

Upazila roundup

SIRAJGANJ
Diarrhoea breaks out

From Our Correspondent
Sept 25: Diarrhoea has broken out in all the nine upazilas of Sirajganj district. The worst affected upazilas are Shahzadpur, Sirajganj Sadar, Kazipur, Belkuchi and Kamarkhanda. Civil Surgeon office has confirmed only six deaths — two in Sadar, one in Belkuchi and three in Kamarkhanda upazilas in September. But unofficial death toll rose to 62. Every day new patients are being admitted to upazilas health complexes.

District health authority prefers to suppress the death reports, it is gathered. However, considering the situation Ministry of Health and Family Planning has deputed Deputy Secretary, Administration, Syed Md Hussain in Sirajganj district to intensify protective measures in diarrhoea affected areas of different upazilas.

A source of Civil Surgeon office informed that 79 medical teams and nine special teams are working in the district.

KISHOREGANJ
One killed over brawl

From Our Correspondent
Sept 25: A man was killed and his two brothers were seriously injured when their uncle along with his sons attacked them with deadly weapons over a brawl on trifling matter here Sunday.

According to police, a quarrel took place between the children of the families of the victims and their uncle Osman of village Swalpa Maria in Sadar upazila following which he along with his sons beat them up mercilessly.

As a result, Abu Bakar (35) died on way to Sadar hospital. His two brothers Abu Taher (30) and Abu Kalam (26) were admitted to Mymensingh Medical College Hospital and Kishoreganj Sadar hospital respectively. Their condition was stated to be critical.

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

KUSHIYA
Statue of Gopinath stolen

Sept 25: Hindu community of the district brought out a large silent procession in the town Monday demanding the arrest of burglars who stole the statue of Gopinath and Radharani from Gopinath Zeor temple, reports UNB.

The couple statue was stolen by burglars at the early hours of Sunday.

The processionists, wearing black badges, paraded the main streets of the town. Later they handed over a memorandum to the Deputy Commissioner demanding immediate recovery of the statue.

Meanwhile, District administration constituted a two-member committee headed by a first class magistrate to enquire into the affairs.

GAIBANDHA
4 get life-term for murder

Sept 25: The District and Sessions Judge Abdul Hye sentenced four people for life term for killing Yunus Ali of village Kashabari under Palashbari upazila of the district, reports UNB.

They were also fined Tk 5000 each, in default, to suffer rigorous imprisonment for one month more.

The convicts are Jasim Uddin and his brother Saemuddin of village Chakbala, Rahim Uddin of village Kashabari and Nazmul Haque of Shaguna village under Palashbari upazila of the district.

The prosecution story, in brief, is that the accused people stabbed to death Yunus Ali while he was returning home at night one year ago.

Later Palashbari police took up the case and submitted charge-sheet against the accused.

BARISAL
10 lakh saplings to be distributed

Sept 25: Forest Department has taken up a programme to distribute over 10 lakh saplings of various trees in five southern districts, reports UNB.

The districts are; Barisal, Khulna, Bagerhat, Jhalakathi and Pirojpur.

Official sources said, saplings will be distributed from different nurseries of these districts.

Works on BIP start soon

The second phase works on Bhola Irrigation Project (BIP) will be started soon in Daulat Khan, Charfession and Tazumuddin upazilas of the district, reports UNB.

The project will be implemented with an estimated cost of Tk 175.83 crore including foreign component of Tk 30.24 crore.

According to official sources, Bangladesh Water Development Board, Bangladesh Rural Development Board, Bangladesh Agriculture Extension Department, Bangladesh Roads and Highways Department and Local Government Engineering Bureau will jointly implement the project.

After completion, a total of 42,500 hectares of land will get irrigation facilities.

JHENDAH
Absence of UNOs hampers administrative works

From Our correspondent
Sept 25: Absence of two Upazila Nirbahi Officers (UNOs) in Kalganj and Shailkupa of the district has been hampering administrative activities.

