

Upazila roundup

SATKHIRA

Two stabbed, motor cycle snatched away

Nov 1: A gang of miscreants snatched away a motor cycle and over Tk one thousand from two employees of a local Shrimp field after stabbing them in Assantun upazila of the district, police said, reports UNB.

Witnesses said, Abul Kasem and Ashraf were attacked at Ghutirdanga Wednesday evening while they were returning home from the Shrimp field and decamped with the booties.

The cause behind the attack could not be ascertained but local report assumed that it might be enmity over shrimp cultivation.

A case was filed with local police in this connection.

SIRAJGANJ

Truck loaded with Indian sugar seized

Nov 1: Police seized a truck with Indian sugar weighing six and a half metric tons and arrested one person on Bogra-Dhaka Highway near Ullapara this morning, reports UNB.

The arrested person was identified as Labu Miah of Savar, Dhaka.

The truck was advancing towards Dhaka.

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

COMILLA

Journalists Assoc executives

Nov 1: The election to the Comilla journalists union was held on Thursday to elect a five-member Executive Committee for the year 1991-93, reports UNB.

Principal Dewar Jahid was elected President and Khairul Ahsan Mantik Vice President, Nazrul Islam Babul GS, Ali Akbar Masum as Organising Secretary and treasurer Md. Shahidullah.

JAMALPUR

BKB Karmachari Sangsad conference held

Nov 1: A conference of Jamalpur regional branch of Bangladesh Krishi Bank Karmachari Sangsad was held at its office at station road recently, reports BSS.

Presided over by unit chief Mr. Abdul Wares Talukder the conference was addressed among others by Mr. Abdullah Kha, Acting President as chief guest, Mr. Idris Ali Vice-President, Mr. Abdul Haque, Joint Secretary of central committee and Mr Abdul Latif, General Secretary, Mymensingh zonal unit as special guest.

JHALAKATHI

127 test relief projects implemented

Nov 1: A total of 127 projects were completed in four upazilas of Jhalakathi district under special test relief programme in the current season, reports BSS.

According to an official source, the projects included repair of roads earthwork and cleanliness of bushes and water-hyacinths.

Of the total, 14 projects were completed in Jhalakathi Sadar upazila, 42 project in Rajapur, 14 projects in Kathalia, 40 projects in Nalchity upazila and 17 in Jhalakathi Purushawa area.

The government had sanctioned 250 metric tons of wheat worth about Taka eight lakh for the implementation of the projects, the source said.

NETRAKONA

Plea to raise phone exchange capacity

Nov 1: The existing telephone system is quite inadequate here for the growing demand of one lakh town-dwellers, reports UNB.

According to official sources, there are only 400 phone connections in the town while a large number of applications for new connections have been lying pending with the local telephone office for a long time.

The demand for new lines has been increasing with the upgradation of the subdivision to a district.

The applicants have urged the authorities to take necessary steps to raise the capacity of the telephone exchange to ensure adequate new connections.

KHAGRACHHARI

Shantibahini men kill peace motivation member

Nov 1: A member of Peace Motivation Programme was shot dead Tuesday morning by outlawed Shantibahini activists, police here said, reports UNB.

The victim Urimohan Tripura (35), of Panchari upazila was killed at Jagatsen Mouza while returning home from the village hat.

Urimohan was the member of the on going Peace Motivation Programme in the Hill Tracts region disturbed by the insurgents.

His body was sent to morgue for autopsy and a case has been filed in this connection.

BRAHMANBARIA

Youth commits suicide

Nov 1: A youth allegedly committed suicide by taking poison Wednesday afternoon in Sadar upazila of the district, hospital sources said, reports UNB.

The victim Giasuddin (25), son of Altaf Ali of village Telnagar was rushed to Sadar hospital where he succumbed.

The reason behind the suicide could not be ascertained.

The body was sent to morgue for autopsy.

A case was filed with local police in this connection.

BARISAL

Govt college teachers hold meeting

Nov 1: A meeting of the teachers of government colleges of the southern districts was held at Government Brojomohun College library on October 28 with Professor Md. Hanif, Principal of the College, in the chair, reports BSS.

Professor Jahanara Begum, Principal of the Eden Girls College and chairperson of Bangladesh Sarkari College Shikkhak Samity was present at the meeting as chief guest.

The meeting was addressed, among others, by Syed Aminul Haq, A. Khalique, Qudrat-e-Khuda, Himangshu Kumar Misra, A. Rab and Sydur Rahman.

The meeting was also attended by the principals of Bhola Government College, Gournadi Government College, Fazilatunnessa Women's College and Chakhar F. H. Government College.

RAJSHAHI

Water treatment plant yet to be set up

Nov 1: The water treatment plant of Rajshahi City Corporation which was planned to be set up with Dutch assistance is still to get out of the red-tape, reports UNB.

