MANIKGANJ

Bamboo price up

April 24 : Price-hike and short supply of bamboo and cane have caused unemployment to a large number of handicraftsmen in different areas of Manikganj district.

reports BSS. The main raw materials of cottage industry bamboo and cane are now being sold at an exorbitant price in different haats and bazars. A mediumsize bamboo is now being sold at Taka 70 to 80. Due to scarcity price of cane has gone up to a great extent in the lo-

Poor people are the worst sufferers due to price-hike of bamboo are used in making Kutcha houses.

Production of bamboo and cane is stated to have been decreased due to lack of proper attention of growers.

One assassinated

April 24 : Hossain Ali (30) son of Solaiman Hossain, ex-UP Chairman of Pirojpur under Meherpur sadar UZ of the district, was assassinated by some assailants at dead of night re-

ceased was returning home Kalaidanga mosque and was tween villages of Kalaidanga and Gaherpur.

Meherpur police visited the P.S. in this connection.

Meherpur morgue for postmortem.

JAMALPUR

April 24 : A seven-day long Baishakhi Mela was inaugurated here by Jalal Ahmed, Deputy Commissioner,

dressed by Poura Chairman Shakhautul Moni. Prof

given stall in the mela.

BRAHMANBARIA

life miserable

weeks, reports UNB.

children and the aged are worst sufferers of the freak of

The school going children and the employed women are facing tough times as they have to commute through sultry and humid weather.

RAJSHAHI

Relief shower

April 24 : The people heaved a sigh of relief as scorched Rajshahi was drenched with a welcome shower yesterday, reports

swept the city and adjoining areas, after last few days of ex-

degree celctus on Saturday. after recording top mercury mark for the last few days.

One killed during thunder storm

Tuesday night, reports

Witnesses said, he died on the spot when a tree fell on him during the storm.

Met-office sources said, the storm swept over the town at the speed of 64-70 miles began at about 8-45° pm and asted for an hour.

Sources said, electric supply of the town was snapped for a couple of hours, boro crops around the town were damaged and some trees uprooted during the storm.

SYLHET

Minor girl killed in road mishap

From Our Correspondent April 24 : A mini-bus from Chatak killed an eight-yearold girl and then hit several rickshaws while fleeing the scene of accident. Indra Begum (8), daughter of a rickshawpuller Chand Mia of Naukakandi village of Chhatak upazila, went with her mother to collect firewood and at one time came near the road at Hasnabad when the bus hit her from the back. She died on the spot and the driver sped away towards Govindaganj where it badly mauled several rickshaws before veering for its destination at Sylhet. Chhatak thana has registered a case in this regard.

Electric wires

stolen Theft of electric wires from cross country power lines in Sylhet and Sunamganj districts has recently assumed a menacing dimension, throwing

upazila dwellers in darkness.

In the latest case, some 6,300 feet of power line wire in Jamalganj upazila of Sunamganj have been stolen away from seven posts between Bahadurpur and Jalalabad villages on April 16. On April 4, electric wires from several other poles in Joynagar area of Sunamganj sadar upazila were also removed. The local UP Chairman, however, submitted a report on the theft to the concerned authority with names of suspects. In Sylhet sadar upazila some 1200 feet of wire have been stolen on April 4 in Kandiarchar village of Moglabazar Union. Some days back another 1000 feet wire had been stolen from

Gopalgaon of the same Union. It is suspected that some corrupt linemen are behind

PABNA

the incidents.

Law, order situation deteriorates

April 24: Law and order si tuation in nine upazilas of the district has hit the lowest ebb during the last month, according to local people, reports

Police said 156 crimes including eight killings, seven dacotties, 22 burglaries, three rapes were committed apart from other offences over the period.

Rajapur, Singa, Salgaria, Dilalapur, Gopalpur, Kacharipara, Radhanagar, Beltalia Maktabpara and Nurpur areas are the crime points, police

Local, people alleged that law enforcing agencies were not doing enough to curb the increasing menace.

JHENIDAH

One killed in clash

April 24 : A man was killed on the spot and 20 others were injured in a clash between rival groups a Singnagair village in Sailakupa upazila on Tuesday, police here said, reports UNB.

The dead was identified as Shaheb Ali (40) of the village. Witnesses said the clash erupted following a conflict between local headmen over set tling a dispute. Supporters of the headmen reportedly used lethal weapons during the

Of the injured, 12 were admitted to the Sailakupa Hospital with serious wounds.

