

Upazila roundup

SIRAJGANJ

Rice prices mark rise

From Our Correspondent
March 28 : The price of different varieties of rice in Sirajganj district has registered a rise by taka two per kilogram on an average. The price of rice has been showing upward trend during the last fortnight. The coarse varieties of rice which were sold at Taka 11 per kilogram 15 days back is now being sold at Taka 13.

The fine variety of rice is now available at Taka 15 compared to Taka 13 per kilogram last fortnight. The retailers in the open market have attributed the short supply price rise. The whole sellers have pointed out the same reason. Consumers suspect hoarding behind the reason for price hike.

NARSINGDI

One killed

By DMCH Correspondent
March 28 : One person was killed on Wednesday at Narsingdi in a quarrel over a disputed land.
Hiron Mia, 35, received serious injuries on the head when he tried to stop two groups of feuding people at Satpara.

He was admitted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital at 12.30 p.m. but succumbed to his injuries at 5 p.m.

JHENIDAH

Two electrocuted

From Our Correspondent
March 28 : Two persons including a minor boy were electrocuted on Tuesday last evening at Dagbanga Bazar of Jhenidah Sadar Upazila of the district. While PDB workers were engaged in connecting a deep tubewell from an electric pole, the minor boy Jahir (10) touched the live wire which fell on the ground. One helper of the PDB Gamiruddin (20) who tried to save the boy was also electrocuted. PDB sources said. Two unnatural death cases were recorded with Jhenidah thana.

BARISAL

One shot dead

From Our Correspondent
March 28 : Unidentified gunmen shot and killed one Humayun Kabir (37) at Garladighir, 12 km off Barisal in Faridpur-Barisal highway on Monday evening, police said.
His body was brought to Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital for autopsy, hospital sources said.
The victim was possibly a member of outlawed Sharbahara Party and the killing was a sequel to party's inner conflict, police suspected. Nobody was arrested in this connection.

TANGAIL

Discussion on Ramzan held

March 28 : A discussion meeting on Ramzan and our duty was held recently in the district conference room, reports BSS.
Mr. Khan Shahabuddin, Deputy Commissioner, Tangail presided over the meeting

Law, order situation deteriorates in Barisal

From Our Correspondent

BARISAL, Mar 28 : The overall Law and Order situation mainly in village areas of the district is deteriorating day by day. Activities of armed miscreants are on rise in different upazilas alarmingly.
A group of armed miscreants numbering 25 to 26 attacked the house of Mongal Bario in broad daylight recently and looted away valuables over Taka one lakh and destroyed almost all the household materials. Later the miscreants set ablaze the house in which property worth Taka two lakh were gutted.

The incident occurred in the village Indurkani of Wazirpur upazila. On the same day in the evening a group of miscreants attacked the house of Akhoy Kumar of Kuraila village of the same upazila and looted away valuables worth Taka 50,000.

It is alleged that Susanta, son of Mongal Chandra Baroi of Indurkani village was kidnapped in 1989 and the kidnappers demanded a ransom of Taka one lakh for his release. Though their demand was fulfilled Susanta did not come back.

Following a dispute over purchasing of a land in Bakerganj upazila one group attacked the house of the pur-

where among others Superintendent of Police Chowdhury Kamrul Ahsan and Deputy Director, Islamic Foundation Mr. Akram Hossain spoke.
The meeting stressed the need of following the lesson inherent in Ramzan which is forgiveness, justice, self-restraint as per the Quran and the Hadid.

MYMENSINGH

One killed in dispute over tubewell water

From Our Correspondent
March 28 : Abdul Zaili (25), son of Sohrab Ali of village Bhatighagra under Sadar Upazila was allegedly killed by the neighbours recently.

It is reported that a dispute originated among the deceased and Miraj Ali and others following water sharing from a deep tubewell for their fields on the day before the incident occurred.

Sequel to that quarrel, next day both the sides attacked each other with lethal weapons and with the hurt of the Abdul Zaili died on the spot. Zamal (26), son of Nabab Ali has been admitted to Mymensingh Medical College Hospital with serious injuries.