The proposal had been submitted to the concerned ministry a few years ago but no decision has yet been taken while the city dwellers suffer for want of pure drinking water.

On the other hand, the present water-supply of the city is said to be too insufficient to the demand of its population. Only 30 lakh gallons of water is now supplied to about four and a half lakh residents of the city where at least 80 lakh gallons are the minimum need.

It is learnt that there is no possibility of taking any step to manage the problems in near future.

PAUNA

Erosion renders 500 families homeless

Nov 1: At least 500 families in 15 villages of Bera upazila here were rendered homeless by the unabated erosion of the river Jamuna during the last three days, reports UNB.

The worst affected villages are: Dewan, Tarotia, Vaerakhola, Pesakhola, Nakali, Haturia, Natunvarenga, Puranvarenga, Raghunathpur, Kazirhat, Natibpur, Jatsakine, Dalarchaur, Gonopotidia and Judhpur.

Upazila Chairman Rawshan Ali informed that standing crops on 150 acres of land had been washed away in the affected areas.

The Chairman also said, 400 years old Nakalia river port was devoured by the river during the period adding that so far 300 weaving factories have gone into the water rendering a large number of workers jobless.

Fish diseases break out in Narail



Fish affected with ulcerative syndrome at a village in Narail.

— Star photo

NARAIL, Nov 1: Fish diseases have broken out and are spreading fast in three upazilas of the district, reports UNB.

Fish like koi, shole, magur, shing, puti, takt have been largely affected by the disease known as ulcerative syndrome.

The affected upazilas are: Narail Sadar, Lohagara and Kalia. The local Fishery Department has advised the people to spray lime water in the water bodies to control the menace.

Current net

A report from Manikganj adds: Local fisheries department have seized 310 current nets and filed 122 cases against the fishermen for catching fish fry illegally in the district during this season.

Official sources said most of the fishermen have been using current nets for catching fish fry from different water bodies violating government ban.

Meanwhile, mobile courts have been set up to check the use of current nets and catch-

ing of fry. A fine of Taka 2550 has so far been realised from fishermen involved in illegal fishing.

Fish production in Manikganj district is gradually decreasing due to various reasons which include siltation of rivers, canals and ponds and indiscriminate catching of fish fry with current nets.

The district is facing a shortage of fish, fisheries department officials said, adding, the annual production reduced by about 7,500 metric tons. The average yearly fish production of the district is only 6,000 metric tons.

Production could be increased to 4,000 metric tons by introducing scientific methods.

Experts here believe that fish production sharply decreased due to feeble water flow in the rivers Padma, Jamuna, Kalliganga, Dhaleshwari and Ichhamoti caused by the withdrawal at Farakka.

TB patients on the rise in Barisal

From Our Correspondent

BARISHAL, Nov 1: TB patients are on the increase in southern region of the country. According to the informed sources, unawareness of TB is the main cause for rapid spread of this disease.

According to a survey report 40 per cent patients have been attacked with this disease through regular association with TB patients and the rest 60 per cent are for smoking and other reasons.

Dr. Siddiqur Rahman, Medical Officer, Barisal TB Clinic told this correspondent that there are more than 50 lakh TB patients in the country while about 80,000 of the die every year.

About 30 to 35 TB patients are being treated in Barisal TB clinic everyday. The maximum patients come from Amanatganj, Kaunia, Bhatkhana, Hatkhola and other nearby char areas.

A clinic source said that the disease is spreading through affected person's cough and saliva.

Pry education
The primary education faces setback in the district is facing manifold problems for long.

Shortage to students, teachers, necessary furniture and other problems are now

acute almost in every primary school of the district.

According to the primary education department, there are 4249 posts of teachers for 952 government primary schools but now 4151 teachers are working thus 98 posts are lying vacant for a long time.

Floating dock

The only floating dock of Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority (BIWTA) in the country may go out of order very soon due to absence of necessary repair work.

It may be mentioned here that this floating dock was imported from Germany and set up by the then EPWTA — the only marine workshop of the authority at Barisal in 1968. Any marine craft of about 800 tons can be repaired lifting on its gangway.

It is also to be mentioned here that rivercraft of different government, non-government and private organisation are being repaired here for the last 22 years. But as this floating dock was not repaired timely it now requires an overall renovation.

M.G. Kibria, Chairman, IWTA told that repair of the dock is urgently needed but due to shortage of necessary fund repair work is being delayed.

8 jailed for murder

FENI, Nov 1: Eight people have been sentenced to life imprisonment for killing a man and fined Tk 10,000 each or in default, to suffer one more year of rigorous imprisonment, reports UNB.

District and Sessions Judge Azizul Hoque awarded the punishment in a judgement Sunday.

