Upazila roundup

PABNA

Weavers Gherao DC office

July 17: About 500 weavers gheraoed the Deputy Commissioner's office here Tuesday morning protesting their eviction from Zila Weavers Samity market in the town, reports UNB.

They alleged without issuing prior notice, police evicted them from the market Monday morning.

District administration sources, however, said the market was constructed illegally o enemy property.

The protesters chanted various slogans against the Deputy Commissioner and demanded compensation of Taka 10 lakh for damaging their 42 shops in

the market. Later, they handed over a memorandum to the Deputy

Commissioner. An 8-hour (10 am to 6 pm) hartal was observed in the town Monday at the call of the District Weavers Association to protest their eviction.

MYMENSINGH

10,000 marooned in low-lying

areas

MYMENSINGH, July 17: About 10 thousand people remained marooned in low-lying areas of the sadar upazila as flood situation in the district worsened with onrush of water from the Brahmaputra, reports

Eight unions of Sadar upazila have been submerged by the swelling water of the major river flowing 2 cm above danger level here Tuesdays officials said.

They said standing crops on about seven thousand acre of land and about 26 thousand kutcha houses had been damage partially or completely in Astadhar, Kushtia, Burarchar, Paranganj, Khaukdahor, Charshitta, Chariswardia and Charnilokhia unions.

The flood control embankment along the river also came under threat due to fresh breaches at Shambuganj.

SHARIATPUR

Housewife commits suicide

July 17: A young house wife committed suicide following a family feud in Naria upazila on Monday, police said, reports

The victim, Kamala Rani (25), took her life by taking poison after she was smacked by her husband Babul Gosh on the fateful day.

Her body was sent to Sadar Hospital for post mortem. None has so far been arrested. A case was also filed.

PATUAKHALI

fiscal, repots UNB.

Four telecom buildings will be set up

July 17: Bangladesh Telegraph and Telephone Board has taken up a programme to construct four telecom buildings in three southern districts during the current

Official sources said an amount of about Taka 70 lakh will be spent for construction of the buildings at Damudia and Goshairhat upazilas in Charitable district, at Baltakandi upaztla of Rajbari district and at Nagarkanda upazila of Faridpur district.

Telecommunication between the districts and the capital and other parts of the country will be greatly improved after the completion of the scheme.

17 projects under execution

Water Development Board (WDB) is executing 37 projects to protect four upazilas of the district from flash flood and saline water intrusion, official sources said, reports UNB.

Funded by IDA, the projects are being implemented at an estimated cost of Taka 11 crore in Goachipa, Kolapara, Mirzaganj and Sadar upazilas.

The schemes, include construction of closure dams,

sluice gates and flash gates. At least 15,000 acres of land will be saved from flash flooding and salinity after the compoletion of the schemes, it

Besides, this will help produce additional 1000 metric tons of foodgrains.

COMILLA

is learnt.

JCD holds protest meeting

July 17: Comilla unit of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) yesterday held a protest

meeting demanding punish ment to those responsible for the attack on Comilla BNP of-

fice on Wednesday. The meeting, held at the JCD office, was chaired by student leader Alauddin Ahmed and addressed by Mustaq Mia, Shafiqur Rahman and Amiruzzaman.

It was following by a procession, which paraded the streets of the town.

A case has been registered with Kotwali thana yesterday regarding the attack on BNP office.

Nine party leaders were injured on Wednesday when some outsiders attacked the BNP office here.

SIRAJGANJ

Old woman killed

in road mishap July 17: An old woman,

who was seriously injured in a road accident Monday, died here Tuesday, reports UNB.

Sakhira Bewa (60) was hit by a motor cycle near Serajganj Government College when she was returning from a public meeting addressed by the Prime Minister during her visit to the flood-hit areas.

Sakhira was rushed to Sirajganj General Hospital where she succumbed to injuries at 10 am Tuesday.

NETRAKONA

15 projects will be implemented

NETRAKONA, July 17 Implementation of 15 projects taken up by Netrakona Pourashava at a cost of Taka 1,13,67,373 will be completed by December nest, reports

The Pourashava Chairman said the projects are being financed by the Asian development Bank (ADB).

The work of the projects included repair and reconstruction of 14 roads and a 200-foot bridge over the river

JAMALPUR

Tree plantation programme

July 17: Jamalpur Sadar Upazila Central Cooperative Association and Bank Limited has taken up a programme to transplant 60,000 saplings of different trees in the current season, reports 1555.

The programme was inaugurated by the deputy Director, Bangladesh rural development Board (BRDB) at a function held here recently.

Twelve thousand members of Upazila Central Cooperative Association will take part in the tree plantation programme.