COMILLA

Workshop on FP concludes

From A Correspondent
March 28 : A two day long workshop on Family Planning and Child Development, sponsored by Family and Child Development Institute, Comilla, held in the auditorium of Comilla Diabetic Association at Bagichagaon, concluded recently. ICOMP of Malaysia also aided the workshop. Twenty-two participants from different educational institutions, NGOs and government organisations took part in the workshop.

The concluding session was presided over by Dr. Zobeida Hannan while Dr. Shamsul Haq, Civil Surgeon, Comilla was the chief guest. Messrs M. A. Awal, Dr. Wali Ullah, President Comilla Diabetic Association, A. K. M. Abdus Salam, Project Director, Abdul Maabood Chowdhury, Training and Extension Officer, attended it.
The workshop largely discussed the far reaching effect on the children caused by the death of natural behaviour of parents and their lack in sexual knowledge.

JAMALPUR

Newsman's mother dead

From Our Correspondent
March 28 : Momena Begum, mother of Mr. Meherullah district based Correspondent "The Daily Star" and Secretary, Bangladesh Journalist Association (BJA) Jamalpur unit died on March 23 at her residence. She was 49.
She had been suffering from liver and gallbladder cancer. She left behind her husband, five sons, one daughter and a host of relations to mourn her death.
She was buried at family graveyard and her Qul Khawani was held at her residence at village Fulsinna in Jamalpur district.

2 women commit suicide in Muktagacha

MYMENSINGH, Mar 28 :

Two women allegedly committed suicide in Muktagacha upazila in two separate incidents last week, police here said, reports UNB.
Julekha (25), wife of Shohrab Ali of Taratichar Para village hanged herself to death.

Shilpi (18), daughter of Mokbul Hossain of Mugheltula village committed suicide by taking pesticides.

Family sources attributed the cause to family feud in both cases.
Two cases were filed with Muktagacha police.



Collecting IRRI seedlings for transplantation at Dhaka-Narayanganj-Demra (DND) project near Adamjee Nagar in Narayanganj district.

Tk 64 lakh already spent

Khulna-Mongla rly project shelved

From Our Correspondent

BAGERHAT, Mar 28: The Khulna-Mongla Railway Project could not be implemented during the last 26 years though a sum of Taka 64 lakh has already been spent.

According to a knowledgeable source, importance of Mongla (previously Chalna) sea port under Bagerhat Sub-division (now district) the then East Pakistan government undertook 47 kilometre long Khulna-Mongla Railway project in 1965-66 to link Khulna and Chalna (now Mongla) where a permanent port was being constructed and an amount of Taka three crore 20 lakh 50 thousand was earmarked for the project.

In order to implement the project some 100 acres of land were acquired and a sum of taka 20 lakh was spent as compensation paid to the owners.

Besides, office and rest house buildings were constructed and a huge quantity of bricks was manufactured for the project at a cost of Taka 20 lakh. In the year 1976 an amount of taka five lakh was also sanctioned for the project. But for unknown reasons the project was shelved.

Not only that the bricks and acquired lands were handed over to the Roads and Highways Department. It now appears that there is no probability of executing this important railway project in near future.

The local people say that if this project is not implemented the importance of Mongla Sea Port and greater Khulna district will be lost.

After liberation the construction of a permanent port at Mongla began and by this time five jetties have been

completed which are ready for operation.

According to an estimate, after the implementation of other projects, the port will have a capacity to handle five million tons of import export cargoes annually.

At present, on an average, the port handles about 18 lakh tons of cargoes annually. To make it operational as well as financially viable the necessary infrastructure including improved communication with Khulna and rest of the country are needed. A road in between Khulna and Mongla has been completed a few years ago with the assistance of Asian Development Bank. But transport cost of goods through the road is much higher than that of railways or waterways.

The proposed railway link project between Khulna and Mongla, particularly in the northern and southern districts, should immediately be taken up. Besides, the rail link project if implemented, will connect the entire western part of the country with other side of the river Ganges (Padma) and Nepal and Bhutan across Indian state of West Bengal.

