THAKURGAON

BNP biennial confce held

From Our Correspondent

Sept 28: The biennial council meeting of Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP), Thakurgaon district unit was held here at Pourashava Hall recently.

The meeting was presided over by Mr. Toyabur Rahman Ranju while Mr. Mirza Golam Hafiz, Law and Parliament Affairs Minister was the chief guest and Mrs. Khurshid Jahan Haq mohila MP attended as

special guest. The councillors elected Mr. Mirza Fakrul Islam Alamgir, Chairman of Thakurgaon Municipality and Mr. Shamsul Haque Shamu as President and Sceretary respectively. A 75member district committee was elected.

CHUADANGA

20 arrested

From Our Correspondent Sept 28: Chuadanga district police under operation

Doorbar arrested 20 persons and recovered illegal arms from the different areas of four upazilas of Chuadanga district. The upazilas were Chuadanga Sadar, Alamdanga, Damurhuda and Jibannagar.

The recovered illegal arms included one single barrel gun, three pipe guns, one rifle magazine, five rounds of rifle ammunition, four rounds of gun ammunition, three hand bombs, three daggers and a ramdao.

FARIDPUR

Sandhani unit inaugurated

Sept 28: Sandhani donor club, Faridpur unit was inaugurated on September 20 at local Medical Assistant Training School auditorium, reports BSS.

Mr. Md. Abdur Rahim, Deputy Commissioner of Faridpur was the chief guest at the inaugural function while Mr. Md. Abdus Sattar, Police Super, Faridpur, Dr. Kazi Syed Ahmed, Civil Surgeon and Dr. Matiur Rahman, Principal. Medical Assistant Training School were special guests. Dr. Mostafizur Rahman Shahim, President of Sandhani, Faridpur unit Presided over the function.

At the inaugural function ten bags of blood were collected on voluntary basis for Sandhani.

COMILLA

Smuggler jailed Sept 28: Mohd Emdadul

Haque, Additional Sessions Judge sentenced one Manik Mia to suffer two years rigorous imprisonment with fine of Tk 3,000 on charges of smuggling, reports UNB.

Two co-accused Nashu Miah and Abdul Aziz were acquitted of charges brought against

According to the prosecution story, a BDR patrol at North Telabhumi found the three people coming from the side of indian border carrying loads of 80 bundles of yarn on their shoulders.

BDR challenged them and scized the contraband item.

The arrested people were handed over to Brahmanbaria thana and a case was lodged there in April, 1988.

Police after investigation submitted charge-sheet against

The judge after examining the evidences and records awarded the judgement reeently. Pabna

Unknown disease

breaks out Sept 28 : Several people in many flood affected unions of

Bera and Sujanagar upazilas have been gripped by an unknown disease. Symptoms showed the pa

tients were attacked with high fever rising upto 105 degrees which turned them weak and ultimately physically disabled. The disease broke out in

Aminpur, Masumdia, Char Aminpur, Puran Masumdia and other areas and are spreading gradually in more areas of the two upazilas.

When contacted, Civil Surgeon confirmed about the disease and said that a medical team will be sent to the affected areas to take up

necessary measures. Noor Ali Shetkh (38), Liaqut Alf (18), Shatkh Mohammad Abdullah (32), Shahera Khatun (30), Razia Begum (35) of Aminpur, Abu Bakar (27) of Ruppur and Monium Khatun (24) of Puranbharenga have already become disabled.

KISHOREGANJ

Teenage girl violated

From Our Correspondent

Sept 28: A teenage girl was raped at village Pathariapara in Karimganj upazila recently, police said

Fatema Khatun (12) was under treatment at Karimganj Upazila Health Complex. She was later removed to the Mymensingh Medical College Hospital in a critical state.

