

Upazila roundup

**JAMALPUR**  
**Attack on JP meet protested**

Oct 13: Local Jatiya Party brought out a procession in the town Friday in protest against the alleged attack on the JP meetings in Dhaka and other parts of the country, reports UNB.

Parading the main thoroughfares, the processionists chanted slogans condemning the attacks and demanding release of their arrested party leaders including the ousted President H M Ershad.

After the procession, a rally was held in the town which was addressed by Zamilul Haque, Shaful Islam Khoka, AKM Zamilul Hoq, Farrukh Ahmed, Golap Ali, Iqbal Ahsan, Mukaddes Ali Suja and Ibrahim Khail.

Another report from Faridpur says: Workers of local Jatiya Party brought out a procession in the town to press home their demand for release of the former President H M Ershad on Thursday.

The processionists paraded the main streets of the town and chanted various slogans in favour of their demand.

Later a rally chaired by Saiful Islam Nilu, Acting General Secretary of the district JP unit, was held in front of the Deputy Commissioner's office.

The rally was also addressed by Rana Chakravarty, Wajidur Rahman, S M Yahiya and Babul Khan.

**RANGAMATI**  
**Tk 5 cr electric bill lying unpaid**

Oct 13: Electricity bills amounting to Tk five crore have remained unpaid at Khagrachari, official sources said here, reports UNB.

Besides, private and commercial consumers. Government servants in the district have not paid bills for domestic power consumption amounting to Tk 25 lakh, Resident Engineer of Khagrachari Electric Supply told UNB.

These bills have remained outstanding for a long time, he said.

In a recent drive, about 150 connections have been disconnected for non-payment of electricity bills and 16 unauthorised connections detected, he said.

But full and regular recovery of power consumption charges may not be possible unless obligatory measures are taken official sources said.

**PATUAKHALI**  
**4.75 lakh acres brought under aman farming**

Oct 13: About 4.75 lakh acres of land have been brought under aman cultivation in six upazilas of the district during the current season, reports UNB.

Of the total land, 1.25 lakh acres have been brought under high-yielding variety and 3.50 lakh acres under local variety.

The Agriculture Extension Department and Bangladesh Agriculture Development Corporation supplied necessary seeds, fertilizers and insecticides for successful implementation of the programme.

About 3.22 lakh metric tons of aman paddy is expected to be produced in the district.

Meanwhile, distribution of Tk 2.42 crore loan for aman crop is in full swing in the district, it is reported.

**GAZIPUR**  
**2 killed in road mishap**

Oct 13: Two unidentified people died and 10 others were injured when a Dhaka-bound bus fell into a roadside ditch near Kadda bridge on Dhaka-Tangail highway here this afternoon, reports UNB.

Witnesses said the accident occurred when the bus coming from Tangail tried to overtake a truck.

One of the victims, aged about 30, died on the spot and another male (35) breathed his last at Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) soon after his admission there; hospital sources said.

Three of the injured were admitted to the DMCH.

**KURIGRAM**  
**'None will die from starvation'**

Oct 13: State Minister for Land Mohammad Kabir Hossain yesterday said that none would be allowed to die from starvation.

The State Minister said present government had deployed all its available resources for redressing the sufferings of the distressed people.

He was addressing the district officials at the Circuit House here.

Relief Coordinator Wing Commander Hamidullah MP, members of the armed forces, BDR and public representatives were present.

State Minister directed the officials concerned to reach the relief materials to the doorsteps of the distressed people.

Expressing satisfaction over the distribution of the relief materials in the district, the State Minister urged all to come forward unitedly for the welfare of the people.

Later, he visited Teulia, Khetline and Mughalbaria of Ulifur upazila for supervising the relief distribution activities.

**COMILLA**  
**8 held in dacoity case**

Oct 13: Police arrested eight people including a bank cashier for involvement in a dacoity case, reports UNB.

Acting on a secret information, police rounded up the suspects for committing dacoity in the house of a school mistress at Kazi para, Bibibazar on the night of August 8.

Kazi Shahjahan, cashier of Jangalia branch of Sonali Bank was arrested following their confessional statement, police sources said.

**BARGUNA**  
**Tk 55 lakh agri-loan distributed**

Oct 13: Sonali Bank has distributed Tk 55 lakh as loan in Patharghata upazila of the district in the current financial year, reports UNB.