It may be mentioned here that the Government of Nepal and Bhutan were willing to use the facilities of Mongla Port for shipment of their imported and exported cargoes because of congestion and delay of cargo handling at the Calcutta Port.

The informed sources feel that immediate measures should be taken by the government to implement the project which, according to railway sources, will be commercially viable and will open a new era of development in the northern part of the country.

Renewed pledge to uphold independence

From Our Correspondent

NARAYANGANJ, March 28 : The 21st Independence and National Day was celebrated here with much enthusiasm Tuesday.

Various political, student and socio-cultural organisations chalked out programmes to mark the occasion.

The programmes included a combined march past by the Police, VDP, Ansar, Fire Brigade, BNCC, scouts, girls guide and other juvenile organisations, discussion meetings, musical soiree, exhibition, cricket match and documentary film show at Narayanganj Osmani Stadium. Deputy Commissioner Mr. Md. Harunur Rashid took the salute at the march past.

Leo Club of Narayanganj held a discussion meeting on the day at Narayanganj Labour Welfare Centre.

The founder President of the Leo Club Mr. Abdus Salam was the chief guest while Professor Khaled Hossain was the special guest.

Presided over by Mr. Rabibul Haidary the meeting was addressed by Dr. Najmul Alam and Monirul Islam past President of the club.

Chuadanga

A Correspondent from Chuadanga adds : The Independence and National Day was observed here in a befitting manner. The day was heralded with booming of 21 gun salute. National flag was hoisted atop public and private buildings.

The day's programme included holding of sports competition, illumination of public building, exhibition, of documentary film on the War of Liberation, supply of improved diet in hospital, jail and orphanage. The day was ceremoniously observed in the local stadium with hoisting of national flag and singing of anthem.

Mr. M. Tajul Islam, Deputy Commissioner, Chuadanga took salute of the smartly march past of the platoons of BDR, Police, boy scout, girls guide, Mukulful, BNCC, students of high school and orphanage. The orphanage students

displayed an attractive physical feat.

Addressing the rally the Deputy Commissioner recalled the spirit of heroic people of the country and sacrifices of the valiant forces who embraced martyrdom to attain independence of the country.

Sherpur

Our Sherpur Correspondent adds : Independence and National Day was observed in a befitting manner in the district. The day was heralded by 31 gunfires at midnight. With renewed vows to uphold the ideals and objective of shaheeds who laid down their lives for the mother land in 1971.

Body recovered

From Our Correspondent

MANIKGANJ, Mar 28: A dead body of an unknown man and three others with serious injuries were found under a bridge of Dhaka-Jitka road near village Gilando under Sadar upazila here yesterday.

People found these men with serious injuries and both eyes of one of the victims were gouged. One of them could utter his name as Ayub Ali of Sonargaon of Narayanganj. The dead man was about 45 years old.



CHANDPUR: Mr. Matu Rahman, Principal, Chandpur Government College distributing prizes on the concluding day of the science fair recently.

District administration and all the political parties such as Bangladesh Jatiyatabadi Dal, Bangladesh Awami League, Jatiya Party, BAKSHAL, CPB, JSD, socio-cultural organisations observed the day with their respective programme which included seminar, procession, discussion meeting, recitation of poems, and cultural function. Milad mahfil was also arranged and destitutes were served with improved food. National flags were hoisted atop all private and public buildings.

Faridpur

Our Faridpur Correspondent adds : The Independence and National Day was

Potters face hardship

MANIKGANJ, Mar 28: Pottery industry in the district has been declining due to price hikes of inputs and marketing facilities, reports UNB.

According to sources, prices of dice, chemicals, clays and dye have registered a sharp rise beyond the purchasing capacity of the poor artisans.

The potters said the prices of raw materials have increased almost doubled in the recent past.



CHANDPUR: Mr. Matu Rahman, Principal, Chandpur Government College distributing prizes on the concluding day of the science fair recently.

observed here with enthusiasm. The day was heralded by 31 gunfire in the morning. National flag was hoisted atop all the government and private buildings of the town. A children's rally and march past were held at Faridpur Stadium at 8 a.m.