Fatema, looking for. a job at the Bairab railway station, met Shamsu who lured her of a prospective job and took her to his village at Patharia. He violated her there on

September 22 and left her at the doorstep of the Health Complex in Karimganj. Fatema is the daughter of

Abdul Mannan of village Islampur of Iswarganj upazila Shamsu was later taken into custody where he confessed

his guilt. A case has been registered with the local police. Rajbari

Policemen asked to work with sincerity

Sept 28: Deputy Inspector General of Police of Dhaka range Ashraful Huda called on policemen to discharge their duty with sincerity and devotion to maintain law and order, reports UNB.

Speaking at a function at the local police line Thursday the DIC asked them to build confidence among members of the public and maintain good public relations while carrying out their duties.

Huda called for allout efforts to root out terrorism and indiscipline from the society.

He expressed his satisfaction on the improvement of law and order situation and unauthorised arms recovery in the district.

Later he planted three saplings at the police line premises.

RANGAMATI

3 dacoits held Sept 28: Police arrested three dacoits from village Fashiakhali of Lama upazila here recently, reports UNB.

A gang of 12 dacoits armed with arms and ammunition at tacked the house of one Abdul Barek at Fashiakhali village and asked him to serve them food.

Keeping his unwanted guest waiting, Barek informed the local police who caught redhanded alleged dacoits Ezahar Miah, Seraz Miah and Mozahar Ahmed. The rest managed to

They all hatl from village Napitkhali of Ramu upazila in Cox's Bazar district. MAGURA

45 injured as rival groups clash

Sept 28: About 45 people of village Dairpol under Sreekol union of Sreepur upazila of the district were in ured in a clash between two rival groups, reports UNB.

Twelve of the injured have been admitted to the Magura

According to police, the quarrel ensued recently when one Akhtar Ali, UP member lifted and sold out wheat sanctioned for development of a mosque by the local authority

Out of the sale proceed of Tk 6,000, the member deposited Tk 3,000 only to the mosque committee but the rest of the money was misappropriated.

Local people got furious at this and assaulted the UP member. Soon supporters of the UP member gathered and a serious clash ensued.

Separate cases were filed with Sreepur police in this connection.

Police also arrested people who were allegedly involved in creating violence.