KHULNA

Shrimp price in overseas market declines

July 17 : Prices of Bangladeshi shrimp in the overseas market have declined in comparison to last year, reports UNB.

According to reliable sources here, the foreign buyers are reluctant to purchase the countyry's shrimp after the recent cyclonic storm and tidal surge.

American buyers have reportedly informed the frozen seafood exporters that Bangladesh shrimp have developed a virus carried by the April 29 cyclone.

Export Promotion Bureau is reported to have taken steps to clarify the position saying that there had been no evidence of such disease affecting the Bangladesh shrimp.

The local frozen food exporters said the export prices of different sizes of shrimp have been quoted at one to two US dollar per kilogram lower this year than that of last year.

They have called upon the government to launch vigorous efforts to explore new markets for Bangladesh shrimp.

SATKHIRA

Minor boy killed in road mishap

July 17: A minor boy was killed on the spot Monday in a road accident at Labsa area on Satkhira-Jessore road, police sources said, reports UNB.

The victim. Piku (12), son of Azahar Rahman of Nalkura village of Sadar upazila was dashed by a Jessore bound speeding truck while he was crossing the road.

The driver, however, managed to escape with the vehi-

A case was filed in this con-



With the advent of monsoon, haors, khal, beels and canals are filled to the brim. Fishermen go far across the plains in the hope of earning more to help them during lean period. -Star photo

Flood situation deteriorates

Thousands marooned in Sirajganj

From Our Correspondent

SIRAJGANJ, July 17: Flood situation in Sirajganj district continues to worsen though the river Jamuna has recorded a slight fall. It is learnt that water level

of the small rivers including Bhadrabati, Gumani, Bangalee, Fulzor, Idurasogar and Ichhamati are rising sharply inundating new areas of Tarash, Raiganj, Ullapara and Shahzadpur upazilas. Situation in affected Kazipur, Sadar, Belkudi and Chowhali upazilas also remains unchanged. Heavy current of Fulzor threatens the existence of Dhangara river port in Raigani upazila. Meanwhile, major portion of the market is devoured.

Communication of Dhangara with Raigani has been disrupted. Overflowing of flood water over four points of Sirajganj-Kazipur road caused suspension of motor service on this route. Thousands of marooned

people at Tarash upazila need to be rescued but strong waves in the waterbodies caused hindrances.

JAMALPUR. July 17: Water

level of all the major rivers of

the district are rising very fast

due to continuous rains. The

rivers have not crossed the

danger level yet but the low-ly-

ing areas of the district have

been submerged. Hundreds of

acres of Aus, Jute and other

onrush of flood water from the

upper regions has rendered

2000 people homeless last

year. The situation has aggra-

vated after construction of

Farakka Barrage which totally

damaged crops on two lakh

acres of land. These lands re-

season every year for want of

irrigable water from the

Brahmaputra and Jamuna and

in monsoon all the border

It deserves mentioned that

crop fields went under water.

Major rivers rise

in Jamalpur

From Our Correspondent

KISHOREGANJ: Erosion by the river Meghna threatens

Katpatty of Bhairab river port town.

district could not be rescued and meanwhile more than 50 thousand homeless people have taken shelter on the BWDB embankment.

Flood-affected people of remote charlands are living on rooptops and on bamboo made machans. It is alleged that the dacoits with mechanised country boats raid the char areas almost every nights.

Floods coupled with erosion of the Jamuna are devouring homesteads and croplands unabatedly in the river belt upazilas. During the last fortnight at least 300 houses including 60 handloom factories were washed away. The worst erosion affected villages are Manik Patal, Meghni, Nataor Para, Tekani in Kazipur upazila, Hossainpur, Mesra, Mirpur, Saidabad in Sadar upazila, Randhunibari, Nakfata, Mulkandi, Delua, Shohaspur Khidramatia, Meghulla in Belkuchi upazila, Betil Enayetpur, Malipara and Sthal in Chowhali upazila.

Menwhile, cracks have de-

gates of Farakka are opened

resulting in sudden discharge

of water causing untimely

UZ Chairman polls

declared illegal

District and Sessions Judge.

Jamalpur recently declared

Bakshiganj Upazila Chairman

election Abdur Rauf

Chowdhury, a Jatiya Party

leader was elected Chairman

defeating his nearest rival

Professor Solaiman. Solaiman

filed a case with the District

Judge challenging the election

illegal while Abdur Rauf is a

defaulting loanee of banks.

In the last year's upazila

election illegal.

Khandokar Abu Baker

Sirajganj town protection embankment which is kept under keen observation, says a source of WDB.

