

Upazila roundup

MYMENSINGH

7 killed in road mishap

From BAU Correspondent

Oct 7: Seven persons died and many others seriously injured when a Mymensingh bound bus skidded off the road in a ditch at Aranyapasha under Nandail upazila on Mymensingh-Kishoreganj route recently.

The bus dashed against a betelnut tree and the driver lost his control. One passenger Shamsuddin (35) of Taljanga village and another unidentified person (28) died on the spot. Other 25 persons were taken to Nandail hospital with grievous injuries. Of them five died on way to the hospital while eight others were rushed to the Mymensingh Medical College Hospital in critical condition.

JAMALPUR

Ershad's release demanded

Oct 7: The leaders of the district unit of the Jatiya Party in a meeting Sunday demanded immediate release of their leaders including the party chairman and former president H M Ershad, reports UNB.

The meeting presided over by unit secretary A K M Zamzul Hoq was also addressed by Farooq Ahmad, Ibrahim Khalil, Kabirur Rahman, Golap Ali and Jahangir Alak Selim.

The meeting held at the residence of the unit secretary in the town also thanked the people of Rangpur for casting their votes in the September 11 by-elections in favour of Jatiya Party candidates.

It decided to observe 'Ershad Release Day' on October 10.

RANGAMATI

300 more tribal refugees back home

Oct 7: Three hundred more Bangladeshis who were forced to leave the country by the tribal insurgents have returned home during the last two weeks, reports UNB.

According to official sources, the tribal refugees returned through the frontier upazilas of Rangpur, Matiranga and Panchhari upazilas of Khagrachhari hill district from the refugee camps in Tripura State of India.

They lived at the refugee camps at Karbuck, Shilchari, Thakumbari and Labachari of Tripura with thousands of other Bangladeshis who also left the country following the persecution of the outlawed Shantibahini insurgents.

Narrating harrowing tales they said they were living in the Indian camps in sub-human conditions without food and medicine. They also informed that about 50 per cent of Bangladeshi tribals living in those camps have been suffering from various disease including diarrhoea.

JHENIDAH

35 sets VCP recovered

Oct 7: Bangladesh Rifles alongwith police recovered 35 sets of VCP worth about Tk 4 lakh and arrested two people Sunday, reports UNB.

Acting on a tip, BDR party stopped Khulna bound three buses of Diganita Eagle and Uttara Parban in front of the Kotwali police station and recovered the sets which were meant for smuggling across the border.

The arrested Toyeb Ali and Shirin of Kaliganj upazila of the district were sent to jail hayat.

A case has been lodged in this connection.

PATUAKHALI

928 shallow tubewells to be sunk

Oct 7: A scheme has been taken up to sink 928 shallow tubewells in six upazilas of the district during the current financial year, reports UNB.

Official sources said, the tubewells will be installed under the financial assistance of the Saudi Government.

Of the total, 210 tubewells will be sunk in the Sadar, 168 in Nazirpur, 268 in Nesarabad, 105 in Kaulkhal, 147 in Bhandaria and 88 in Mathbaria upazilas of the district.

With the implementation of the scheme, about three lakh people of the district will get supply of pure water, it is learnt.

BRAHMANBARIA

Weaving industry faces crisis

Oct 7: Widespread smuggling of Indian clothes has created a new crisis for the district's weaving industry already beset with problem, reports UNB.

About 55,000 weavers have been facing a serious setback due to price hikes of raw materials and other inputs.

The prices of dyes, yarns and chemical have gone beyond the purchasing capacity of the poor factory owners.

According to sources at least 30,000 weavers have already left their ancestral profession due to fund constraints.

The sources said the weavers of Bancharampur, Nabimagar and Brahmanbaria Sadar upazilas are heavily burdened with loans.

They have failed to repay the loans due to price hike of their inputs and low price of their products in the market.

The smuggled Indian textile goods flooding the market have further aggravated the situation.

The weavers have urged the authorities to provide necessary funds on easy terms and make arrangements for marketing of their products.

BARISAL

1000 new phone connections to be provided

Oct 7: A total of 1000 new telephone connections will be provided to ensure better telecommunication in the district, T & T Board sources said, reports UNB.

The existing exchange is already handling 2000 connections.

Another 36 NWD channels will be introduced in the near future bringing the total to 74.

MAGURA

Dacoit arrested

Oct 7: Police arrested a notorious dacoit from a shop of Nagra Bazar in Mohammapur upazila of the district and recovered arms and ammunition from his possession, reports UNB.

