

**Upazila roundup**

**RANGPUR**

**2 jailed for murder**

July 5: Two people have been sentenced to life term in connection with a murder case, court sources said, reports UNB.

Additional District and Sessions Judge Abdur Rahman Patwary delivered the judgement on Wednesday.

According to prosecution story, Moriomunessa and her fiancée Mokhesur Rahman strangled her husband to death on August 4, 1989.

Her husband was in sleep when they killed him. Villagers recovered the body from a ditch in Tilikpur village in Mithapukur, the prosecution added.

Police after investigation charge-sheeted the accused and the Judge after examining the evidences and witnesses awarded Moriomunessa and Mokhesur Rahman the punishment.

**JAMALPUR**

**6 get life-term for murder**

July 5: District and Session Judge Khandker Mohammad Abu Baker sentenced six persons for transportation for life on charge of murder recently, reports BSS.

The case in brief is that at dawn on June 30, 1990, Abdul Qader alias Qada, Hasen Ali, Syeduzzaman, Dudu, Mafizuddin and Abdur Rahim of village Baniabari under Melandah Upazila entered the house of one Muhammad Ali of the same village and killed him by sharp weapons.

Melandah police after enquiry charge-sheeted the accused. After examining 13 witnesses the court found the accused guilty and convicted them.

Azizur Rahman appeared on behalf of the government and Advocate Lukman Ali defended the accused.

**KUSHITIA**

**Youngman stabbed to death**

July 5: A youngman was stabbed to death by some unknown assailants near Khadimpur bus stand in the town on Saturday, reports UNB.

Police said, the victim, identified as Aslam (22), with his mother arrived there by a bus from Bheramara. As soon as they alighted from the bus, a gang of miscreants forcibly took Aslam away and stabbed him to death.

Later local people recovered the body of Aslam from a nearby field close to the bus stand.

Police suspected that past animosity was the cause behind the murder.

The body was sent to Kushiya General Hospital for autopsy. A case was also filed.

**Dowry victim**

It is all for dowry. Another housewife of Panti village in Kumarkhali upazila fell victim to the demand of her avaricious husband, reports UNB.

Police said the victim, Marzina (25), a mother of two children was beaten to death Sunday by her husband Kutubuddin when she failed to bring Taka 5000 from her father.

Later Kutub poured poison into her mouth to conceal the murder. He went into hiding immediately after the incident.

Relatives of the victim said Marzina was frequently tortured by her husband for dowry.

Her body was sent to Kushiya General Hospital for autopsy and a case was also filed.

**MAULVI BAZAR**

**Tk 2.5 cr for road construction**

July 5: An amount of Taka 250 lakh has been allocated under ADB assisted flood rehabilitation project for repair and reconstruction of roads and bridges by the Local Government Engineering Bureau in Maulvi Bazar under a 3 year programmes. On the first phase of the programme Taka 111.5 lakh has been allocated during 1990-91 financial year. Twelve projects have been taken up under the first phase. The projects include repair work of Maulvi Bazar-Shamshernagar road and two bridges on this road.

Another project in this phase is Maulvi Bazar-Deoracherra road.

**BORGUNA**

**Primary edn faces setback**

July 5: The Universal Primary Education Programme (UPEP) have been facing manifold problems in the district, reports UNB.

According to informed sources, Primary School houses damaged by floods and other natural calamities during the last few years have not yet been repaired in rural areas.

Moreover, dilapidated condition of most Primary School buildings, shortage of teachers, furniture and classrooms have multiplied the problems.

Students are to attend their classes standing owing to shortage of benches in most of the schools while in the absence of repairing of the damaged school students are to attend their classes under the sky. Acute scarcity of drinking water has also been prevailing in most of the schools.

The quota of teachers in government primary schools in the district are not maintained properly and a large number of students have been facing problems due to shortage of teachers.

**PABNA**

**Housewife beaten to death for dowry**

July 5: A pregnant housewife was allegedly beaten to death by her husband at Tatibanda village in Sujanagar upazila on Wednesday, reports UNB.

The victim Muktranti Das (20) wife of Shibu Das fell prey to her husband's wrath when she failed to bring dowry money from her poor parents.

The body was sent to morgue for autopsy and a case has been filed with local police in this connection.