The Deputy Commissioner of Faridpur took the salute. Besides, improved diet was served among the inmates of the local general hospital, jail, and orphanages. A discussion meeting was held in the evening.

Kushtia

BSS from Kushtia adds : Independence day was observed here in a befitting manner.

Twentyone gun booms at one minute past twelve at night at Kushtia police station heralded the occasion. National flag was hoisted atop all government and private buildings. BNCC, boyscouts, rovers, girls guide and students from all educational institutions held a rally at Kushtia stadium. The Deputy Commissioner took salute from the march past in the morning. Shooting competition was held at Kushtia rifle club at 10 a.m.

A discussion meeting was held at Kushtia public library at 11 a.m. Special prayers were offered at Kushtia Jame Mosque after Zohor prayer.

Improved food was supplied to the inmates of jails, hospitals, and Shishu Sadan at 12 noon. Shishu Academy organised a cultural function in the afternoon at Shishu Academy premises.

A cultural function was held at Shilpakala Academy in the evening.

Rajshahi

A message from Rajshahi adds : The Independence and National Day was observed here today in a befitting manner.

The day was heralded with the booming of 21 gun salute at one minute past 12 midnight.

Political scene

JCD demands early trial of Ershad

From Our Correspondent

JAMALPUR, Mar 28: Local unit at Bangladesh Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) brought out a big procession and paraded different roads at the town recently.

The processionists urged the government to expedite the trial of former President Ershad.

A meeting was held at Bukultola square in the town. The meeting was presided over by JCD district convenor Shahidul Haque Khan Dulai and was addressed by local A.M. College V.P. Alamgir Hussain, G.S. Jamal Hossain, Lukman Ahmed Lotan and Krishna Chandra Shaha.

Jatiya Party, Jamalpur district unit brought out a procession in the town recently demanding immediate release of former President H.M. Ershad.

The procession was started from railway crossing and dispersed at local Shaheed Minar. The procession was led by former JP MP Mr. Shafiqul Islam Khoka.

Kishoreganj

Our Kishoreganj Correspondent says: Local Jatiya Party leaders demanded immediate release of ousted President H.M. Ershad and withdrawal of cases against him.

Ershad won all the five seats he contested and this proved that he was never an autocrat, the JP leaders said while addressing a Press conference here on Saturday last.

Jatiya party never resorted to politics of terrorism and peoples confidence in the party had been shown by the election results.

Despite impediments created in JP's election campaign, the party did fine securing 35 seats throughout the country, they added.

They thanked the local administration and law enforcing agencies for smooth conducting of the parliamentary polls on February 27.

They also demanded withdrawal of arrest orders against the party's other central leaders.

Advocate Nurul Islam, Advocate Golam Rabbani Bulbul, A.T.M. Mostafa, A.K.M. Shamsul Hoque Ranu, Md. Alamgir Kabir, ex. M.P. Abdul Latif Bhuiyan, Md. Shahabuddin were among others who addressed the Press conference.

Cox's Bazar

Our Cox's Bazar Correspondent writes: Nezam-e-Islam party and its front organisation Islami Chhatra Samaj jointly organised a rally to keep the holiness of Ramzan.

The rally was presided over by Moulana Solaiman and addressed by Moulana Nurul Haq Arman, central secretary of the party, Rezaul Karim, Hafez Abdur Rahim.

Moulana Nurul Haq in his speech urged the district administration to ensure adequate water supply in the town mosque and to control price-hike. Later he handed over a

memorandum to the Deputy Commissioner. A procession paraded the main roads of the town in this connection.

A protest rally was held by Islami Chhatra Shibir, Cox's Bazar district unit recently at the death of Sheikh Firoz Mahmood, a Chhatra Shibir leader of Chittagong University.

The rally paraded the main roads of the town chanting slogans against socialism and Awami Chhatra League. Salimullah Bahadur presided over the meeting. Sayed Karim, Abdur Rahman, Azur Rahman and Md. Solaimans addressed the meeting.