The loan will be utilised for cultivation of aman paddy, it is reported.

Bank sources said, 2200 marginal and small farmers would get benefit.

**PIROJPUR**  
**50 deep tubewells will be installed**

Oct 13: Public Health Engineering Department has taken up a programme to install 50 deep tubewells in four upazilas of the district in the current financial year, reports UNB.

According to official sources, of the total tubewells, 20 will be sunk in Nesarabad, 15 in Kawkhal, 8 in Nazirpur and 7 in Madhabaria upazilas.

It is reported, about one lakh people will be benefitted with the installation of the tubewells.

**JHENIDAH**  
**1143 people sterilised**

Oct 13: A total of 1143 people were sterilised in six upazilas of the district during the last financial year of 1990-91, reports UNB.

According to official sources, nearly 1.20 lakh fertile couples were brought under different contraceptive methods during the year.

Of them, about 4167 women were given loops, copper-T or IUDs, 28,713 women were given injections and the rest 8,7110 people took other temporary birth control methods, sources added.

The upazilas are: Sadar, Shailakupa, Harinakunda, Kaliganj, Kotchandpur and Mpheshpur.

**NETRAKONA**  
**Arms recovered, two arrested**

Oct 13: Two fire arms holders were caught red handed by police Friday at village Sidlaur about 5 km from here, reports BSS.

The officer-in-charge Netrakona kotwali police station said police conducted a raid in the village and caught two persons with one pipegun and four rounds of live ammunition.

**PABNA**  
**Heroin recovered**

Oct 13: Narcotics Department of the district recovered 23 puria of heroin worth about Tk ten thousand and arrested three alleged heroin sellers from a shop near Rupkatha Cinema Hall area Thursday, reports UNB.

Official sources said, acting on a secret information, police raided the shop and recovered the heroin. They also nabbed Rafiquzzaman (18), Altaf Hossain (21) and Abdus Shukur (26) from there.

A departmental case was filed with local police in this connection.



The number of homeless people is increasing day by day. These uprooted people are crowding urban areas for their sustenance but passing agonising days in makeshift slums. Photo shows a woman with her kid in the lap cooking in the open in an unhygienic way endangering the health of her child in Narayanganj.

**Mushroom growth of hotels, restaurants in UZ towns**

**JAMALPUR**, Oct 13: Mushroom growth of hotels and restaurants in all the upazila headquarters and district town is posing health hazard to the inhabitants of the localities.

With the development of towns and consequent increase in the population, these hotels and restaurants have sprung up beside roads and in lanes.

It is learnt that most of these hotels are dirty and uncleaned. Food is prepared and stored in most unhygienic condition. It may be mentioned here that since there is no licenced residential hotel or restaurant in the upazila town. People who come from different places have no other choice but to go to these hotels.

The district and upazila level health administrations are not paying any heed to this menace.

It is alleged that some dishonest health administration officials take bribe from the hotel owners and other shopkeepers. As a result, these illegal shopkeepers are running their business unabatedly.

Meanwhile, adulterated edible oil is being sold in the district town and other upazila towns with impunity.

On the other hand palm oil meant for preparation of soaps and other chemicals are being

**From Our Correspondent**

mixed with mustard and soyabean oil and is sold in the markets.

It is reported that a section of organised gang is selling these adulterated edible oil, ghee, coconut oil to the whole-sellers.

Knowing the facts some grocers are purchasing such adulterated oil and selling the same to customers. The poor customers getting the same at the cheaper price are buying them without any hesitation. The law enforcing agency and health and sanitary officials have been indifferent to the matter.

**Cattle disease**

A large number of cattle-heads have been attacked with various diseases in all seven upazilas of the district. The most affected upazilas are Shatishabari, Islampur and Madarganj.

According to an official source, at least 50 heads of cattle perished so far. The diseases locally known as Gola Fula and Khura have broken out alarmingly which cripple the affected cattle due to infection in jaws and hooves.

At present over 3000 cattle-heads are suffering from these diseases in different villages of the district.

It is alleged that most of the cattlehead lost due to wrong treatment by unqualified doctors, compounders, quacks.

**Pests damage sugarcane plants in Thakurgaon**

**THAKURAGON**, Oct 13: A vast tracts of land with standing sugarcane plants have been severally attacked by pest in Panchagar, Thakurgaon and Setabganj Sugar Mills Zone.