Acting on a secret information, police raided the shop and arrested Mojnu Mia and recovered the pipe gun and ammunition from his village home at Digha.

He was wanted in connection with several criminal cases for a long time.

SATKHIRA

Indian sarees recovered

Oct 7: Bangladesh Rifles seized Indian silk sarees worth about Tk 12 lakh from a country boat plying through Marriacap river near village Chakra in Assasuni upazila Saturday night, reports UNB.

Acting on a secret information, BDR intercepted the boat and recovered the contraband item. The boatmen however, managed to escape. Later the goods were handed over to the local customs department.

A case has been instituted with the police.

MADARIPUR

Hilsa price falls

From Our Correspondent Oct 7: Abundant supply of Hilsa in all the markets of the district has decreased its prices to a large extent.

According to the market sources, a big size Hilsa is being sold between Taka 25 and 30 as against Taka 55 to 60 a fortnight ago. Lack of storage facilities is also another reason behind the price decrease.

Chandu Bibi(35) was crushed under the wheels of a truck while she was extracting fibres from rotten jute plant sitting near Samunder bridge of Faridpur-Madaripur Highway. The truck after crushing the woman, fell into a nearby ditch hitting another woman Hasina Begum.

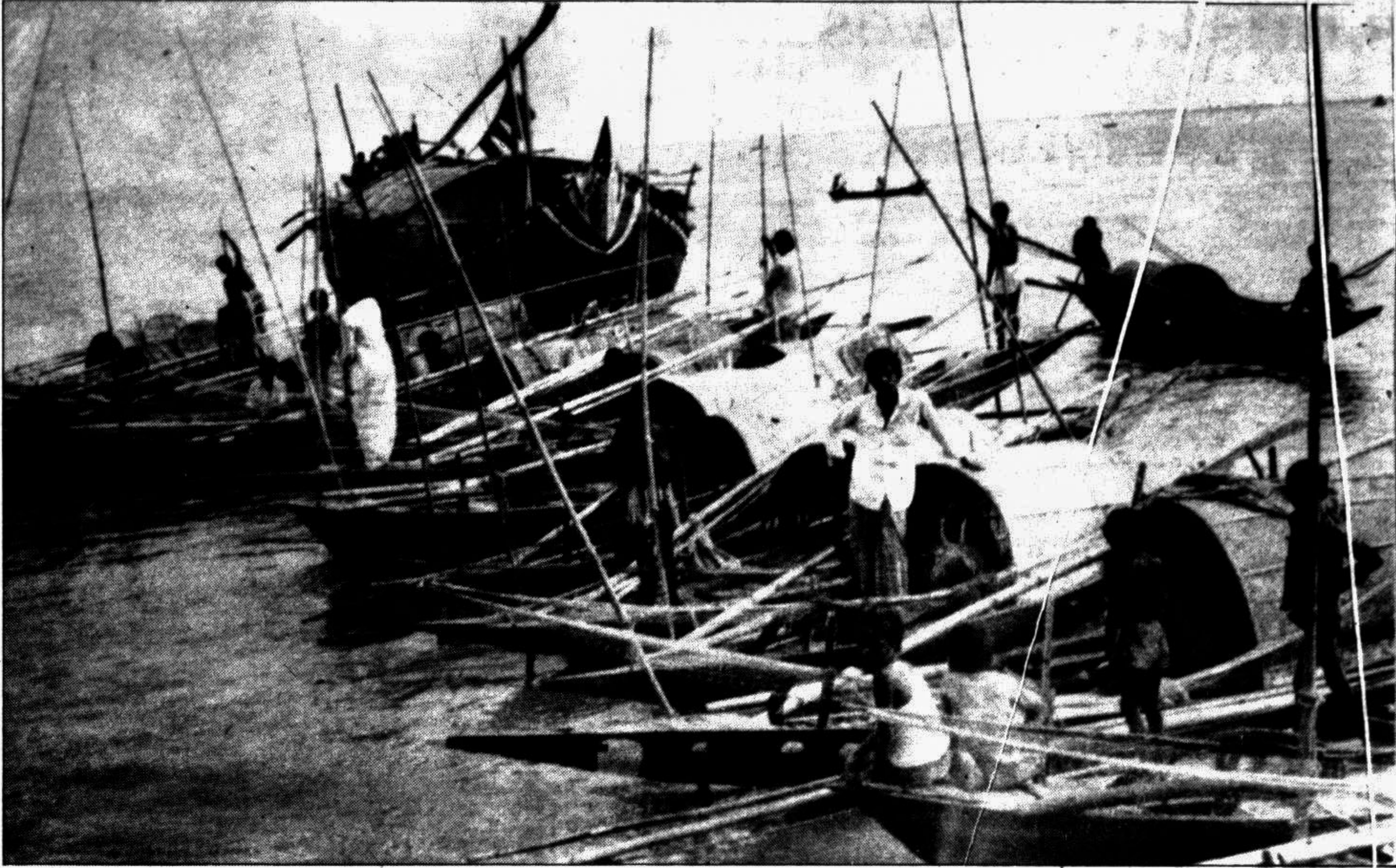
A case has been started by Madaripur police in this connection.