2403 get scholarship

1990 from 16 districts under Khulna Division.

sources, 29,908 students of these districts appeared in the examinations held in December 1990 and 471 students have got scholarships in talentpool and 1,932 in gen-

Out of the total 244 scholarships were given in Barisal district, 85 in Jhalakathi, 140 in Bhola, 160 in Patuakhali 106 in Borguna, 240 in Khulna, 204 in Bagerhat, 200 in Satkhira, 228 in Jessore 180 in Jhenidah, 96 Magura, 102 in Narail, 170 in Kushtia, 90 in Chuadanga, 50 in Meherpur, and 114 id



Construction of a concrete bridge started long ago over this canal at Keraniganj. But work remains suspended for fund shortage. People are thus compelled to undertake such hazardous crossing over this age-old broken wooden bridge. - Star photo

Diarrhoea takes serious turn in districts

From Our Correspondent

BARISAL, Apr 24 Diarrhoea claimed 61 lives affecting more than three thousand during the last five days in six southern districts of Barisal, Patuakhali, Bhola, Pirojpur, Jhalakati, and Barguna. According to official

sources, death figures during the last five days in these districts are Barisal 31, Bhola 19. Patuakhali 4. Pirojpur 1. Jhalakati 3, and Barguna 3. It is learnt than still the

overall situation is alarming. The affected figures are increasing. Necessary medicines like

saline and drinking water are scarce in almost all diarrhoea affected areas of the districts. Twenty-one field hospitals

have been opened in Bhola. Only in Mehendiganj upazila under Barisal district death figures rose to 21 during the last 5 days.

Our Bagerhat Correspondent adds: Diarrhoea that broke out in almost an epidemic form in Morrelganj and Sharankhola upazilas of Bagerhat district more than a month ago has not yet subsided. On the other hand the disease has spread to the rest seven upazilas of the district.

According to the official reports, the disease claimed a toll of 9 human lives (2 in Morrelganj, 2 in Bagerhat Sadar, 2 in Chitalmari, 2 in Sharankhola and 1 in Rampal upazila) and attacked more than 800 persons in the district during the period from

March 1 to April 8. But when contacted a spokesman of Bagerhat Civil Surgeon Office confirmed the death of only five (5) persons (2 in Morrelganj, 2 in Bagerhat Sadar and 1 in Rampal upazila) and 701 attacked with the disease during the same period. The upazila wise figure of attacked persons are 252 in

Morrelgani. Sharankhola, 41 in Rampal, 52 in Kachua, 47 in Bagerhat Sadar, 36 in Chitalmari, 25 in Fakirhat, 12 in Mollahat and 06 in Mongla. However, measures have al-

ready been taken by the Public Health Department to combat the disease. It is learnt that some 81 medical teams are working in the affected areas of the district.

When contacted the Civil Surgeon of Bagerhat told this correspondent that acute scarcity of drinking water is the main reason behind the outbreak of the disease.

Jhalakati

Our Jhalakati Correspondent adds: Diarrhoea has broken out in an epidemic form in Jhalakati district.

The Jhalakati Sadar and Nalchiti upazilas are worst affected by the outbreak of diarrhoea. Some patients reportedly died in Jhalakati hospital. No bed in the hospital is vacant. Lack of adequate supply of saline and medicine is hampering the treatment of the patients. The district administration has ordered all hotels and restaurants closed.

Bogra

UNB from Bogra adds: Diarrhoea claimed 10 more lives and affected over 2000 others in 11 upazilas of the district during the last week. hospital sources here said.

With the fresh ones, the death toll rose to 35. Sadar. Shibganj, Kahaloo, Adamdighi and Gabtali are among the worst-affected upazilas.

Another report from Magura says that the least 12 people died of diarrhoea and more than 1000 others were attacked by the water borne virus during the last fortnight in three upazilas of the dis-

The deceased were identified as Afzal Munshi (30). Gofur Molla (70). Rabia Khatun

1000 gallons rly diesel

being pilfered daily

From Our Correspondent

(28), Hamida (5) of Sadar upazila, Mahbub (10), Arzina (8), Rony (2) of Salikha upazila and Shazu Bibi (40), Shima (8), Mozno (5), Nazmul Hossain (1) of Mohammadpur upazila.