**BRAHMANBARIA**

**Teachers protest Principal's removal**

July 5: Teachers of a local college observed token strike at the office premises of the Deputy Commissioner and held a rally here on Thursday in protest against the removal of their principal, reports UNB.

The principal M A Rahim of the Poura Mohabidyalyaya was removed on the basis of the recommendations of the probe body in this regard. The probe body was formed last year by the local administration following allegations of his misuse of power, corruption and misappropriation of funds.

After seven-hour sit-in the teachers held a rally at the DC's office which was presided over by Prof Kripal Narayan Choudhury. The rally was addressed by Prof Farhaduddin and other student leaders.

**CHANDPUR**

**67 SSC examinees expelled**

July 5: Sixty seven examinees were expelled for adopting unfair means from different halls of SSC examinations in the district on June 30 under Comilla Board.

The examinees were expelled from seven centres of the district. Centrewise breakdown is: Chandpur Sadar-two, Matlab-10, Kachua-42, Haziganj-five, Faridganj-one, Heimchar-one and Shahrastisix.

Strict measures were taken in the centres to check adoption of unfair means.

**SHERPUR**

**Crops on 10,500 acres washed away**

July 5: Standing crops on about 10,500 acres of land were washed away by the onrush of hilly water and heavy downpour during the last few months, official sources said, reports UNB.

According to Agriculture Extension Department sources, IRR and Boro paddy on about 3000 acres of land, aush on about 6,000 acres and jute on 1,000 acres were damaged.

The loss was estimated at about Taka six crore, the sources added.

Besides, 500 acres of land at Nalitabari and Sribordi upazilas were silted by the flood waters due to the breaches of Karnajora embankment causing extensive damage to standing crops.

According to the district education department, a total of 47 educational institutions including six high schools were damaged during the period.

Moreover, communication system has been disrupted in four upazilas of the district as most of the roads were washed away by the flash flood.



Farmers planting IRR1 seedlings at a village in Comilla.

—Star photo

**Bagerhat branch post offices in shambles**

From Our Correspondent

BAGERHAT, July 5: The condition of the branch post offices in Bagerhat district under Bagerhat Head Post Office is very precarious.

At present there are 40 branch post offices in the district. Those are located mostly in the rural areas and accommodated all in the private houses offered by the local people, free of cost. The postal authorities seem to have never bothered about the housing problem for those branches, although valuable papers and records are kept therein.

Many such branch post offices are seen to be accommodated in kutcha houses some of which have become very dilapidated due to lack of maintenance. Nobody is interested to look after the same. It is reported that rain water leaks

into many of them through their roofs in the rainy season and consequently, their floors become muddy.

There are about 120 staff members in these branches. They are called Extra Departmental staff. Their working condition seems to be sub-standard and sub-human. The Post Master of a branch office, it is gathered, draws a consolidated amount of Taka 325 only per month. But he has to work regularly on all the days including Fridays, if it is a 'haat' day where the post office is situated. He hardly gets any leave. A Postman of a branch post office (who is called Extra Departmental Delivery Assistant) and a Runner (called Extra Departmental Mail Carrier) gets Taka 310 and Taka 275 per month

respectively. It is learnt that the association of Extra-Departmental staff of the Postal Department repeatedly demanded a pay scale for them. But nothing has yet been done to materialise their demands.

An old branch Post Master told this correspondent that when he had joined the Postal Department as a Branch Post Master during erstwhile Pakistan regime he used to draw Taka 22 per month as his salary and at that time fine quality rice used to sell at Taka 20 per maund. He added that at present he gets Taka 325 per month but one maund rice is now being sold at Taka 450.

**Forest guards kill fish trader**  
Our fish trader was killed on the spot and five others re-

ceived grievous bullet injuries in the river Baleswar in Sundarban Forest under Sharankhola Range Office in Bagerhat district in broad day light when forest guards opened gun fire on them recently.

It is reported that a number of fish traders of Mongla Upazila of Bagerhat district purchased shrimp and lobster fries from Mohishpur haat of Patuakhali district. On the day of occurrence they were returning to Mongla with the fish fries by a trawler and when they reached the place of occurrence (the river Baleswar near Bogi forest office) at about 8 a m, the Forest Officer of the office asked them to stop their trawler, but they did not comply. Then the forest guards opened at least 18 round of

gun fire on them indiscriminately without warning them. As a result, Abu Taleb (35) who hailed from village Amratala of Mongla upazila was killed on the spot and his five associates sustained severe bullet injuries on their person.