All the prisoners of Sirajganj Sub-jail have been shifted to Pabna fearing inun-

Sufferings of flood affected people who have taken shelter on BWDB embankment have multiplied. Flood water have entered there through eroded embankment of Sariakandi and Dhunat under Bogra and Sonali Bazar and Jhunkail under Sirajganj dis-

Various diseases including fever, colds, coughs, dysentery and diarrhoea have broken out in the flood affected areas. Medicare in Kazipur upazila has been hampered because water have entered into the upazila health complex premises. Front portion of Belkuchi upazila court premises has also gone under knee deep water.

Relief operation is yet to be started in the affected areas. Marooned people of the veloped in different points of Officials including the Prime rising.

Minister and two State Ministers have visited the flood and erosion affected areas of Sirajganj district.

Kurigram

Our Kurigarm Correspondent adds: More than lakh 50 thousand people have been marooned by flood water in the district.

The onrush of flood water from the hilly region of India badly affected the standing crops on vast tract of land in Rowmari, Rajibpur, Chilmari, Ulipur and Kurigram Sadar upazilas. The worst affected upazilas are Rowmari and Rajibpur. All the eight unions of the two upazilas are affected. Road communication has been disrupted. Fourteen educational institutions in these two upazilas were fully or partially damaged.

Day labourers are facing acute hardship due to nonavailibility of work.

It is apprehended that the flood situation may further deteriorate as the water level in all the rivers in the district are

suance of appointment letter, specific salaries, festival bonus, yearly leave, house rent, medical facilities and conveyance allowance. They also expressed dissatisfaction over the misbe-

haviour of a particular press owner and gave ultimatum for greater movement if the demands were not met.

however, admitted the death of 13 persons. Initiative by the district

Brahmaputra

From Our Correspondent

GAIBANDHA, July 17 Wide spread erosion of the river Brahmaputra hit Kamarjani Bander, ten kilometer off Gaibandha which is now on the verge of total extinction. Meanwhile, about 600 feet of main embankment along the river eroded away by the surging water of the river Brahmaputra.

Nearly 200 homesteads including shops were wiped out due to extensive erosion. Many shops and dwellings have been eroded. Still three houses, one food godown, BJMC jute purchasing centre, two high schools three madrashas, orphanage and two primary schools could not be shifted immediately which are now threatened.

The passengers were com-Neither the bodies were ing to attend the inauguration found nor the boat was salof the newly constructed Gorai vaged till 7 pm. Gastroenteritis claims

quate to combat the disease.

Gaibandha Zila Printing

Press Sramik Karmachari Dal

in a press briefing urged the

owners to immediately meet

up the demand of press work-

ers. The demands include is-

bridge by Prime Minister

streaming into Kamarkhali

Ghat to greet Begum Zia saw

ing to the three rescued pas-

sengers, were feared drowned

gers are Afzal Hossain (40) of

Cholabari, Strajul Islam (10) of

Narua and Abul Kalam (35) of

Krishnapur in Rajbari district.

the tragic incident helplessly.

Thousands of people

At least 15 persons, accord-

The three rescued passen-

Begum Khaleda Zia.

14 lives in Gaibandha

or missing.

From Our Correspondent

15 feared drowned in

Faridpur boat capsize

GAIBANDHA, July 17: Gastroenteritis has claimed 14 lives and some hundred others have been attacked by the disease in different areas of Gobindaganj upazila during the last fortnight.

FARIDPUR, July 17: At

least 15 persons were feared

drowned when a mechanised

boat capsized in the river Gorai

near Kamarkhali Ghat yester-

carrying about 60 passengers

from Narua of the neighbour-

ing Rajbari district, capsized in

midstream close to the Gorai

of the ill-fated boat were res-

The remaining passengers

Eyewitnesses said the boat

day, reports UNB.

bridge at 10-30 am.

cued by other boats.

Out of the total victims, one at village Sakpala, two at Tarunipara, one at Baiguni, two at Sonadanga, one at Poontier, one at Gobindanagar, one at Dharma, one at Saktipur and two at Kamdia under Gobindaganj upazila died of the disease. Upazila health officials,

health department is not ade-

erosion hits Gaibandha

Although Water Development Board (WDB) erected a ring embankment if failed to combat the erosion, local people blamed.

Notes from Rajshahi

From Our Correspondent RAJSHAHI, July 17:

Inadequate drainage facilities in Rajshahi city has created numerous problems to the dwellers. The inhabitants of

Panchabati, Tikapara, Horogram, Dashpukur, Lakshmipur and Kochidanga are the worst sufferers. Even after slight rainfall vast area of the city is submerged in absence of outlets. Besides, rainwater remains stagnant everywhere making roads muddy and slippery which causes inconvenience to the residents.