**From Our Correspondent**

15,000 acres of land have been planted by the Thakurgaon Sugar Mills for the coming crushing season of which 1,000 acres under the direct supervision of the mills. Last year, the planting area was 14,000 acres under the mills.

**Wheat misappropriated**

Shortage of sixteen metric tons of foodgrains in Haripur local supply depot under Thakurgaon district was detected after a physical verification by the District Anti Corruption Department.

**6 killed in Mymensingh road mishap**

**MYMENSINGH**, Oct 13: At least six persons, including a woman, were killed in a road accident Friday at Ratmoni, Trishal upazila, about 25 kms from here, reports BSS.

Mymensingh medical sources said yesterday the victims were travelling in two mini buses which collided head on and one fell into a roadside ditch.

One died on the spot, one his way to hospital and four succumbed to their injuries, the sources said.

They said 12 persons were given first aid but 14 were still being treated at the hospital.

Of the six victims, four have been identified as Abdul Mannan Kenu (35), Waliullah (70), Abdur Rahman (25) and Afia Khatun (45).

**7 expelled from Kushtia BNP**

**From Our Correspondent**  
**KUSHITIA**, Oct 13: Kushtia district BNP committee has expelled seven prominent members of the committee. According to a press release signed by Advocate Masud Rummy, President and Advocate Azizur Rahman, Secretary district BNP. The expelled leaders are Advocate Abdul Kader, Public Prosecutor and Vice President, Firoz Aftabuddin, Youth Secretary Abdul Mannan Babu, Publicity Secretary and Prof Mohsin Ali, Abdur Rashid, Mohsin Ali and Anwar Hossain Amu, members of Kushtia district BNP committee.

**BARI officials protest assault on colleague**

**From Our Correspondent**  
**GAZIPUR**, Oct 13: The officials of the Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute here boycotted office and marched through the streets today protesting assault of their colleague in Ishuardi.

ABM Abul Khair, an official of the institute's regional office in Ishuardi, was allegedly assaulted by the chairman of the local municipal corporation recently.

The officers also submitted a memorandum to the Deputy Commissioner of Gazipur district demanding trial of the attacker.

Meanwhile, local unit of the Jatiya Party held a rally at Batiara and brought out a procession in observance of party's 'Ershad Release Day'. JP leader Shahidullah Bachchu presided.

**She was killed for seeking justice**

**SIRAJGANJ**, Oct 13: A teenage girl was brutally killed just a day before the hearing of a case she filed against a man for violating her, reports UNB.

According to police, Rahela (18) of village Panichgachi in Kaziupur upazila of the district was allegedly raped by one Abul Kalam (24) of the same village in January.

Rahela lodged a case with the local police against Kalam. Police after investigation issued charge-sheet against the absconding accused. The Upazila Magistrate fixed September 29 for hearing of the case.

But Rahela who became pregnant following the incident was kidnapped and killed on the night of September 28. Police recovered her body on the following day from a sugarcane field.

Rahela's father Bahadur Ali Mondal filed a case with Kaziupur police accusing Abul Kalam and three others for the murder.



**New Chairman of RAKUB**

The government has nominated Enran Ali Sarker, ex-minister as the Chairman of Board of Director of Rajshahi Krishi Unnayan Bank (RAKUB) says a press release.

Mr. Mirza Muraduzzaman MP, Sirajgonj and Mr. Golam Rabbani MP, Joypurhat are also nominated as the Directors of the Board. Managing Director of the Bank, Divisional Commissioner Rajshahi and Additional Director, Agriculture Extension, Rajshahi will also be the Directors of the Board. It is also known that one Joint Secretary of Ministry of Finance will be the Director who will represent the ministry.

**Special credit programme**

Meanwhile, Rajshahi Krishi Unnayan Bank (RAKUB) has taken up a special credit programme for the farmer who have incurred loss during the last devastating flood. RAKUB will disburse Taka 12 crore for ITAP (Intensive Transplanted-Aman Production). It is the part of normal credit programme of Taka 125 crore for the current financial year. This money will be disbursed by the bank's 294 branches through 106 programmes. During the last three months Taka five crore has already been paid. For ITAP Taka one crore 50 lakh has been already disbursed. Branches were instructed to advance more credit as per requirement of the farmers so that no production is hampered for want of credit.