BRAHMANBARIA

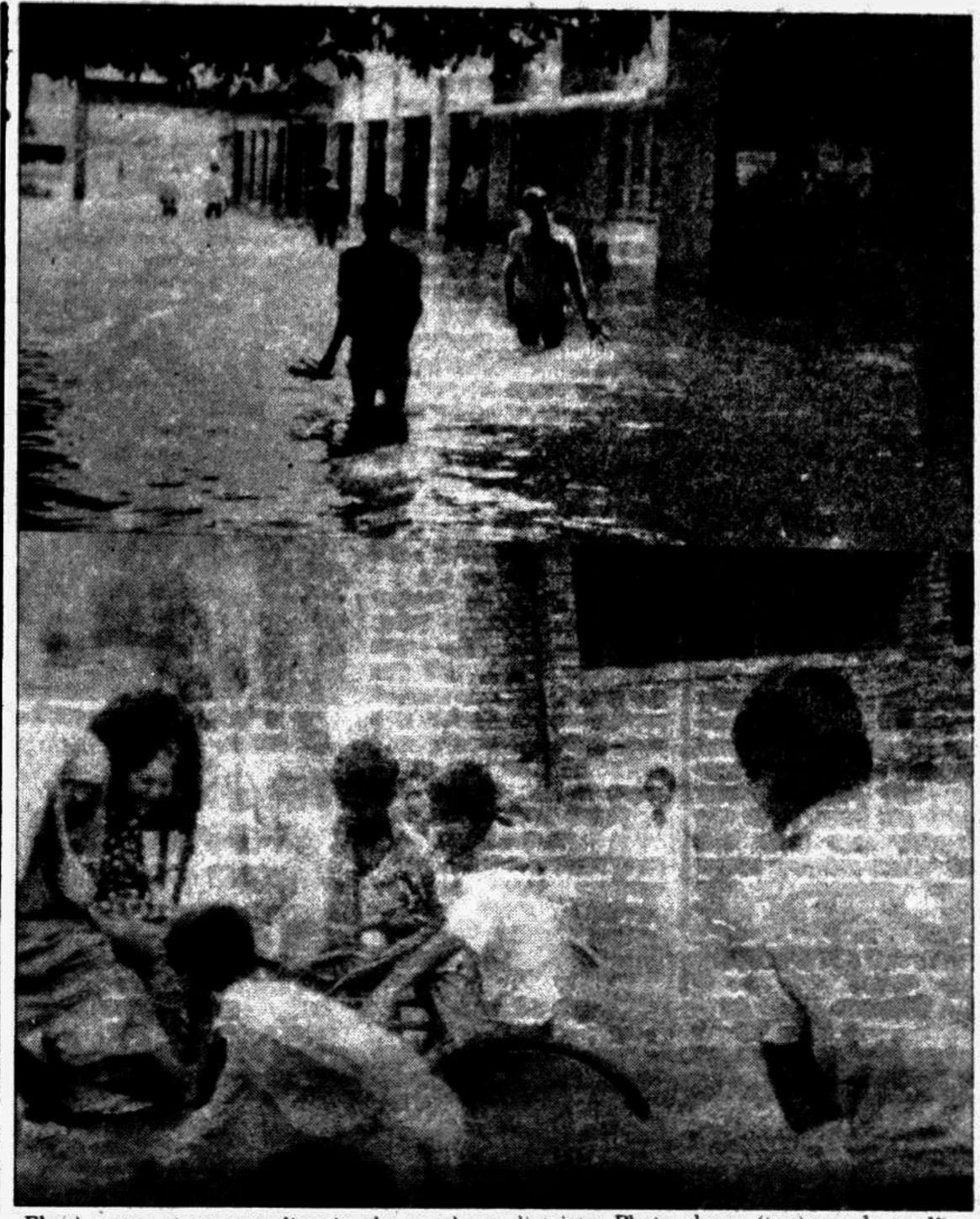
Jute price falls

Sept 28: The price of jute has fallen sharply in all hats and bazars of the districts for want of purchasers, reports

The situation aggravates as all purchasing centres of Bangladesh Jute Mill Corporation have been closed

Jute is being sold below the production cost between Tk 110 and Tk 130 per maund according to quality at all hats and bazars. It was sold between Tk 170 and Tk 180 per maund a few days back.

The middlemen and dealers are taking advantage of the situation and depriving the growers of fair price.



Flood water starts receding in the northern districts. Photo shows (top) people wading through knee-deep water at Gaibandha and (bottom) local youngsters helping a rickshawpuller carrying women passengers to their destination in Dinajpur town. -Star photo

Shantibahini activists kill 2000, abduct 1200 in 12 yrs

RANGAMATI, Sept 28: The outlawed Shantibahini activists killed at least 2,000 people and abducted 1,200 others in last 12 years, unofficial sources said, reports UNB.

Besides Bengali settlers, they included more than 200 tribal children and women. Official sources, however,

confirmed that 1,180 people, including 182 tribals, were killed by the insurgents from 1980 till date. A total of 766 people were

injured and 582, including 181 tribals, were kidnapped by the armed miscreants. About 4,000 received bullet

burn and bomb injuries while 10 per cent sell victims in cross-firing between law enforcing agencies and the armed miscreants.

Killing protested

Another report adds: The local people of Langadu upazila brought out a procession in protest against the killing of two innocent non-tribals by the outlawed Shantibahini last

The processionists paraded the man thoroughfares of the upazila headquarters and chanted slogans condemning the killing.

Later a protest meeting was held with Sardar Ahmed Ali, member of the Rangamati Hill District Local Government

Parishad in the chair. Thousands of agitated people from the remote villages of

the upazila attended the meet-

ing said, Ruhul Amin (40) and Samad Sharif (35) were gunned down by the tribal insurgents on September 19 when a group of povertystricken non-tribals were ex tracting timber in the jungle under Gulshkhali union of Langadu upazila.

killed 9 non-tribals on July 23 and August 18 in the Langado upazila, it was recalled at the meeting.

possible assistance and coop eration by the government.