Meanwhile, Bangladesh Mukta Nirbachan Andolan, Cox's Bazar district unit arranged a discussion meeting in favour of free and fair election at the local Press Club recently.

Mr. Nurul Islam, President of the Press Club presided over the meeting and it was addressed by Priyotosh Paul Pintu, A.H.S. Belal and Bishawgti Sen.

The speakers stressed the need for free and fair polls to ease the transition to democracy in the country.

Jhenidah

BSS from Jhenidah adds: State Minister for Social Welfare and Women Affairs Mr. Tariqul Islam said here on Monday autocratic regime had not only shattered the national economy but also destroyed all institutions through bribery and corruption.

Mr. Tariqul Islam was addressing a public meeting at Jhenidah town. The State Minister said a democratic government had been established in the country after nine years of relentless struggle against autocracy. He said the main responsibility of the new government would be to rebuild the country's economy.

BSS from Barisal adds: State Minister for Education Principal Yunus Khan has said the BNP government aims at improving the conditions of the rural people.

Addressing a public meeting at Barisal Town Hall here Wednesday evening, the State Minister said, the present government would give top priority to agriculture sector for making the country self-reliant within the shortest possible time.

The State Minister said, the present government would launch mass education programme to eradicate illiteracy from the country.

He said, BNP would strive hard to establish a happy and prosperous society with the spirit of nationalism and the ideals of shaheed President Ziaur Rahman.

He also called upon the BNP workers to put in their best efforts for implementation of the ideals and programmes of BNP.

Earlier, the State Minister visited a number of educational institutions including Islamia College, Shikarpur Degree College, Gournadi Degree College and Barisal Mohila College.

10 killed in separate incidents in Thakurgaon

From Our Correspondent

DINAJPUR, Mar 28 : Ten persons were killed in different incidents in Thakurgaon Sadar Upazila during the salt on month.

According to the report, one Birendra Nath (32) of village Yakubpur was seriously injured in a clash with his younger brother. He was admitted to the Thakurgaon Hospital where he succumbed his injuries.

One Mr. GM Chowdhury (50) of Station Road was killed by some unknown miscreants with sharp weapons. His body was found in a sugarcane field.

One Iman Ali (50) and another unidentified old man aged about 62 years were killed in two separate road accidents at Jagannathpur of Thakurgaon-Dinajpur highway.

One Dulal (12) of village Palashbari died when an electrical wire fell upon him in a paddy field of the village.

One Mrs. Sabitri Debi (25), wife of Matilal Chandra of village Milanpur, Mrs. Tahera Begum (24), wife of Mohon Poy, Abdus samad of village Kujushahar, Mrs. Biraja Bala (40), wife of Mohon Poy of village Begunbari, Mosharrar Hossain (30) of village Jagannathpur all of Thakurgaon Sadar Upazila allegedly committed suicide during the month.

All dead bodies were sent to the morgue for autopsy. Cases have been registered with Thakurgaon PS in these regards.

Two alleged dacoits were beaten to death by the angry

villagers of Ragabendrapur in Nawabganj upazila under Dinajpur District recently.

According to the report, one Maku (40) of Char Makipur in Mithapukur upazila under Rangpur district was released from Rangpur Central Jail only 13 days ago after completion of 13 years RI for committing dacoity. On Saturday last, a gang of dacoits numbering about 20 to 25 raided a house in the village Ragabendrapur in Nawabganj upazila under Dinajpur district in view of committing dacoity.

Hearing hue and cry the villagers rushed to the spot and managed to caught Maku and Md. Ali (45). However, other dacoits managed to escape. Maku and Md. Ali were beaten to death on the spot by the angry villagers.

Chicken pox breaks out in Patuakhali

PATUAKHALI, Mar 27: Chicken pox has broken out in an epidemic form in several areas of the district, reports UNB.

The affected areas are Sadar, Bauphal, Dashmina, Mirganj, Galachipa and Kalapara upazilas.

A large number of patients are coming to hospitals and private clinics seeking treatment every day. Hospital sources however, said none have so far died due to the disease.