Local doctors attributed paucity of drinking water and persisting hot spell to the outbreak of the disease.

Official sources said at least 37 medical teams are working in the affected areas to ward off the menace.

Savar

A report from Savar adds: Diarrhoea that broke out in an alarming proportion in three upazilas of the Dhaka district claimed four lives and attacked scores of others on Monday.

The affected upazilas are Savar, Dhamrai and Saturia. The deceased were identified as Shaheed (6) of Tetulia village (Savar), Morjina (5) of Dhantara and another unidentified child of Amta village (Dhamrai) and Latif (7) of Tilligram (Saturia).

Local doctors attributed the persisting hot spell and acute paucity of drinking water to the outbreak of the disease. Sufferers urged the authori-

ties to take immediate steps to combat the spread of the dis-

Terre Des Hommes

Our Staff Correspondent says: Terre Des Hommes' an international NGO of the Netherland based Bangladesh has taken extensive measures to control diarrhoeal epidemic in Patuakhali district, a Press release said.

The NGO arranged emergency satellite clinics which are equipped with dextrose saline, cholera saline, oral saline and anti-biotics.

With teams of skilled health workers led by a medical doctor these clinics are functioning at Bashbaria and Bahrampur Unions of Dashmina upazila and Despara and Kalatya Unions of Bauphal upazila in Patuakhali district.

Notes from Kushtia

From A Correspondent

name of Baishaki Mela obscene "Jattra", "Housie" and "Gambling" have been going on in Kushtia Husing estate area to the much detriment of law and order situation and persecution of study of the students who are preparing themselves for the ensuing degree and SSC examination to be held in the next month. incidents of stabbing have

also been reported from the area. Law enforcing agencies and district administration are playing the role of silent spectators for reasons best known to them. It may be mentioned that before Ramzan such an exhibition was held at Barkhada two miles off Kushtia town and during the exhibition law and order situation of Kushtia deteriorated an incidents of murder, theft, highway dacoity were committed in and around Kushtia town. Resentment over holding of

such Baishaki Mela among the peace loving people of the town have been reported and they have urged the authorities concerned to stop such nuisance immediately in the grater interest of peace loving people particularly the student community.

Woes of farmers

district have been passing their days in extreme agony due to their growing indebtedness to the local banks. Natural calamities coupled

with low prices of agricultural products made the farmers unable to repay the loans they have taken earlier from different banks, farmers said. Meanwhile, several com-

mercial banks including Bangladesh Krishi Bank issued notices to the farmers to repay their loans within the specified time.

other belongings at throw away prices to repay their loans. The farmers of the district

have urged the authorities to extend time for the repayment of outstanding arrears and sanction new loans to boost agricultural production.

the district, according to official source.

About two hundred persons mostly children have already been affected by the disease. The Civil Surgeon told this correspondent that about 20 to 25 patients are being admitted to Kushtia General Hospital and Daulatpur, Bheramara and Mirpur health complexes daily and are being treated.

team for every union of these four upazilas have been formed and have started their work from April 18 to combat the disease, the Civil Surgeon added.

Training course on journalism

DINAJPUR, Apr 24: A fourday training course on journalism began here at the CDA institute here Friday, reports

course aims at improving skills and professional competence of the mufassil newsmen.

Jute output target may not be achieved

Low quality seeds

BRAHMANBARIA, Apr 24: Jute production target will not be achieved this year in Nabinagar upazila due to inadequate supply and low quality seeds, farmers here com-

plained, reports UNB. Bangladesh Agriculture Development Corporation (BADC) supplied 3,000 kgs of seeds which is below the requirement. The quality of the seeds is also allegedly poor. The required amount of seeds is about 20,000 kgs.

According to sources, about 7000 acres of land were brought under jute cultivation for the current season in the upazila.

Besides, prices of good quality seeds are so high in markets that poor farmers can hardly afford. The farmers have urged the

authorities to supply high

quality jute seeds at cheaper

prices immediately to avert shortfall in jute production. Irri-boro production target

in the district is likely to suffer a set back due to widespread pest attack, farmers feared. About 1500 acres of stand-

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ing irri-boro crops have been damaged following pest attack in seven upazilas. They said paddy plants on

vast areas in Nabinagar, Sarail. Nasirnagar, Kasba Bancharampur, Akhaura and Sadar upazilas are withering away after the attack by "pamri" pest.