President of upazila unit of the Awami League, Abul Farooque Khan condemning the killings said killing innocent people, damaging properties and creating panic will

Shantibahini miscreants will do more harm to the trib als than the settlers if they continue to attack the innocent and poor people, he said.

Wild animals destroy

of their jungle habitat have been destroying crops, homes and killing human beings and pets in many parts of the hill

few weeks that all tribal traditional methods failed to keep them off.

flaming torch and bursting crackers the marnuding animals killed at least five people and infured several others. during the last two months.

Thoni Chakma of Manikchari, an unidentified man of Luxmichari, a tribal woman with her child of Naobhanga village of Sadar upazila, à plantation worker of Fahlakhall under Lama upazila. They were trampled to death by wild ele-

Meanwhile, wild boars have been mainly damaging crops and vegetables roaming in herds of 20 or 30 in search of food at night.

During the last 15 days, var ious crops including paddy almost ready for harvest over more than 150 acres of land in eight upazilas of Khagrachar district have totally been damaged by the wild boars, the al fected farmers said.

The worst affected village are Panchari, Materanga Dighinai, Luxmichari, Mohal chart and Manikchart.

increased so much in the last

nabi was observed here in a Despite beating of drums, besitting manner. Special milad mahills and prayers were held in every mosque under Ishurdi upazila.

The deceased are Monghi

Besides, herds of elephants damaged homesteads, rubber plantations, crops and or chards over hundreds of acres of land in the remote villages of Manikcharl, Luxmicharl and Ramgarh upazila in Khagrachari district. Lama upazila in Bandarban and Sadar upazila of Rangamati districts, official sources said.

Massive mustard farming plan in Dinajpur

From Our Correspondent

over 25,000 tons of High Yielding Variety of mustard are expected to be produced under the programme in these The Agricultural Extension

