

Upazila roundup

MYMENSINGH

Wheat seized, UP Chairman arrested

From BAU Correspondent
Sept 30: Kotwali police recovered 50 metric tons of wheat and arrested two persons including one UP Chairman Md Abdul Karim BSC of Ghagra Union Parishad in Sadar upazila in connection with selling wheat in black market, police source said. The recovered wheat which were allotted against 18 projects for Food for Works programme. Police recovered 30 MTS wheat from three trucks at Kaitapara in Gouripur upazila and 20 MTS from a flower mills at Maskanda BSIC area in Sadar upazila. Investigation is going on.

JHENIDAH

Dacoits loot valuables

From Our Correspondent
Sept 30: A bus dacoity was committed near Baidanga in Jhenidah Sadar Upazila on Jhenidah-Chuadanga road Friday evening and the dacoits looted away cash and valuables worth about Tk one lakh. They injured at least seven passengers including a sub inspector of police. The Jhenidah bound bus Sonar Tori from Chuadanga when reached the place of occurrence the dacoits numbering 10 to 12 in the guise of passengers forced the driver to stop the bus at dappers point sneaked in the dark with booty. Of the injured SI Abdur Raahid of Meherpur police station was admitted to Jhenidah Sadar Hospital and the rest were given first aid. A case was registered with Jhenidah thana.

BRAHMANBARIA

175 posts of teachers lying vacant

Sept 30: At least 175 posts of teachers in different educational institutions have been lying vacant in seven upazilas of the district for the last several years, reports UNB. According to informed sources, of the total, 21 posts have been lying vacant in 13 colleges, 106 posts in 134 high schools, 9 posts in 12 junior high schools, 16 posts in 13 senior madrasahs and 23 in other educational institutions. A total of 90,059 students are studying in 194 different institutions including government educational institution of the district, the sources added.

NOAKHALI

301 criminals arrested

Sept 30: Police arrested 301 alleged criminals and recovered a good number of arms and ammunition from different parts of the district under Operation Doorbar drive, reports UNB. Of the arrested, six were convicted, 107 warrantees, 141 accused in different cases, six for anti-social activities and 41 others were arrested under 54 BPC. The arms included one country made pistol, two cartridges and 50 rounds of 303 rifle bullets. Meanwhile, a meeting on law and order situation was held here recently with Deputy Commissioner M A Kamal in the chair. The meeting expressed deep concern at the sudden rise of crimes in the district and urged the people to help the law enforcing agencies in curbing the crimes.

BOGRA

BCS foundation course begins

Sept 30: The two-month long 12th special BCS foundation training course for the officers of BCS (health cadre) began here at rural development academy, yesterday, reports BSS. State Minister for Land Kabir Hossain formally inaugurated the training course. A total of 110 officers of BCS (health) cadre are taking part in the course. He hoped that the training course would help them to render their services for mankind successfully. Mr Hossain urged the trainees to become close to the people and disseminate the acquired knowledge of the training course so that the people could get the best services from them. Director General of the academy, RL Sarkar also spoke on the occasion.

KISHOREGANJ

Ershad's release demanded

From Our Correspondent
Sept 30: Leaders of Jatiya Party, Kishoreganj district unit in a meeting here at the residence of ATM Mostafa on Saturday afternoon demanded immediate release of the party leaders including the former President Ershad. The meeting was arranged on the occasion of victory of Jatiya Party in September 11 by-elections in Rangpur and observe "Ershad release day" on October 10 Presided over by JP district unit acting President Advocate Md Nuruzzaman, the meeting was also addressed by ATM Mostafa, Advocate Md Nurul Islam, Golam Rabbani Bulbul, Abdul Awal Khan, Abdul Latif Bhuiyan, Abu Bakar Siddique Dhanu, Abdul Hannan Mollah and Md Shahabuddin. The speakers thanked the people of Rangpur for casting their votes in favour of the Jatiya Party in the by-elections. Later they brought out a big procession led by ATM Mostafa in the town demanding immediate release of their leaders including the former President Ershad. The processionists paraded different roads of the town chanting various slogans in favour of their demands.

PABNA

Flood water receding

Sept 30: The overall flood situation in the district improved with the fall in water levels of the river Jamuna and its tributaries Boral, Hurasagar and Gumni, reports UNB. Flood affected people, who left their hearth and home earlier, started returning home. Meanwhile, the diarrhoeal situation of the district remained unchanged. The water-borne disease claimed at least three lives and attacked 78 others during the last 24 hours. The death toll now stood at 73 while more than 1500 people were attacked in the current month. Administration sources said, 84 medical teams have been working in the diarrhoea affected areas to combat the disease and rehabilitation work is going on. A total of Tk. 7 lakh and 500 bundles of CI sheet have been allotted as grant to the distressed people. Besides, former MP Makbul Hossain individually distributed one lakh water purifying tablets and 10 thousand oral saline packets.

