal arms.

**Dialysis of kidney  
patient done in  
Barisal**

**BARISAL, Sept 3:** A successful peritorial dialysis of a kidney patient was done for the first time in Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital on Friday, reports BSS.  
The dialysis was conducted by Dr Sufy Mohammad Suhail. The condition of the patient, Abu Bakar, was stated to be satisfactory. Earlier there was no kidney ward in the hospital.



**KHULNA:** Principal Md. Mazharul Hannan, honorary Assistant Secretary General of Family Planning Association of Bangladesh (FPAB) addressing the debate competition organised by FPAB at Govt. Coronation Girls School recently. — Star photo