Pesticides available in the markets also proved to be ineffective, they alleged.

Meanwhile, Agriculture Extension Department here has supplied 190 spray machines among the farmers to combat the menace.

But farmers opine that this will not be enough to ward off the rising menace.

House rent increases in Kishoreganj

From Our Correspondent

KISHOREGANJ, Apr 24: House rent has increased manifold at Kishoregani town due to acute shortage of accommodation over the last few years. The middle class people as well as the small traders are being affected badly because of house rent rise.

At present a single unit of residential quarter is being let out at a monthly rent of Taka 1200. In many cases the house-owners realise advance rent from the tenants. As a result, many tenants, especially the fixed income groups find it difficult to manage their accommodation here.

Due to accommodation crisis, a large number of professionals, both in private and public organisations, are to live in this town leaving behind their families at village homes. Consequently their children are being deprived of proper care and educational facilities. The employees in most cases have either to arrange accommodation in messes or in private house. The crisis of accommoda-

tion both for residential and commercial purposes and rent increase have been attributed to non-availability of land at a reasonable rate and lack of investment and government initiatives for house building at this commercial town.

The rich people of this place are rather reluctant to construct the residential houses because of heavy financial involvement and high rate of interest in HBFC loan.

The increase in the number of rickshaws has been causing a lot of sufferings to the residents of Bhairab river port town over the last one year. At least 5000 rickshaws are now plying on the narrow 16 miles metalled roads within 5.07 square miles area of the pourashava.

The roads specially in the main commercial areas of the town remain all along blocked by rickshaws causing hindrance to the movement of pedestrians. The people while moving on the roads of the main town have to remain stranded from place to place due to rickshaw van. The school going children are the

worst sufferers. A part from this, the rickshaws from the outlying unions of Bhairab pourashava make entry into the town aggravating the situation.

Can the other hand, guite a large number of rickshaws both of Bhairab pourashava and outlying unions reportedly ply within the pourashava with out obtaining any licence from the concerned authorities.

The busy commercial Bhairab town has become a place of rickshaws much to the annoyance and suffering of the

Vigorous anti-smuggling

From Our Correspondent

CHUADANGA, Apr 24: Vigorous anti-smuggling drive has been launched throughout Chuadanga district to stop smuggling. In this connection the district administration and the law enforcing agencies of the district have jointly urged upon all concerned to co-operate with them in stopping smuggling. A meeting of the local traders was held here recently at the conference room of the Deputy Commissioner of Chuadanga where the local district administration exchanged views with the traders in stop-

ping smuggling. The traders assured to extended all out support and cooperation for stopping smuggling. On the otherhand, police and BDR personnel along the border areas of the district has also been increased to a great extent for stamping out smuggling. Besides, searching of buses and trucks has also been geared up for seizing smuggled goods. It may be mentioned here that for the last few days the whole district has become the paradise of the smugglers.

Merger order resented

The people of village

Islampur under Chuadanga Sadar upazila have expressed their resentment against the merging decision of their viilage with the nearby village Sharishadanga recently. The villagers of Islampur have urged the government to withdraw the decision of merging of the village. The villagers have also filed a suit in the court of Chuadanga Sadar **Upazila Assistant Judge against** the merging order of the government.

The Deputy Commissioner of Chuadanga who is also the district boundary fixing officer in an order merged Islampur village with the nearby Sharishadanga village with a view to reorganising the Mominpur Union of the district. At the time of recent census the village was considered as the part of village

done accordingly.

It may be mentioned here independent and separate village. In the census report of 1981 there were 101 families with a population of 633 in the

Smuggled goods recovered

BHERAMARA, Apr 24: Kushtia district administration in an anti-smuggling drive on Monday setzed a truck with smuggled goods worth about Taka four lakh at Bheramara-Pragpur road under Bheramara upazila, reports BSS. The anti-smuggling task

force was led by Mr. Hafiz Ahmed, Deputy Commissioner, and Mr. Abu Bakar Stddique, Superintendent of Police. Kushtia. The goods seized include

seeds, two kgs of ganja and spare parts. The truck is now under police custody and the driver of

the truck has been arrested. A case has been registered with Bheramara police in this con-

C'nawabganj Zila Parishad building opens

24 : The new two-storyed building of Nawabganj Zila Parishad built at a cost of Taka 30 lakh was inaugurated here recently, reports BSS.