THAKURGAON

A costly telegram

From Our Correspondent Oct 7: Mr Shakawat Hussain, Social Welfare Secretary of the district unit of Bangladesh Awami League, Dinajpur, was taken to Dinajpur General Hospital with severe eye injury recently.

According to a report, Shakawat was assaulted by some workers of AL in presence of some district leaders.



Hilsha, the king of the fishes, is now caught in abundance in the Padma. Photo shows countryboats waiting at Aricha to carry the item to different places. — Star photo

Diarrhoea claims 734 in Rajshahi

Near famine situation prevails in Rangpur

From Our Correspondent

RANGPUR, Oct 7: Serious food crisis is prevailing in two unions of Gangachara upazila for the last few weeks.

Food is being cooked once a day by almost all the families in Nohali and Alam Biditor unions in Gangachara upazila. Half or one kg rice or atta, if arranged is shared by five to ten members of a family. Starvation and semi-starvation condition has become a regular feature since there is no work available for thousands of day labourers. They find no other alternative source to earn money for their livelihood and due to continuous starving they are falling easy prey to diarrhoeal epidemics.

These harrowing tales were narrated by Mohir, Abed, Abdul, Chengtu and many others to a group of local journalists during their visit to some worst flood and diarrhoea epidemic hit areas in the upazila. Everywhere gloomy picture of human sufferings for survival is being sighted.

A health official disclosed with heavy heart that floods and rains left a trail of devastation. Those standing crops, vegetables and homesteads all over the five districts in greater Rangpur have been destroyed. A man starving for continuous three to four days if eats once, it becomes poison for him and ultimately he is caught by diarrhoea, the official added. He further added that scarcity of medicines, inadequate relief, crisis of pure drinking water, lack of jobs in the fields, price hike of food-stuffs and low price of agricultural products like jute etc, indiscriminate selling of household articles, cattle, fowls, cries of starved children and house to house diarrhoeal epidemics are common scenes all over the zone.

It is mentioned that district health department is hiding true picture of epidemics.

Rajshahi

Rajshahi correspondent writes: At least 734 people most of them children have

died of diarrhoea and other water-borne diseases during the last one month which has broken out in an epidemic form, official sources said.

A total of 50,331 people have also been attacked by diarrhoea during this period.

According to Rajshahi Divisional Diarrhoea Control Room sources, district wise break-up of death toll is 19 in Rajshahi, 15 in Natore, 17 in Sirajganj, 1 in Chapainawabganj, 38 in Naogaon, 71 in Pabna, 42 in Bogra, 39 in Joypurhat, 36 in Rangpur, 97 in Gaibandha, 38 in Dinajpur, 32 in Panchagarh, 48 in Thakurgaon, 49 in Kurigram, 26 in Lalmonirhat and 166 in Nilphamari.

The highest number of diarrhoea attacked persons was recorded in Nilphamari at 8,729 which was followed by Kurigram at 7,621 and Gaibandha with 6,027 persons.

The control room sources further said, a total of 1028 medical teams were working round the clock to check the spread of diarrhoea and water-

borne diseases. So far medicine worth about Taka two crore has been sent to the affected areas.

Informed sources said, acute scarcity of pure drinking water, malnutrition and lack of proper sanitation are the main causes of diarrhoea in the food hit areas.

However, high officials of the Health Directorate have already reached the affected areas for supervising and coordinating work of the field workers and doctors.

The divisional control room was monitoring situation from 16 diarrhoea affected districts and advising the district authorities to take precautionary measures so that the diseases could not spread further.