They were rushed to Rayenda (Sharankhola) Hospital. They are Atiar Rahman, Siddiqui Rahman, Badsha Hawlader, Humayun Kabir and Abdul Majid Gazi.

In this connection a murder case was registered with Sharankhola Police Station under Bagerhat district on the same day against Md. Shahriar Kabir, Deputy Ranger of Sharankhola (Bogi) Range Office and Abdul Malek and Idris Alam, two boatmen of the same Forest Office.

Vigorous police investigation is going on.

**Cyclone survivors need shelter in Jamalpur**

From Our Correspondent

JAMALPUR, July 5: Hundreds of cyclone survivors of different areas of the district are in quest of food and shelter, according to an informed source.

Acute shortage of food, pure drinking water and medicines has been persisting in the remote areas where relief goods have not reached so far. Eye-witnesses said that cyclone affected people in the district are leading inhuman life amid inclement weather for want of food and shelter.

On the other hand, diarrhoeal diseases have created panic among the people because no medical team or supply of pure water is available for them.

Acute scarcity of fodder is also prevailing in the area. According to the reports, poor cyclone-hit people are rushing towards the town areas in search of their livelihood.

The calamity has damaged standing crops worth about Taka one crore in the district. It is gathered that the affected people whose houses were

blown away in the disaster are passing a miserable life for days under the open sky. No development work is being carried out in the rural areas where these people can engage themselves to earn their livelihood.

Melandah Upazila Project Implementation Department submitted a scheme for development work in the cyclone affected areas but the government has not yet taken any action. The affected people urged the government to rehabilitate them immediately.



MAULVI BAZAR: Director of Livestock Services, Bangladesh Dr. Nazir Ahmed distributing fodder among the flood affected peasants at Chandnighat-union. —Star photo

**Pottery on verge of extinction**

From Our Correspondent

CHUADANGA, July 5: Pottery industry in Chuadanga is on the verge of extinction due to manifold problems.

As pottery is an oldest industry of the country, hundreds of potter families have engaged themselves in manufacturing pottery goods from generations together. Potters used to earn their livelihood by making earthen jars, plates, cups, toys, surai and various articles. Their products also had demand during last decades. But since last few years these potters are unable to earn their livelihood and presently they are in severe financial constraints for want of capital to run their business.

They always have to borrow money from affluent persons or money lenders at an exorbitant interest rate.

The potters generally carry their products on their shoulders to sell them in weekly hats, fairs and other villages. It is widely felt that problems of the poor potters should be solved immediately by concerned authorities to save the age-old rural industry.

**2 bodies recovered**  
Chuadanga thana police recovered two unidentified bodies from a jute field of village Sumerdia under Chuadanga pourashava area on June 22,

**AED plan to rehabilitate cyclone victims**  
CHANDPUR, July 5: The Agriculture Extension Department (AED) has taken up a scheme to rehabilitate the late April devastating cyclon affected poor farmers of the district.

**Misappropriation case against ex-Zila Parishad Chairman**

From Our Correspondent

KISHOREGANJ, July 5: The District Bureau of Anti-corruption has started a case of misappropriation of C I Sheets and rice worth Taka nine lakh 24 thousand and 332 against Mujibul Haq Chunnun, former Deputy Minister and Chairman, Kishoreganj Zila Parishad and Giasuddin Ahmed, General Secretary Karimganj unit of Jatiya Party.

According to an official source, the accused persons misappropriated 84.4 metric tons of rice and 48 bundles of C I sheet allotted for a number of development schemes and institutions of Karimganj and Tarail upazilas during the financial year by using their official power and influence. Of the total 50 metric tons of rice and 18 bundles of C I sheet were allotted for Tarail upazila.

The Bureau of Anti-corruption has started another case against Alamgir Hossain, a former MP and General Secretary, Kishoreganj district unit of Jatiya Party, on the charge of misappropriation of C I sheet and rice allotted for a number of development schemes in Kishoreganj Sadar upazila.