GAIBANDHA

One caught while stealing medicine from health centre

Sept 30: Local people caught red handed a man while he was shifting a carton of medicine from the health complex of Sadullapur upazila of the district, report UNB. The man was identified as Anil Chandra, an employee of Jamalpur Health Complex. The incident occurred recently. Later Anil confessed that one Nurjahan Begum handed over him a carton of Cotrim tablets after stealing it from the store of the health complex. A case has been filed in this connection.

RAJSHAHI

JCD bags 7 seats in Polytechnic Instt. union polls

Sept 30: Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) bagged seven seats including the post of Vice-President and General Secretary in the students unions elections of Rajshahi Polytechnic Institute held Wednesday, reports UNB. Abul Kalam Azad was elected VP, Mahub Ali Pro-VP and Ahmed Al-Moiten Parag OS. Chhatra League (S-A), Chhatra League (N-S) and Chhatra Motree bagged the remaining nine of the total 16 seats. The election was held peacefully.

SATKHIRA

Body recovered

Sept 30: Police recovered an unidentified body from the river Ichhamoti in Debhata upazila of the district on Saturday, reports UNB. According to police, one leg of the victim was cut off. The body was sent to morgue for postmortem. A case has been filed with the local police.



The condition of roads in rural as well as urban areas is deplorable. Most roads are unfit for vehicular movement. Photo shows a big hole developed on Fatula-Mukhtarpur road in Narayanjanj endangering the lives of passengers. —Star photo

Melandah UZ presents a grim picture

JAMALPUR, Sept 30: Inhabitants of Melandah upazila are being deprived of basic civic amenities including supply of drinking water, adequate educational facilities and housing. Although many people have died of intestinal diseases there is no provision of pure drinking water for a long time. About 60 per cent of the tubewells have long been lying out of order in different upazilas. Neither they are repaired nor new ones were sunk as such people of Melandah have to consume impure water from rivers, canals, ponds and ditches thus becoming easy victims of diarrheal diseases.

No effective measures have so far been taken in the field of education for the last 40 years. There is only one government intermediate college, 12 high schools, two girls high schools, four junior high schools, 18 madrasahs, 82 government and nine private primary schools which are catering to the need of 155 villages in the upazila. Besides, lack of science equipment, shortage of teachers, lack of accommodation and furniture are common features in all the institutions. In the absence of furniture students are compelled to sit on mats or bricks under the open sky.

From Our Correspondent
The condition of existing pucca and kutcha roads in so deplorable that numerous potholes and cracks have developed on those causing utmost sufferings to the pedestrians and vehicular traffic. On the other hand condition of almost all the huts and bazzars is also pitiable much to the suffering of both buyers and sellers. Lack of proper maintenance has led to deterioration. An amount of Taka 36 lakhs was sanctioned for the development of the Melandah bazar in 1990-91. It is alleged that a large sum of money was misused at the development work. Government and semi-government employees serving in

the upazila offices are not getting residential facilities, many of them are compelled to reside outside the district town. Mosquito menace aggravates the situation. Water hyacinth, derelict ponds and canals of the area are the breeding centres. Power failure has become a regular feature almost everyday paralysing the life of the inhabitants. Students and the patients are the worst sufferers. All the cluster villages in the upazila are in most deplorable condition. The dwelling houses have worn out due to lack of repair. There is no auditorium or park to hold public function or to spent

leisure time. The 25-bed upazila health complex at Melandah is also beset with many problems. It can hardly provide the necessary medical facilities to the patients who have to go back disappointed without proper treatment. Some doctors of the hospital are busy in private practice. Drainage system of the upazila headquarters is also faulty. Dirty stagnant water together with marshes in low-lying place have become veritable breeding centres of mosquitoes. Piles of garbage are always seen on the roads causing health hazards to the dwellers.