Thakurgaon

Thakurgaon correspondent says: Hundreds of unemployed people are crowding Thakurgaon Sadar, municipal area, Pirganj, Ranisankul, Haripur and Bahadangi upazila parishes of the district everyday in quest of job.

Having no source of income due to the recent flood, a large number of agricultural labourers, landless peasants are selling off their cows, goats and poultry birds. On the otherhand for want of purchasers the cattleheads and poultry birds are being sold at a very cheap price in Kalmegh, Goreya, Nelmaid and Jadurani cattle markets.

It is learnt that with the recession of flood water and improvement of the situation, distribution of relief goods has been curtailed increasing the misery of the people.

The Chairmen of the different upazilas expressed their grave concern over the critical situation of their respective areas and demanded to the higher authorities to allocate adequate quantity of wheat and introduce test relief work on emergency basis.

It is feared that the situation may turn worse if necessary measures are not taken immediately.

Meghna swallows major portion of Haimchar upazila

From Our Correspondent

CHANDPUR, Oct 7: The erosion of the mighty river Meghna has taken a serious turn in Haimchar upazila, eight miles south off Chandpur town. Major portion of Haimchar headquarters was eroded by the river Meghna.

Erosion is continuing alarmingly along the four miles river belt of Haimchar threatening the very existence of the upazila.

During the last few days erosion has rendered about two thousand families homeless in the upazila. The mighty river Meghna is only about 300 yards away from the embankment of Chandpur Irrigation Project. Chandpur Irrigation Project is one of the biggest multipurpose irrigation project of Bangladesh Water Development Board. If the erosion continues at the present rate 220 square miles of Chandpur Irrigation Project will be washed away. The erosion has already devoured village Gobindia, Mirzapur, Sadullahpur and Hanarchar. The panicky people are very busy in dismantling their houses.

So far four government schools, two Madrasas and a vast tract of agricultural land

have been washed away by the Meghna. Erosion has already devoured Upazila Health Complex, UNO Office, Upazila Chairman Office, Post Office, Thana Office and other offices. Important upazila offices were shifted to village Ulgey, 3 miles away from upazila headquarter. As a result the function of different government offices are hampered.

Standing crops on two thousand acres of land have been fully damaged. About two thousand people have taken shelter on the embankment of Chandpur Irrigation Project. They are passing miserable life under the open sky.

The Haimchar Upazila Chairman Md Kaokobad told this correspondent that government has acquired a piece of land to make a new upazila headquarter at village Ulgey.

All government offices were shifted to village Ulgey but due to lack of funds construction work for the accommodation of government offices could not be started.

The upazila Chairman urged the Government to check the erosion on permanent basis and to save the people of Haimchar from Meghna erosion.

SATKHIRA, Oct 7: Satkhira thana police rounded up 61 criminals and seized three firearms and six cartridges in three weeks in a special drive in Sadar upazila of the district.

According to the local police sources, Satkhira thana police led by Officer-in-Charge, Shamsul Alam arrested one inter-district dacoit Hazrat Mustafa from village Kamarbaisa under Sadar upazila and recovered one country-made pipegun, one pistol and six cartridges from his village home of Mrigidanga of the same upazila.

In another drive police arrested one Obaidur Rahman

and recovered one country-made revolver from his possession.

According to the local people the real criminals are yet to be tracked down. Miscreants have been hiding to elude the police combing.

Another notorious thief Ziaul Ali was arrested by police from Sultanpur village of Satkhira sadar and recovered huge booties from his possession recently.

It is reported that a theft

was committed at the residence of Mr Shawkat Hossain, Accountant, Meghna Fish Limited, Satkhira. A gang of thieves entered the house at dead of night and took away valuables worth Taka one lakh.

Moreover, several thefts were committed in different areas of the town during the last three weeks at the residences of Kazi Kamaluddin of Murjipur, Shatkh Abu Nasim and Kazi Rezaul Hussain both of Sultanpur.

61 criminals arrested

From Our Correspondent

Students boycott classes in Kishoreganj

From Our Correspondent

KISHOREGANJ, Oct 7: Students of all the educational institutions of the town including Gurudayal Government College boycotted their classes yesterday to press home the demand for publishing the results of degree examination of Gurudayal Government College centre held in 1990.

Students later in a procession went to the office of Deputy Commissioner and gheraoed it. They also handed over a memorandum to the Deputy Commissioner.

Aman output may face setback

BARISAL, Oct 7: Aman production is likely to suffer a setback due to widespread pest invasion by five southern districts this year, reports UNB.