The convicted are: Sirajul Islam of East Chandrapur Union of Dagonbhuiyan upazila and his accomplices Abdul Gofran, Giasuddin, Jashim, Mintu, Abdus Sattar, Humayun and Abdullah-Al Mamun.

According to prosecution story, Sirajul Islam and his men shot and killed Ali Ahmed of village Rohgunathpur of the same upazila last year out of enmity.

A case was filed and after investigation, police submitted charge sheet against the nine including Siraj. The other accused Abdul Jahl, was acquitted.

JCD, BCL clash in Sirajganj: 7 hurt

SIRAJGANJ, Nov 1: A clash between two rival groups at a college here today left seven students injured, two of them seriously. The activists of Jatiyatibadi Chhatra Dal and Bangladesh Chhatra League clashed with each other with sharp weapons and hockey sticks at the local government college premises at about 11.30 am, reports UNB.

Existence of genuine fishermen threatened

From Our Correspondent

SATKHIRA, Nov 1: Thousands of fishermen in the low-lying areas of the district have been facing hurdles in carrying on their age-old profession due to acute scarcity of fund and price hike of fishing appliances like nets and boats.

A fishing boat along with a net is being sold at Taka one lakh which is beyond the purchasing capacity of the poor fishermen. Satkhira district was once famous for producing different kinds of fish in large scale. The fishes of the area used to be distributed to the different parts of the country everyday after meeting up local requirements.

About 25,000 fishermen living in the district earn their livelihood by fishing in the rivers, beels, canals, haors and ponds. A number of fishermen told 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 fishing profession threatening the interest of the genuine fishermen. According to the existing law beels and jalmahals are to be leased to the genuine fish-

ermen but some ejaradars in collusion with the local vested groups are giving lease to the fake fishermen.

Besides, genuine fishermen are unable to catch fish normally even after getting lease in most cases. The non-professionals forcibly catch fish and take away the nets and fishing appliances of the professionals.

Law, order discussed

The district Law and Order Committee meeting was held at the conference room of the Deputy Commissioner Satkhira recently. Mr. Katebur Rahman, Deputy Commissioner Satkhira was in the chair.

Mr. Fardid Hasan, Police Super, Satkhira, Mr. Ershad Khan, ADM, Mr. Abdul Malak ADC (General), Upazila Chairman, UNO's, principals of the colleges, President, Satkhira Press Club and district level officials were present.

The meeting took decision on erratic power supply, illegal sale of liquor, gambling, teasing of school and college going girls, anti-social elements and smuggling.

The SP told at the meeting that law and order situation had been improved.



Distressed people in a big queue to take loan from Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee (BRAC) at Syedpur in Rangpur district.

— Star photo

Tk 79 lakh for post-flood rehabilitation

GAIBANDHA, Nov 1: The Government has sanctioned Tk 79 lakhs for the flood victims of seven upazilas of the district under Post Flood Agri-Rehabilitation Programme, reports UNB.

Rehabilitation Committee sources said, under this programme, peasants listed by District Agriculture Department will get boro and wheat seeds and fertiliser to cultivate at least on one acre of land.

Bangladesh Agricultural Development Corporation (BADC) will supply wheat and boro seeds among the farmers.

Peasants who have more than 2.50 acres of land will not get the facilities, source added. A BSS reports adds: A meeting of Rangpur District Relief and Rehabilitation Coordination Committee held on Thursday had threeday discussions for creating permanent job opportunity for down-trodden people of the district specially in the months of mid-September to mid-November.

The Relief Coordinator Wing Commander (Retd) Hamidullah Khan MP was apprised in the meeting of the on-going development activities of different government organisations including BRDB, Agriculture, Livestock and Trestia Barrage, a PID handout said.

It was disclosed in the meeting that work in 1509 projects with an allocation of 2700 metric tons of wheat under test relief programme was in full-swing through out the

district to provide job to unemployed people and to re-build rural infrastructure. The meeting was informed that so far 1475-metric tons of rice, 620 metric tons wheat, Taka

8.25 lakh, 43485 special VOD cards and other relief goods as gratuitous relief and Tk 15.50 lakh as house-building grant have been distributed among the flood affected people.

Total relief goods being distributed in cash and kind in the district stood at Taka 5 crore 27 lakh.

Addressing the meeting Mr. Hamidullah Khan said the government was contemplating for the permanent solution of employment problem of the district in this period of the year. He asked the officials to formulate development programmes so that unemployed people could be provided to minimise their sufferings.

The elected office-bearers are — Mr. Sirajul Haque President (Dainik Meflat), Mr. Jalaluddin Vice President, (Dainik Jhonpad), Mr. Hasan Ali General Secretary (Dainik Desh), Mr. Masudur Rahman Chowdhury Joint Secretary (Nobovujan), Mr. Rai Ranjan Pal Treasurer, Mr. Haroon Mollaji Literature and Sports Secretary, Mr. Mihir Kanti Baidda Member.