Nawabganj. Mr Ashraf Ali was the chief guest at the inaugural function held on April 13. The function was attended by district level officers and elite of the town.

new building the Zila Parishad office was functioning in District Council bungalow.

cal markets.

MEHERPUR

From A Correspondent

cently. It is stated that the deafter offering Tarabi prayer at brutally killed at a field be-

place of occurrence and a case has been registered with the The body was sent to

Baishakhi Mela From Our Correspondent

Jamalpur at Kachari Maidan on April 20. In this connection a meeting was held at the mela ground. The meeting was ad-

Ikramuddowla and journalist Mosharaf Hossain. One hundred organisations

Hot spell makes

April 24: The dwellers of the town are experiencing perplexing times as severe hot spell in the day and cold wave at night have been persisting throughout the district and adjoining areas for the last few

According to sources, the

Rains came accompanied by squalls of nor'wester that

treme hot and sultry weather. During the current hotspell sweeping over the country, the temperature in Rajshahi climbed the day's highest 39

BOGRA

April 24 : One unidentified youth was killed on the Nawabbari road near Circuit House here during a thunderstorm which lashed over the

BARISAL

From Our Correspondent April 24 : A total of 2,403 primary students have got scholarships in talentpool and general grade of primary scholarships examinations of

According to official

Perujpur district.

JAMALPUR, Apr 24 : About 1000 gallons of diesel are pilfered daily from railway engines and other vehicles from railway department at different points in Jamalpur district.

An organised gang of mis-

creants in connivance with

Kakrol' farming prospect bright

From Our Correspondent BARISAL, Apr 24: Ridged gourd (Kakrol) has been scientifically cultivated for the first time in greater Barisal district during the current season.

tivated in Sadar upazila of Jhalakathi and Madhbaria and Indurkani upazilas in Barisal districts, according to sources. Trainer of Technical Resource Team, Syed Mustafizur Rahman told UNB that farmers

evinced keen interest in the

modern method of cultivation

of Ridged gourd locally known

The vegetable has been cul-

some corrupt railway employees are stealing diesel and lubricant oil from the railway engines and ferry steamer engines on Jamalpur-Mymensingh. Jamalpur-Jagannathganj, Jamalpur-Bahadurabad ghat and Bahadurabad ghat-Teestamukh ghat routes. It is alleged that diesel is

also being stolen from railway steamer engines on the river with the help of some railway employees and Bahadurabad ghat river police men. Eyewitnesses say the railway employees gather near the engines and collect the diesel and oil within a short time. This oil is always found selling in the adjoining bazar and to deep and shallow tubewell

Pilferage also occurs regu-

Though the matter was

larly near Dewanganj railway

brought to the notice of the

concerned authorities several

times, no action has yet been

taken against the miscreants.

it is alleged. The miscreants

use country boats to carry on

their malpractices on the

station and river line.

A 2000-gallon tank was constructed at a village nearby Madarganj police station. Oil is stored in the tank. Local people have sent written allegation to the higher authority for action against the miscreants.

Five dacoits

arrested

BRAHMANBARIA, Apr 24 Police have arrested five da coits and recovered three pipe guns and a pistol from their possession, reports UNB. Acting on a tip, police re-

cently raided Sreerampur vil-

lage of Nabinagar upazila and

nabbed Hiran Miah of Noagaon

village with one round of am-

On his confessional state-

ment, police raided the Bagdar village under Raipur upazila of Narshingdi district and rounded up Abul Kashem and Nuru Miah and also recovered pipe guns and seven rounds of ammunition from them.

KUSHTIA, Apr 24: In the

Hundreds of farmers in the

Being perplexed by the notices, the farmers are compelled to sell their lands and

Diarrhoea Diarrhoea and intestinal diseases like dysentery have broken out in four upazilas of

Meanwhile, one medical

Jointly organised by Dainik Uttar Bangla and CDA, the

Twenty-five journalists representing different dailies and periodicals of the district took part in the training course.

drive launched

Sharishadanga and census was that the said Islampur village was established in the year 1980 and the next year the census was held there as an

110 bags of pulse, 400 pieces of Indian sarees, 10 kgs of jute

CHAPAINAWABGANJ, Apr The Deputy Commissioner,

Before construction of the