Most of the existing drains are kutcha and the outlets are not excavated since long polluting the environment. On the otherhand pucca drains have developed cracks which remain filled with filth and stagnant water and ultimately turn into ideal mosquito breeding

centres. The City Corporation sources said that a scheme for developing drainage system was submitted to the concerned authorities two years back but nothing has yet been

LLB results out

done in this regard.

Rajshahi University has announced LLB final results of 1987 held in 1990 under the university.

According to old syllabus,

498 students appeared in the examination. Of them 329 came out successful. The percentage of pass is 66.66. Sixty four secured Second Class and the rest Third Class. On the otherhand, accord-

ing to the new syllabus, 228 students out of 290 came out successful. Of them 102 secured Second Class and the rest Third Class. The percentage of pass is 78 . 62.

Debate contest

The Annual Inter hall Debate competition of Rajshahi University was concluded here under the auspices of Rajshahi University Central Students Union (RUCSU).

Vice-chancellor of RU,

Professor Amanullah Ahmed

formally inaugurated the week

long competition at Kazi Nazrul Islam auditorium, while Professor SAQM Haroonur Rashid, Treasurer, RUCSU was the special guest. Students of 12 residential

halls took part in the competition in two groups. Shahid Habibur Rahman Hall team, and Nawab Abdul Latif Hall team became champion in their respective groups.

Pottery

The traditional pottery industry in Rajshahi district is on the verge of extinction throwing hundreds of potters out of employment due to fund constraints and marketing fa-

cilities. Many families engaged in the cottage industry since several generations are now facing untold suffering and about 5000 artisans are jobless. The craftsmen involved directly or indirectly with the industry deserting their ancestral occupation have now taken up manual jobs.

The prices of clay, dice, fuel and other necessary materials used in pottery have increased abnormally.

The potters have no working capital to run their industry. As a result, they borrow money from the money lenders at high rate of interest. Besides, the demand for pottery has decreased due to availability of aluminium and plastic utensils in the country.

CHANDPUR: Mr Zahirul Huq and Mr Ruhul Amin Gazi, President and General Secretary respectively of Dhaka Union of Journalists addressing a reception given in their honour by the Iqbal Memorial Sangsad at the Town Hall premises recently. Narail lacks civic amenities

Narail, July 17: Civic amenities are absent in the town here causing suffering to about one lakh inhabitants, re-

ports UNB. The subdivision was brought under Pourashava in 1972 and then expanded and further promoted to a district seven vears back.

But the town is still bearing the trauma of narrow and uneven roads with innumerable potholes, clogged drains, garbages littered here and there, inadequate street lights, scarcity of safe water and lack of sanitation.

Sadar, Shahrasti, Haimchar,

Hajiganj and Kachua upazilas of

After the attack the plants

grow yellowish and later dry

off. Although the menace is

rapidly engulfing fresh jute

fields, no steps have yet been

taken to curb the menace by

On the other hand sprayers

the concerned authorities.

the district.

-Star photo

According to sources, the roads and lanes become flooded even after slight rainfall causing problems to movement of pedestrians and vehicular traffic.

Residents complain that in absence of bins, garbages are dumped indiscriminately posing threat to health and sanitation. Besides, it helps in

breeding of mosquitoes. Moreover, frequent power failure has become a nagging problem for the dwellers. The town often plunges into darkness almost at every sundown

shortage has been delaying the implementation of water supply scheme in the town. Some hand tubewells have also become inoperative as ground water level fell abnormally.

cial activities.

Lack of public lavatories has forced many people to defecate on open places creating environmental pollution. The pourashava's conservancy service is also insufficient to cope with the situation.

leading to the rise of anti-so-

Department sources said fund

Public Health Engineering

Pests damage jute plants on 30,000 acres

From Our Correspondent CHANDPUR, July 17: Jute available in the agricultural department are lying out of order plants over 30,000 acres of for want of spare parts. Most land have been attacked by farmers are unable to purchase pests in Faridganj, Chandpur the required quantity of insec-

prices of the items. According to the officials It is reported that even after being informed of the sitsources, the jute plants are inuation no agricultural official fected by local pests known as visited the affected areas. Leda poka, Sanka poka and a kind of brown grasshopper.

> causing untold sufferings to the town dwellers. plying so fast that no one is left

sumed an alarming proportion The mosquitoes are multi-

Mosquito menace has as-

safe even in day time. The poor is learnt. people are the worst sufferers

chase mosquito nets or coils. As a result, they are passing sleepless nights. Besides, work

who have no means to pur-

in schools, colleges, hospitals and other business centers are ticides due to exorbitant being hampered. Ponds full of waterhyacinth, kutcha drains and stagnant polluted water around the ditches and bushes are the ideal centres for mosquito breeding. Town dwellers urged the pourashava authorities to take necessary steps to combat the menace.

> Due to fund shortage the pourashava authorities are unable to combat the menace, it