I have betrayed my homeland: Upendra

RANGAMATI, Sept 30: The Parbattya Chattagram Jana Sanghati Society (PCJSS), political mentor of the outlawed Shantibahini is again in disarray with its leaders getting disillusioned over their so-called border indicate, reports UNB. Upendra Lal Chakma, a former MP and a leader of the PCJSS in exile expressing his dismay said the organisation's leadership were mere tools in the hands of Indian intelligence officials. "The golden temple of the PCJSS is a slaughter house where executions were carried out at the instance of RAW officials." Upendra is quoted as saying at a recent gathering on the occasion of a tribal festival HAL PALAN. The traditional festival of the Chakmas were held at the Lebachari refugee camp in Tripura, not far from which Upendra's second wife died recently without food and medicare. Upendra said the Sanghati achieved nothing in the last 15 years and the atrocities committed by the so-called Shantibahini pushed the tribal region into savagery of the medieval age. Himself charged for corruption and malpractice and forced underground for many days, Upendra, who formed his own Refugee Welfare Association, accused the PCJSS leaders of incapacity, immorality and greed. He also accused the Sanghati men of jeopardising the interest of non-Chakma tribals and pushing the 13 CHT tribes into constant danger of extermination at the direction of Indian intelligence officials. "At the end of my life, I am paying heavily for the blunders committed and for betraying my homeland" Upendra lamented in the gathering.

No certificate case in flood-hit areas

KURIGRAM, Sept 30: Minister for Social Welfare and Women Affairs Tariqul Islam yesterday said there would not be any new certificate cases against farmers of flood affected areas, reports UNB. He also said cases already filed against affected farmers would be kept in abeyance. Addressing the elite at the local Circuit House here this afternoon, Tariqul said that the government was aware of the flood situation in the worst affected Kurigram. He also directed concerned officials to allow flood affected people to collect ration goods on priority basis, whether they had ration cards or not. Referring to the sanction of relief materials for the affected areas, he said if needed more relief materials would be supplied. Tariqul said that a good number of medical teams are already working in different flood affected areas of the district to check the outbreak of diarrhoea and other water-borne diseases. The Minister, who is the relief coordinator for the district, visited flood affected areas and supervised relief operations at Chilmart, and other camps on the district yesterday.

Drainage system to be modernised in Narayanjanj

NARAYANGANJ, Sept 30: The government has taken up a scheme to modernise the 40-year-old drainage system in Narayanjanj municipal area by constructing cross-drain at a cost of about Taka 30 lakh during the current financial year. The administrator of the municipality and ADC General, Mr Shahidullah Mia, told BSS that the scheme would help ease the constant water logging problem in the municipal area, specially during heavy rains in the monsoon. He said many low-lying areas in the town go under water after rain which causes inconvenience to the town dwellers. The municipal area covers a seven-mile long drainage system, most of the water outlets of the drains go out of order due to dilapidated condition during the rains. The cross-drain will cover Bangabandhu Road, DIT Market, Tanbazar SM Malch Road, Amlapara, Khanpur, Hajiganj, Sirajuddowla Road and Shayesta Khan Road. Meanwhile, normal traffic communication in the town was disrupted yesterday due to the water-logging caused by heavy downpour. Rickshaws, private cars, trucks and other vehicles had to ply through about waist-deep water in many parts of the town. The worst hit areas include Tanbazar, Khanpur and Netniganj kerosene ghat.

Salt price marks rise in Madaripur

From Our Correspondent
MADARIPUR, Sept 30: The price of salt has registered a sharp rise in different markets of the district during the last two days. According to the informed sources, short supply in the market was the reason behind the rise in salt prices. Salt is now being sold at Taka 10 per kg as against Taka six before. **Ex-UP Chairman jailed** Abu Alem Mollah ex-Chairman, Ishitpur Union Parishad under Rajpur upazila was sentenced to suffer rigorous imprisonment (RI) for three years and a fine of Taka 46,200 for defalcating FWP wheat in 1986-87. The accused was tried by Mr. Zulfikar Ali, District and Session Judge Madaripur recently. According to the prosecution story the said Chairman defalcated 243 maunds of wheat worth Taka 46,170 allotted for reconstruction of Charmustafapur-Shakarpar High School road in 1986-87. On complaints the District Anti-Corruption Bureau Madaripur, investigated into the matter and submitted chargesheet against the chairman. **Cashier jailed** In another case Giasuddin Ahmed, cashier of Krishi Bank, Kailirbazar branch under Madaripur Sadar upazila was sentenced to RI for seven years for defalcating bank money. According to the prosecution story, the said cashier received deposits from different clients and instead of depositing the same in the respective accounts, defalcated Taka 2400 in 1987. On complaints DAB, Madaripur investigated into the matter and submitted chargesheet against the cashier. After trial Mr. A Salam, Sub Judge and Special Judge, Madaripur found the accused guilty and sentenced him to RI for three years. **Drinking water scarce** At least 58 per cent people of 11 unions of the district are deprived of pure drinking water. The unions are Kazibakal, Gopalpur, Dashar, Nabogam, Shikarmongol, Kalkini, Shaikrampur and Ramjanpur of Kalkini upazila and Mustafapur Ghatmaje and Kendua of Madaripur Sadar upazila. According to the UNICEF experts, in the aforesaid areas drinking water lifted by 2200 shallow tubewells bears much salinity. The Assistant Engineer, DPHE, Madaripur further disclosed that the government of Saudi Arabia has donated Taka 20 crore for ensuring pure drinking water in coastal areas.