The UNOs were transferred from both the upazilas in last August and the upazila magistrates took over the charges on their behalf.

In addition to their duty, the magistrates are burdened with various functions of the UNOs. As a result, administrative bottlenecks have been created much to the inconvenience of the local people.

Allocation of funds for the development projects and functioning of upazila parishes have already come to a standstill.

People have urged the concerned authorities to fill up the vacant posts of UNOs immediately.

KHAGRACHARI
85 primary teachers to be recruited

Sept 25: The hill district local government parishad has decided to recruit 85 primary teachers to fill up the vacant posts, officials said, reports UNB.

The decision was taken at a meeting held on September 11 and 12 at parishad conference room presided by its Chairman, Saniran Dewan.

Of the total, 53 posts will be filled from among the tribals and 32 from the non-tribals, according to the ratio of population. The break up of tribals for appointment were 26 for Chakmas, 14 for Tripuras and 13 for Marmas.

The sources said formal appointment letters will be issued by the end of this month.

The local government parishes in Chittagong Hill Tracts are entrusted to recruit the teachers as a part of administrative autonomy granted to them in 1989.



NAOGAON: A teacher taking class under the open sky in absence of a school building at a remote village of the district. — Star photo

Most school buildings in rural areas dilapidated
Students sit on mat : no chair for teachers

From Our Correspondent
Dinajpur

Our Dinajpur Correspondent adds : Over 6,000 primary schools have been running in a very poor condition and about 90 per cent of them are now on the verge of extinction. These 6,000 primary schools which started just after independence have neither buildings nor furnitures in class rooms. Rural people urged the government several times to take up management of all these schools. The demand is yet to be fulfilled.

The government has decided to pay Taka 500 each as salary to the teachers of primary schools. About 20 high schools of 14 union parishes under Sadar upazila in Dinajpur district are beset with manifold problems depriving 10,000 students of proper education. These schools are facing shortage of

accommodation, furniture and equipment, laboratory and necessary appliances for games and sports. Most of the school buildings having cracks in the roofs and walls soak water during rainy season. These may collapse at any moment.

Moreover, in the absence of doors and windows, cattle and dogs move freely in the classrooms. Almost all the schools face scarcity of safe drinking water.

Meanwhile, tuition fees have been increased in most of the schools recently. Consequently poor students are facing economic hardships.

Narail
Our Correspondent from Narail says that a large number of government and non-government primary schools in three upazilas of the district are beset with manifold problems obstructing the progress of universal primary education programme.

Shortage of teachers, accommodation, lack of necessary appliances, paucity of drinking water, shortage of funds, furniture and other amenities constitute some of the major problems.

According to the district primary education office, there are 287 government and 82 non-government primary schools in the district. Of them 98 are government and 33 non-government in Sadar, 98 government and 21 non-government in Lohagara and 91 government and 28 non-government in Kalia upazilas of the district.

The total number of students in the government and non-government schools are 10,9,830. Of them 16,397 are non-government school students. Most of the students do not have adequate number of benches to sit on. As such they are compelled to sit on bricks or mats. In some schools there is no chair even for the teachers. Blackboards, chalk, dusters and other teaching appliances are also unavailable in most cases.

Due to shortage of funds the managements are not in a position to repair the school buildings and even to pay regular salary to the teachers. Ichorbaha, Ramsiddi, Duttapara, Nakashi, Kamal Protab and Mirapara government primary schools under Sadar upazila, Rajapur and Kumari government primary schools under Lohagara upazila and Mahishkhola, Amtatala, New Model Gouripur, Dutkura, Barakalia, Joynagar, Purba, Jamrildanga and Pakhigura government primary schools under Kalia upazila have been badly damaged by floods, storms, cyclones and other natural calamities during the last few years.

Classes are being held in open fields or under the trees. The local leaders have appealed to the authorities to take effective steps so that the long standing problems of the primary schools are resolved as early as possible.