**Hospital project at Alamdanga shelved**

**From Our Correspondent**  
**CHUADANGA**, Oct 13: The proposed 10-bed hospital at Alamdanga upazila headquarters under Chuadanga district has been shelved for want of fund.

The Alamdanga upazila health complex in village Hardi is three miles away from the upazila headquarters. The people of Alamdanga proper have been demanding a 10-bed hospital at Alamdanga upazila headquarters for the last 10 years. The site for the hospital was selected eight years back and the government even approved the scheme but for want of fund the work could not be advanced further. The uncertainty over the construction of the hospital has shattered the hopes of the people of proper medicare.

At present the upazila health complex which is three miles of the upazila headquarters had failed to cope with rising demand of medicare for about three lakh people of Alamdanga upazila.

In addition to this the present upazila health complex is beset with manifold problems. There is no ambulance to take the serious patients to the health complex. On the other hand the complex lacks in modern equipment and medicine in comparison to the patients. There is also no morgue in the hospital in any part of the upazila.

**Power failure**

Frequent power failure, fluctuations in voltage and loadshedding have become a regular feature in Chuadanga.

Maintenance of voltage comes to 130 in place of 220 causing damage to electrical gadgets of the consumers.

Repeated complaints in this regard were lodged but to no effects. Utter negligence in duty and lack of proper maintenance cause much disturbances. Meanwhile, illegal and unauthorised consumption of electricity has become rampant in most of the above upazilas including Chuadanga district headquarters, it is alleged.

It is further alleged that a section of dishonest consumers is using electricity illegally in collusion with unscrupulous employers of PDB in exchange of illegal gratification. It is learnt that most of the metre readers of local PDB do not visit the houses of consumers and they make imaginary and inflated bills.

Sometimes bills of several months are prepared at a time illegally on the basis of average consumption causing a problem for the consumers to pay the bills.

Besides, a large number of villages are yet to be electrified in Chuadanga district. Unauthorised and illegal use of metres is also causing untold inconveniences in respect of getting electricity regularly.

**One convicted for second marriage**

**From Our Correspondent**

**HABIGANJ**, Oct 13: Mr Ashish Kumar Sarkar, First Class Upazila Magistrate, Baniyanchong found one Mattur Rahman son of Hazi Rafiqullah of village Gathrapasa, Baniyanchong guilty and convicted him for second marriage recently.

The Magistrate sentenced Mattur to suffer simple imprisonment (SI) for six months and fined Taka 2000 in default to suffer SI for another one month.

According to the prosecution case, accused Mattur in November, married another woman Maleka Bibi of village Sreemongol Kandi under Baniyanchong upazila without consent of his first wife and also without the permission of Arbitration Council violating the provision of Muslim Family Law Ordinance, 1961.

Morzina Khatoun filed a case under the Muslim Family Law Ordinance against her husband in the court of Upazila Magistrate, Baniyanchong on June 11, 1990. The case was tried by the said Magistrate and after examining witnesses and evidences he found the accused guilty of the offence and passed the above judgement recently.

The accused was sent to Habiganj jail custody. Advocate Md Abdul Hye moved the case on behalf of the prosecution while Advocate Alauddin Talukdar appeared for the accused.

**Husband jailed for killing wife**

Our Gaibandha Correspondent adds: District and Sessions Judge Mr Abdul Hai in a judgement awarded life term to one Solaiman on charge of killing his wife and fined him Taka 3,000 in default to suffer one month's more rigorous imprisonment.

The prosecution case was that on April 8, 1990 accused Solaiman of village Kishmat Bagchi under Sadullapur Upazila killed his wife Momena Begum at his residence. The accused hit the victim with a candle stick being engaged from a quarrel developed between the couple over some family matters. As a result Momena died instantly.

The accused remained absconding soon after the incident. On examining the witnesses the accused was found guilty of murder and sentenced him to suffer life term in absentia.

**Special post-flood aid project in Nilphamari**

**RANGPUR**, Oct 13: Rangpur-Dinajpur Rural Service (RDRS) is taking up a special post-flood assistance project in Nilphamari district to help 15,000 worst-affected families of Nilphamari Sadar, Domar and Saidpur upazilas, reports BSS.