Boy run over by bus

A minor boy was killed when he was run over by a speeding passengers bus on the Dhaka-Sylhet highway near Meghna brick field at Baniyagona last Saturday. It is reported that, Helaluddin (10) was returning to his house from Nuton Bazar and when he reached the north side of Meghna brick field near Baniyagona village a Comilla bound speeding bus hit him and ran over his body. As a result, the boy died on the spot. The bus driver has been arrested the bus was also seized by Chunerghat police. The body of the boy was sent to Habiganj Sadar Hospital for postmortem. A case has been started at Bahubal police station in this connection.

electrification plan in Sylhet

From A Correspondent
SYLHET, Sept 30: Taka 54 crore massive rural Electrification Programme has been going on in seven upazilas of the district. According to an official source, the programme, financed by the World Bank is being implemented by the Rural Electrification Board. When contacted the General Manager, Sylhet Pali Biddyt Samity told this correspondent that a total of 965 kilometre power distribution line would be constructed in seven upazilas of the district. The upazilas are, Sylhet Sadar, Golapganj, Beambazar, Jakiaganj, Balaganj, Biswanath and Fenchuganj. Two thousand three hundred thirteen villages in 62 unions of these upazilas would be covered by the programme. About 40 thousand subscribers including domestic, commercial establishments, small and cottage industries and irrigation machines including deep tubewells and low-lift pumps would be provided with the electricity facilities. Under the project, four power sub-stations including two of 5 M V A capacity each and one of 10 M V A capacity had already been constructed by the Board at Golapganj, Balaganj, Beambazar and Sylhet Sadar upazilas. When completed, the project would improve the existing socio-economic condition of the majority people in this under-developed region, it is expected.

Notes from Habiganj

From Our Correspondent
HABIGANJ, Sept 30: Habiganj police in a raid recently rescued a kidnapped young girl Monowara Begum (14) from a house at village Gopaya after 19 hours of her abduction. Family sources said, Monowara Begum daughter of Soyedullah of village Bhadal under Habiganj Sadar was kidnapped on Friday last at about 8 pm from her sister's house by a gang of criminals headed by Ishak Mia of the said village. The gang leader Ishak Mia also forcibly raped Monowara Begum. On receiving information, a police party headed by S I Abdul Alim raided a house at Gopaya and rescued Monowara Begum. One Raziya Katun, sister of the victim Monowara filed a case against 4 persons including gang leader Ishak Mia as the main accused with Habiganj police station. **Farewell** The 2nd and 3rd year students of Habiganj Women College accorded a farewell reception to the HSC and Degree final examinees in a function held here recently. Presided over by Mr. Abdul Kaleque, Principal of the college, the function was addressed, among others, by Prof. Indu Bhuson Das Roy, Prof. Zahirul Haque, Prof. Samsul Haque, Prof. Sowkath Ara Chowdhury and Asstt. Prof. Gookul Das. On behalf of the students, Kazi Tahmina Ahmed, Syeda Rowshon Sultana, Zebunnahar Khanam, Angura Begum, Fatema Mustari Sewlee and Zebunnesa Khatun also spoke on the occasion. The function was followed by an attractive cultural function. **Islami Sangrami Parishad formed** An Islami Sangrami Parishad was formed in a meeting held at Kalawook under Lakhai upazila of Habiganj district recently. Alhaj Moulana Hafez Md. Abdul Latif presided over the meeting. A 31-members' Islami Sangrami Parishad was formed with Moulana Nurul Islam and Moulana Tofayel Ahmed as President and General Secretary respectively. **Boy run over by bus** A minor boy was killed when he was run over by a speeding passengers bus on the Dhaka-Sylhet highway near Meghna brick field at Baniyagona last Saturday. It is reported that, Helaluddin (10) was returning to his house from Nuton Bazar and when he reached the north side of Meghna brick field near Baniyagona village a Comilla bound speeding bus hit him and ran over his body. As a result, the boy died on the spot. The bus driver has been arrested the bus was also seized by Chunerghat police. The body of the boy was sent to Habiganj Sadar Hospital for postmortem. A case has been started at Bahubal police station in this connection.



MYMENSINGH: Arms and ammunition recovered by police during Operation Doorbar from different areas of the district. —Star photo