The districts are: Barisal, Patuakhali, Bhola, Bogura and Jhalakati.

Aman crops on about one lakh acres of land have been attacked by 'pamri pests'. But the agriculture office, however, admitted that the pests attacked only on about 50,000 acres of land.

One slaughtered at Nandail

From Our Correspondent

NANDAIL, Oct 7: Shahid (35) was slaughtered near his house at village Elaguri under Trishal union, by some unidentified miscreants. It is learnt that the victim went out in the evening to buy medicine for his ailing daughter. But he did not return. His slaughtered body was found in the morning on the bank of the pond adjacent to his house. The body was sent for postmortem.

A murder case was registered with Trishal police and investigation is in progress.

Shoe lashes

A disobedient son was awarded 100 lashes with shoes as punishment for assaulting his father at village Shilash under Gafargaon upazila recently. Dulal (23) being inspired by his wife attacked his 80-year-old father Sulaiman with Bamboo resulting in his injuries. The aggrieved father finding no other alternative approached to 'shilish' where the accused was proved guilty and awarded 100 lashes of shoes including other punishment.

Train journey

Train journey has become hazardous due to dilapidated conditions of the bogies.

Goods are being transported in passenger bogies indiscriminately occupying most of the seats while remaining few seats are occupied by ticket-less unruly passengers. Ticket checkers and railway police are seldom seen to take any action against these mischief. As a result the genuine passengers suffer a lot.

On the other hand absence of electricity and water supply in the compartment have multiplied the sufferings.

Shortage of bogies is the top-most problem. Passengers are compelled to travel on roofs, engines and even on joints of bogies because of acute shortage of space inside the compartments.

Besides, the condition of railway lines is deplorable which in turn reduces the speed of the train multiplying the suffering of the passengers.

Protest against terrorism by political activist

JHENIDAH, Oct 7: The local leaders of opposition political parties in a meeting Saturday at Agrani Bank square in the town protested terrorism by certain political activists and price spiral of essentials, reports UNB.

Advocate Tofazzal Hossain, President of district unit of NAP (Muzaffar) presided over the meeting which was also addressed by President of district unit of Awami League Advocate Ayub Hossain, Secretary district unit of United Communist League (UCL) Israil Hossain Monoz and Tahera Begum Joli, central leader of BASAD.

The speakers expressed concern over the deteriorating law and order situation in the country. They held the government responsible for violence in the educational institutions adding that the armed hoodlums are still active jeopardising the peaceful atmosphere. But no effective measures have yet been taken to combat the growing menace.

Criticising the government the speakers blamed the ruling party for the terrorism in the educational institutions and elsewhere in the country.

They also said the government has no control over the price hike of essentials.

Notice of RHD Inviting Tender

1. Tender Notice No.	: 11/EE/KRD-1 of 1991-92.
2. Name of Work	: Emergency protective work at 63rd K.M. Ch. to 3+50 Right side of N.F.J.K.D. Road under Khagrachhari Road Division-I during the year 1991-92. Ch. to : N.F.J.K.D. Road.
3. Estimated Cost	: Tk. 1,20,683/-
4. Earnest Money	: Tk. 2,500/-
5. Name of Office of availability of tender documents up to 15-10-91.	: Executive Engineer, RHD, Khagrachhari Road Division-I / II and Sub-Divisional Engineer, RHD, Khagrachhari Road Sub-Division-I/II Manikchari/ Fatikchari/ Jalapara/ Ist. Line Workshop Sub-Division, Khagrachhari.
6. Name of Office of receiving the tender bid	: The Additional Chief Engineer, RHD, Hill Tracts Zone, 1673, Zakir Hossain Road, Nasirabad, Chittagong/Superintending Engineer, RHD, Khagrachhari Road Circle, Khagrachhari and the undersigned.
7. Last date and time of receipt of tender	: At 12.30 P.M. on 16-10-91.
8. Date and time of opening of tender.	: At 12.45 P.M. on 16-10-91.
9. Time allowed	: 20 (Twenty) days from the date of issue of work order.
10. Eligibility of contractor	: "A" to "E" General Category, RHD, Contractor of Khagrachhari Hill Tract District.

**A K M Fazul Hoque Bhuiyan**  
Executive Engineer, RHD,  
Khagrachhari Road Division-I,  
Khagrachhari.

D.F.P(G)11336-5/10  
G-651