Mr Ali Hossain, Deputy Commissioner, Narail said that he saw most of the government primary schools awaiting reconstruction in the district.

If the damaged school houses are not reconstructed or repaired immediately the universal primary education would suffer, he added.

34 lakh tons sugarcane likely to be produced in 16 N-dists

From Our Correspondent
DINAJPUR, Sept 25 : More than 34 lakh tons of sugarcane are expected to be produced in 16 northern districts of the country during the current season.

Some 2,28,200 acres of land have been brought under sugarcane cultivation in 16 northern districts of the country during this season. Of the total land, 1,50,200 acres have been brought under Sugar Mills Zone area and the rest 78,000 acres beyond the Sugar Mills Zone areas.

The sugar mills authorities and five commercial banks of the districts will disburse a sum of Taka six crore as loan among the sugarcane cultivators to make the programme a success.

Of the total acreage, some 20,075 acres have been brought under cultivation in Panchagarh district, 43,500 acres in Thakurgaon, 24,200 in Dinajpur, 1,106 acres in Rangpur, 12,624 acres in Gaibandha, 2,040 acres in Lalmonirhat, 1,009 acres in Nilphamari, 900 acres in Kurigram, 23,340 acres in Rajshahi, 7,309 acres in Naogaon, 41,425 acres in Natore, 19,900 acres in Chapainawabganj, 12,382 acres in Bogra, 6,400 acres in Jaipurhat, 5,300 acres in Sirajganj and 5,725 acres in Pabna district.

Power failure
The people of Parbatipur town have been facing much inconvenience due to frequent power failure for the last few weeks.

Almost everyday electric supply is disrupted plunging the town into complete darkness. Students and patients are

Workshop on rights of children held

KOITTA (Mantiganj), Sept 25: A three-day workshop on the rights of the child concluded here today with a call for improving the condition of the disadvantaged children of the country, reports UNB.

Organised by the Bangladesh Shishu Adhikar Forum — national networking agency for the disadvantaged children, the workshop drew up a plan of action for implementing its goals and objectives to be achieved by the year 2000.

Law, order situation improves in Narail

MAGURA, Sept 25 : A review meeting on law and order has expressed satisfaction at the gradual improvement of the situation in the district, reports UNB.

Deputy Commissioner Nirmal Chandra Sarker presided over the meeting held recently, in which the Superintendent of Police, all district level officers and the members of the law and order committee were present.

Bamboo shortage hits construction

MADARIPUR, Sept 25: Shortage of bamboo has been hampering construction and repair works of the thatched houses in the district.

Informed sources said that traditional cottage industry which directly depends upon bamboo is also facing setback.

Further growth of bamboos has been hindered as the farmers are selling off even bamboo roots to the brick manufacturers. Due to shortage of the item the price has increased sharply.

It is gathered that price of a medium size bamboo ranges between Taka 45 and 50. As such majority of the villagers are unable to purchase bamboo to construct houses.

Waiting shed
In absence of waiting shed at Ghatokchar bus stand on Madaripur-Tekarna route passengers have to undergo a lot of troubles. They have to wait under open sky for hours together. Besides, absence of utility services like urinals has

further aggravated the situation.

Mushroom growth of welding shops on the both the sides of the public roads have been causing immense sufferings to the town dwellers.

According to the informed sources, welding works are carried on round the clock causing serious inconvenience to the passersby. Numerous mini engineering workshops have been set up without proper licences, local people alleged.

Notes from Faridpur

From Our Correspondent
FARIDPUR, Sept 25 :

Habibur Rahman, a mason was electrocuted recently near the truck stand of the town. It is reported that the ill-fated mason while working in an under construction building of Rajmoni Boarding fell on the bare electric line accidentally and died on the spot.