DINAJPUR, Sept 28: The

District Agricultural Extension

Department has taken up a

comprehensive programme to

bring over 50 thousand acres

of land under mustard cultiva-

tion in 13 upazilas of the dis-

trict during the current sea-

Of the total land, some

8,000 acres will be brought

under mustard cultivation in

Sadar upazila, 4,500 acres in

Chirirbandar, 4,100 acres in

Parbatipur, 5,120 acres in

Bochaganj, 3,200 acres in

Kaharol and 3,400 acres of

According to the report,

NAP meeting

held at Ishurdi

From Our Correspondent

ladesh National Awami Party

(NAP), Ishurdi upazila unit

arranged a workers conference at Ishurdi recently. The

conference was presided over

by Alhaj Abul Kalam Azad. Mr

Pankaj Bhattacharya central

leader of NAP in his address

advised the workers to pre-

pare themselves for launching

a countrywide movement for

the emancipation of poor

farmers. NAP ishurdi unit also

arranged a public meeting at

the local bus stand. The meet-

ing presided over by Alhaj Abul

Kalam Azad was also ad-

dressed, among others, by Mr

Noresh Maitra, Moulana

Ahmedur Rahman Azmi and

Mr Pankaj Bhattacharya. Pankaj

Bhattacharya urged the pre-

sent government to implement

the declaration of exemption

of agri-loan upto Taka 5000

ernment should purchase all

jute of the poor farmers at Tk

500 per maund by opening

jute purchasing centres at dif-

Eid-e-Miladunnabi

Aman farming

target not

achieved

From Our Correspondent

get of Aman cultivation in 11

districts of the country has not

been achieved during the cur

sources, the target of Aman

cultivation was fixed at

14,43,785 acres whereas

11,59,283 acres have been

brought under cultivation of

which 3,81,423 acres under

high-yielding variety (HYV) and

only 75,630 acres under local

2.44.869 acres have been

brought under cultivation in

Barisal district, 65,000 acres

in Pirojpur, 37,324 acres in

Jhalakati, 3,27,975 acres in

Patuakhali, 1,32,600 acres in

Borguna, 2,91,650 acres in

Bhola, 11,452 acres in

Faridpur, 2,225 acres in

Madaripur, 906 acres in

Gopalganj, 22,395 acres in

Rajbari and 6,068 acres in

30 arrested

in Sherpur

From Our Correspondent

Sherpur Sadar police arrested

30 persons on various charges

from different parts of the

Sadar upazila during the

tor said that without direct

help of the local people it will

not be possible to establish

Sadar upazila police inspec-

SHERPUR, Sept 28

Sariatpur district.

Operation Doorbar.

crime-free society.

Of the total acreage,

According to the official

rent season.

BARISAL, Sept 28: The tar

Meanwhile, Eid-e-Miladun-

ferent points of Bangladesh.

He also demanded that gov-

including all interests.

ISHURDI, Sept 28: Bang-

land in Phulbari upazila.

Department has taken up necessary measures to supply High Yielding Variety of seeds, fertilizer and irrigation equipment for the implementation of the programme. The Bangladesh Krishi Bank will also distribute adequate loan among the farmers of the district for the purpose.

Feeding programme A two month long feeding

programme organised by the Dinapur unit of Bangladesh Red Crescent Society has got underway in nine upazilas of Dinapur district for the dis-

tressed people of the upazilas. Under the programme, 5,000 destitute families of the upazilas will get 12 kilograms of rice per month. The programme till continue till October this year. Under the programme, some 33 metric tons of rice will be distributed in the district during the period. Besides, the Red Crescent is also distributing wheat, sarees, lungis and garments for distressed people of the district.

Excessive chemical fertilizer use lowers soil fertility

From Our Correspondent

SIRAJGANJ, Sept 28 Rampant use of chemical fertilizers is decreasing soil fertility in the district.

According to the official sources, production capacity of agricultural land is declining gradually as costly chemical fertilizers are being used on a large-scale instead of freely available cow-dung which is necessary to keep holding land

There are five lakh acres of agricultural land in the district. Farmers usually use chemical fertilizers in their land instead of cow-dung due to decrease in number of cattlehead. The sources said that in 1984-85 there were six lakh cattlehead in the district. In 1987 the number came down to 41.0524.

Official statistics show that every year about 20,000 cat-

tleheads die of various diseases and other natural calamities consequently creating shortage of cow-dung. On the other hand use of cow-dung as fuel has increased in the rural arcas following price hike of fire-

Besides, the district Livestock Department has failed to motivate the cultivators in using cow-dung as manure. Agricultural department is also reluctant in this regard. Meanwhile, water holding capacity of the agricultural land has awfully decreased due to constant use of chemical fertilizers and increased salinity posing a threat to crop production. Knowledgeable sources here opined that motivation in using cow-dung and other natural manures is now a crying need to increase land productivity of the district.

150 Labour Fed leaders, workers join BNP

From Our Correspondent

FARIDPUR, Sept 28: About 150 leaders and workers of Democratic Labour Federation, an organ of United Communist League joined Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) recently. A meeting was held in this connection at he local BNP office on September 11. The meeting was presided over by Advocate Sarwar Jan Miah, President of district BNP while Choudhury Kamal Ibne Yousuf, Minister of Health and Family Planning attended as chief guest.

The Minister said that BNP Government would face any national calamitics with the participation of the people of the country. He urged the people to rally round BNP to uphold the spirit of democracy. He also thanked the local people to elect him as an M P.

The meeting was also addressed, among other, by Mr Syed Mudares Ali Isa, General Secretary of district BNP.

Advocate Abdur Rahman Milu, General Secretary of town BNP, Advocate Nazrul Islam, President of Juba Dal, Mr Moazzem Hussain, Bacchu Mia, Mr Ashraf Ali Nannu, Vice President of Rajendra College Students Union, student leaders Rezaul Karim Raza, Salauddin Shariff, Juel, Palash, Nannu, Jhantu, Shapan, Shamim and labour leader Mr A Chafur.