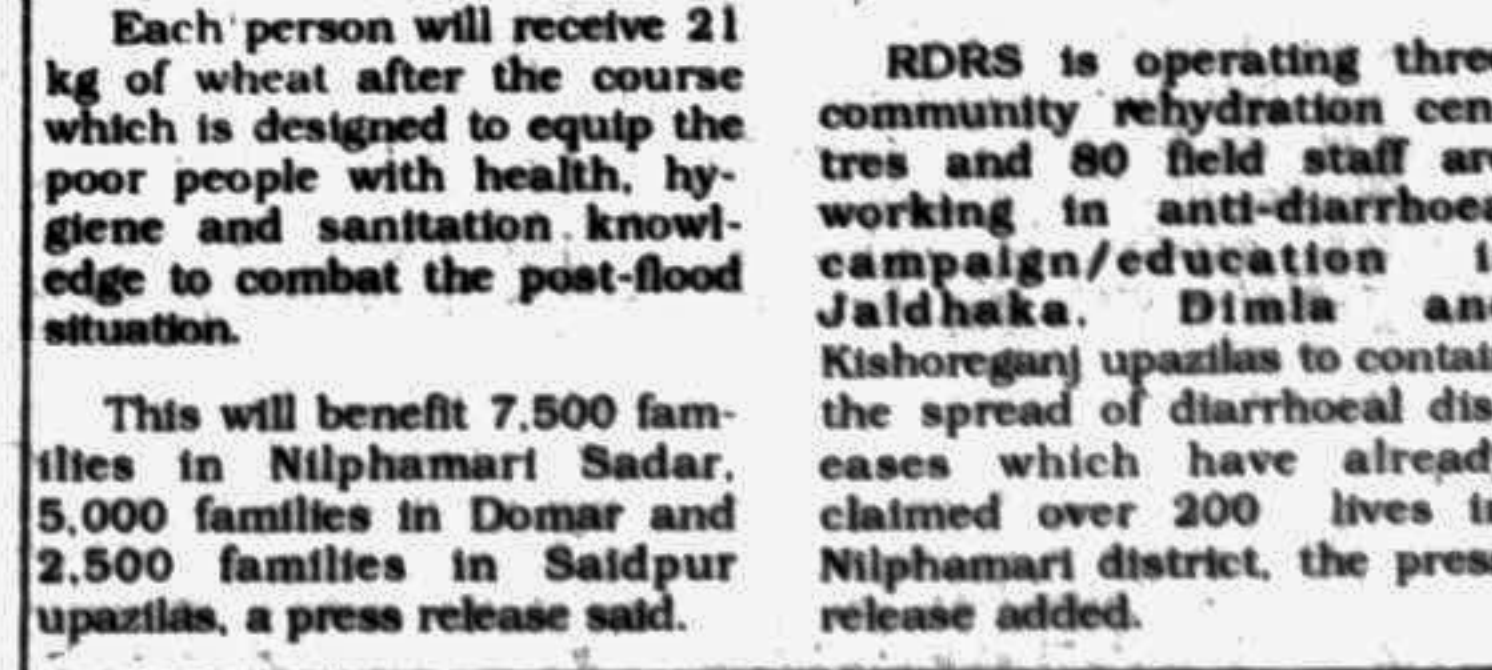
RDRS is expecting 465 metric tonnes of wheat from the World Food Programme (WFP) for distribution to 15,000 people who will attend a 6-day health education course.

Each person will receive 21 kg of wheat after the course which is designed to equip the poor people with health, hygiene and sanitation knowledge to combat the post-flood situation.

This will benefit 7,500 families in Nilphamari Sadar, 5,000 families in Domar and 2,500 families in Saidpur upazilas, a press release said.

The flood and diarrhoeal situation being acute in Nilphamari district, RDRS has been providing emergency relief and assistance in Jaldhaka, Dima and Kishoreganj upazilas involving over Tk 7,00,000 (seven lakh) for providing food, IV fluid, soap bleaching powder, medicines, tubewells, latrine slabs, cash assistance, utensils, vegetable seeds, wheat and paddy seeds, poultry birds and irrigation support.

RDRS is operating three community rehydration centres and 80 field staff are working in anti-diarrhoeal campaign/education in Jaldhaka, Dima and Kishoreganj upazilas to contain the spread of diarrhoeal diseases which have already claimed over 200 lives in Nilphamari district, the press release added.



**CHANDPUR**: Members of the local Rotary Club planting saplings as part of their afforestation programme in the town recently.