One commits suicide
Mrs Kamrunnahar (32), wife of Abdur Sukur Mollah of Kanapur under Sadar Upazila committed suicide by taking poison recently. It is learnt that the victim, mother of four children, had illegal connection with a young man of the neighbouring village. On hearing the illegal affair, Sukur Mollah, the husband of the victim had a quarrel with her and tried to solve the issue but in the night Kamrunnahar took poison and died.

Arms recovered
Kotwali police recovered a sizeable quantity of arms and ammunition from the residence of Kasem Sikder of Osha Laxmipur recently. Acting on a tip, local police raided the house of Kasem Sikder and recovered a pipe gun, sword, Chinese axe, kiriz and ramdao.

It is also reported that the Kotwali police with the help of local people arrested one wanted accused Babu with arms from Alipur area of the town recently.

Seminar on VAT
A seminar on VAT, organised by Faridpur Customs, was held at the local commerce house recently. Presided over by Alhaj Md Firozar Rahman, President of the local Chamber of Commerce and Industries, the seminar was addressed by Mr Mahbubur Rahman, Collector of Customs, Khulna as chief guest.

The seminar was also addressed among others, by Mr Firoz Shah Alam, businessman and other elite of the town. The speakers discussed about the solution of the problems with the introduction of Value Added Tax (VAT).

Building materials scarce
MAGURA, Sept 25 : Construction and renovation of houses are being hampered in four upazilas of the district due to the shortage of building materials.

Prices of brick, cement, sands, timber, bamboo and other materials have registered a rise by about 30 to 35 per cent adversely affecting the buyers.

A bag of cement is being sold between Tk 220 and Tk 240 in the local markets. The dealers have attributed the price hike to short supply of the construction materials.

One truck of bricks is being sold at Tk 3,600 or more at the dictate of the brickfield owners, an official source said.

Timber is sold at Tk 800 per CFT for the lowest quality.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer
PWD Division, Feni

Notice Inviting Tenders

1. Sealed tenders in Bangladesh Form No. 2911 are hereby invited for the undermentioned work from enlisted class-I, II, III civil contractor of PWD and will be received by the undersigned as well as the Executive Engineer, PWD Division, Comilla/Noakhali/B. Baria/Chandpur/Lakshmipur in their respective offices up to 12-00 hrs on 13.10.91 and will be opened on the same day at 12-15 PM in presence of the tenderers who may like to remain present. Each tender shall be in a sealed cover with the name of work superscribed on it.

Gr. No.	Name of work	Estimated cost	Earnt money	Eligibility	Completion time from work order
Gr.I.	Conversion of two rooms into bathroom & toilet at 1st floor of Chhagalnaiya Shisu Shadan buildings at Feni during the year 1991-92	Tk 1,91,404/-	Tk 3,829/-	Class-I, II, III contractors of PWD	1½ (One and half) month
G.II.	Re-construction of internal approach road (Bituminous carpeting) in front of Shisu Shadan and school buildings of Chhagalnaiya at Feni during the year 1991-92	Tk 1,10,527/-	Tk 2,211	-do -do-	1 (One) month

2. Tender form will be sold up to 12.10.91.
3. Contract documents consisting of BD Form No 2911, tender notice schedule of items additional terms and conditions etc. can be seen and obtained from the office of the all Executive Engineer, under Comilla PWD Circle on payment of usual charges of Tk 400/- (Taka four hundred) (Non-refundable) per set of schedule (Notice inviting tenders, schedule of items additional terms and conditions etc.) and a sum of Tk. 25/- (Taka twenty five) (Non-refundable) per copy of Tender Form No. 2911.
4. The intending tenderers shall have to produce their Registration Book of enlistment letter bearing the photo and full signature of the contractors duly attested by an Executive Engineer of this Deptt. along with challan for depositing the current fees at the time of purchasing of the tender form as in absence of which no tender form will be sold. No complaint in this respects will be entertained.

DFFP(G) 10844-23/9
G-565
Executive Engineer, Feni PWD Division, Feni.