According to an official source, the said accused had misappropriated 13 bundles of C I sheet and 50 metric tonnes of rice which were allotted in the name of 170 fake schemes of the upazila. The misappropriated C I sheets and rice would cost Taka 4 lakh 76 thousand 500, the source added.

**RLTE project**  
The T & T Board has completed the work of Radio Link Telephone Exchange (RLTE) in 13 upazilas of Kishoreganj district long ago to bring the district headquarters with all the upazilas through direct dialling system.

But no initiative has been taken to introduce the system during the last two years. As a result thousands of telephone subscribers all over the district are suffering a lot.

The project was completed with the financial and engineering assistance from the Finnish government.

Sources said that the project was imported by the then government of Ershad in 1986 without consent of the T & T Board. Now the department needs proper training for operating the "NOKIA" system of RLTE from Finland, it is learnt.

**Ansar, VDP rally held at Munshiganj**  
MUNSHIGANJ, July 5: The annual rally of the district Ansar and VDP was held at Ganasadhan in the town recently. DC of Munshiganj, M. Abdul Haq was the chief guest while 850 Ansars and VDP members from six upazilas with the upazila and union level commanders and leaders took part in the rally. A representative of Ansar and VDP Directorate with the district Adjutant were also present in the biggest ever rally.

The District Adjutant M. Anwarul Islam read out the Annual report in the rally.

The chief guest in his speech praised the Ansars and VDPs in maintaining law and order. The rally ended with a prize-giving ceremony.

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**Call to enforce anti-dowry law**  
force anti-dowry law strictly to save the poor wives from the clutches of their greedy husbands and to impose restriction on divorce without any valid reason.

Lack of sewerage system is causing health hazard to the people in the Pourashava area of the town.

**Father, son electrocuted**

KUSHITIA, July 5: Father and son were electrocuted at village Katpal in Daulatpur upazila of the district on Thursday, reports UNB.

Family sources said the incident occurred while Rezon (28), was leading their herds of cattle to the field suddenly came in touch with a live electric wire.

His father Eazuddin (35), rushed to the spot to save his son but both of them died on the spot.

The body was sent to morgue for autopsy and a case of unnatural death has been filed with the police.

**171 SSC examinees expelled**  
At least 171 SSC examinees were expelled from 24 centres of the district in the first day Sunday, reports UNB.

Among them, 60 were expelled from Daulatpur upazila centre, 44 from Sadar centre, 41 from Kumarkhali centre and 26 from Bheramara centre for adopting unfair means in the examination being held under Jessore Board.

According to official sources, the examination was held peacefully throughout the district.

Another report from Jhendidah adds: four examinees were expelled from two centres of the district Sunday while four examinees were expelled from three centres of Satkhira district for adopting unfair means.

**One held for giving proxy**  
A report from Jhendidah adds: A young man was arrested while appearing at the SSC examination on behalf of a private candidate here Sunday.

Officials said Zahidul Islam was caught red handed from Jhendidah Centre on the first day of the examination.

**Notes from Sylhet**

From Our Correspondent

SYLHET, July 5: Eid-ul-Azha was celebrated here with due religious fervour and solemnity. Eid congregations were held in several mosques and maidans including Dargah-e-Sahajhalal and Shahidga. A record number of sacrificial animals was sold in the district.

**Diarrhoea claims 17**  
Diarrhoea claimed 17 lives attacking 200 others in Rajhat, Sindurkhal, Utma and Burma tea estates. The situation in tea gardens of Sri Mangal is taking a serious turn.

**Hearty send-off**  
Dr. Mainul Islam, General Secretary of Sylhet branch of BMA and a councillor of Central BMA, was given a hearty send-off to Inverness of Scotland where he will represent Bangladesh Medical Association at the annual meeting of the British Medical Association.

Dr. Islam is a lecturer of Sylhet M.A.G Medical College and has been active in all union and many social organisations here since his student life.

**Hunger strike**  
Members of Sylhet High Court Biluptri Protridh Committee observed a token hunger strike on June 19 at Sylhet Court demanding establishment of full-fledged high courts in all the places where they have been withdrawn. After the hunger strike, the speakers accused the Acting President of hastily withdrawing even the Circuit benches from these places and warned that unless high courts are restored in those places, litigant public would launch a massive movement to realise this demand.

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