It is learnt that at the dead of night a gang of criminals forcibly entered the house of Ananda Mohan Das of village Boro Bakiar under Nabiganj upazila and assaulted the inmates of the house and forcibly kidnapped the girl. The injured inmates of the house later admitted to Nabiganj Hospital.

A case has been started by Nabiganj police station in this connection.

Office-bearers
The election of the office-bearers of Chunarughat Press Club under Habiganj district

was held in a meeting at Habiganj Press Club Bhavan recently.

Mr. Amir Hussain Advocate, President Habiganj Press Club presided over the meeting while Mr. Mansuruddin Ahmed iqbal, Habiganj Correspondent of the daily Ittefaq attended as the chief guest.

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They prescribe and sell medicines which very often prove contra-indicative and at time fatal to the patients.

Local doctors and leaders demanded strict enforcement of laws to regulate medicine business in the district.

Local people have urged the authorities to look into the problems and take necessary steps to solve the problems without further delay.

Medicine shop-owners in the district have been prescribing medicine to poor and illiterate people to boost their sales, health officials and local leaders alleged.

Most of the 500 shops in five upazilas do not possess drug licenses, have no chemist or trained compounders but doing good business at the risk of serious patients, they said.

Poor villagers who fail to call in or consult a medical practitioner, approach the shop-owners for help.

Students observe strike at Gopalganj

From Our Correspondent
GOPALGANJ, Nov 1: Strike was observed today in different educational institutions protesting abusive language used by Jatiyatibadi Chhatra Dal against Awami League chief and leader of the opposition Sheikh Hasina and lathicharges on Chhatra League (S-A) procession yesterday.

As a result of the strike, called by ISCL (S-A), all educational institutions remain closed. A big students procession paraded the streets and a rally was held at Collectorate premises which was addressed by Khondoker Khaled Aziz Shipu K II M Shahjahan, GM Shahabuddin Azam.

One jailed for murder

COMILLA, Nov 1: Mohammad Emdadul Haque, Additional Sessions Judge, 2nd court, here has sentenced a man to life imprisonment for murdering a fellow villager in 1987, reports UNB.

The court also fined him Tk 10,000 in default, to suffer one more year of rigorous imprisonment.

According to the prosecution, Bazulur Rahman, son of Abul Hossain of village Jinarbuh in Laksam upazila was called out by co-villager Munir Hossain and five others on the night of August 4, 1987.

When Bazul did not return after 2 days, his mother Karimunnissa lodged an FIR with the local police. Police arrested Munir who confessed that he along with his accomplices killed Bazul with a sharp dao. Police later recovered the body from a field near the bank of canal.

Eleven prosecution witnesses were examined in the case. The judge sentenced Munir to life term and acquitted five others in his recent judgement.

Advocate Tajul Islam A.P.P. appeared on behalf of the state while Advocate Khorshed Alam defended the accused.

Health complexes need care

PANCHAGARHI, Nov 1: Most of the health complexes in the district have been facing multifarious problems due to absence of ambulance, shortage of staff and medical equipment, reports UNB.

Everyday thousands of people from far flung areas of the district rush to the health complexes, but go back disappointed due to absence of proper treatment.

Most of the hospitals run by shortage of staff do not have any X-ray machine, blood bank, dental or ophthalmic treatment facilities causing much inconveniences to patients.

In the absence of ambulances, the emergency patients can not move to and from the health complexes for necessary treatment.

Paucity of pure water, lack of proper drainage system in the health complexes cause much sufferings to the patients.

It is alleged that valuable medicines including life-saving drugs supplied to the health complexes are very often sold in the black markets.

Local people have urged the authorities to look into the problems and take necessary steps to solve the problems without further delay.

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Poor villagers who fail to call in or consult a medical practitioner, approach the shop-owners for help.

They prescribe and sell medicines which very often prove contra-indicative and at time fatal to the patients.

Local doctors and leaders demanded strict enforcement of laws to regulate medicine business in the district.

Diarrhoea claims 9 more lives in Sylhet

SYLHET, Nov 1: Diarrhoea claimed nine more lives in Kamail village under Langura union during the last 4 days and attacked more than 300 others in five unions of Ouwarnighat upazila of the district, reports UNB.

Civil Surgeon office sources said, the water borne disease has been spreading in an epidemic form in this upazila.

Secrecy of pure water and taking of adulterated food are said to be the main causes behind the outbreak of the disease.

The upazila Chairman Dikdar Salm fears that if proper measures were not taken immediately, the situation may go out of control.

UP chairman jailed

MADARIPUR, Nov 1: Abu Aiem Mollah, ex-chairman, Ishipur union parishad under Rajpur upazila was sentenced to three years' rigorous imprisonment for defalcating wheat of a project under Food for Works. The court also fined him Tk 46,200, reports UNB.