Spurious medicine recovered

Kotwali police recovered spurious medicine of a foreign company from a residential hotel recently. Acting as a tip, Mr Khalilur Rahman A.S.I of Kotwali police station arrested one Abu Zafar Mallick (24) from the room No. 15 of Hotel Jonaki with 297 ampules of fake panadur i. a. (12 lac) of a foreign company. Later the arrested person was sent to the

Navy pledge bound to protect sovereignty

KAPTAI, Sept 28: The passing-out parade of a batch of new entry sailors of the Bangladesh Navy was held at BNS Shaheed Moazzam here on Saturday last, according to an ISPR press release.

Rear Admiral Mohammad Mohaiminul Islam, Chief of the Naval Staff reviewed the smartly turned-out parade and took salute at the impressive march past. He also distributed certificates and trophies amongst the outstanding new entry sailors.

Speaking on the occasion the Chief of Naval Staff reminded the newly inducted

sailors that their career would demand strict discipline, devotion to duty, steadfastness for the attainment of highest professional skills to defend our vast territorial waters which is an inséparable part of

"Our sca lanes, the maritime resources both living and non-living are equally important for our national survival," he added.

our motherland.

He emphasized the importance of navy for a littoral country like ours and expressed his firm conviction that the newly inducted sailors will contribute their mite in our national development in addition to their professional

duties. Admiral Islam directed them to curb the menace of smuggling in the coastal areas with an iron hand and noted with satisfaction that the BN personnel during the last three months impounded contraband goods worth about Taka 1.65 crore which is an important addition to our na-

tional exchequer. He called upon the sailors to keep themselves abreast of the developments in the arena of military science and utilize it with the locally available resources for further enhancement of the operational efficiency of the Navy.

In the parade MM Rahman OD was adjudged the best all round new entry sailor and was awarded a special trophy. Besides, ME Islam ME-2, MS Reza EN-2 and MK Husain REN-2 were awarded prizes for their feats-

The speakers at the meet-Fishermen need govt help

From Our Correspondent

provision, beels and jalmahals

are to be leased out to the

genuine fishermen. But the

rule is not followed. Some

ijaradars in collusion with the

local vested groups are giving

sub-lease to the fake fisher-

men. Moreover, genuine fish-

ermen are unable to catch fish

According to an existing law

KISHOREGANJ, Sept 28: Thousands of fishermen in the haor areas of the district have been facing hurdles in carrying on their age-old profession for acute fund stringency and price hike of fishing appli-

ances like nets and boats. A fishing boat along with a net is being sold at Taka 1.5 lakh which is beyond the purchasing capacity of the fisher-

Kishoreganj district was once famous for producing different kinds of fishes in large quantity to be distributed to the different parts of the country everyday after meeting up local require-

About 25,000 fishermen living in the district earned their livelihood by fishing in the rivers, beels, canals and ponds. While on a recent visit to the haor areas a number of fishermen told this correspondent that the existence of professional fishermen was at stake. Some of them being unable to cope with the situation have either left the profession or scattered here and there in search of employment.

Meanwhile, the non-professional fishermen have gained monopoly over the whole fish ing profession causing concern to the genuine fishermen.

The tribal insurgents also

Abu Naser, president of the upazila unit BNP told the rally that no solution to the insurgency issue was in sight although the tribals are given priority in all matters and all

never solve the problem.

Wild animals marauding out

According to local representatives and forest officials, menacing sorties by herds of wild elephants and boars have

> normally even after getting lease in most cases. The nonprofessionals forcibly catch fish and take away the nets and

that the law-enforcing agencies remain stlent even after complaints lodged with them.

fishing appliances of the pro-Many fishermen alleged



Chief of the Naval Staff Rear Admiral M M Islam taking salute at the passing-out parade of a batch of new entry sailors of — ISPR photo the Bangladesh Navy at BNS Shaheed Mozzam at Kaptai on Saturday last.