

Upazila roundup

KUSHLIA

Law, order situation discussed

Aug 10: The monthly meeting of the District Law and Order Committee was held here Wednesday at Collectorate Conference Hall with the Deputy Commissioner in the chair, reports UNB.

The meeting reviewed the over all law and order situation of the district.

At least 10 incidents of murder in the month of June and seven murders in July took place. Two dacoities were committed in the month of June while the number remained the same in July.

The members of the committee expressed concern over the closure of two local colleges due to clashes between two rival student groups.

Students and teachers representing Kushlia Government College in the district were also attended the meeting.

Three dacoits were killed in Golapnagar bazar of Bheramara upazila and 13 others were arrested from different areas of the district during the months, Superintendent of Police told the meeting.

The meeting sought cooperation from the members of public to help arrest the miscreants to combat the criminal activities in the district.

RAJSHAHI

RU Sangskritik Jote Executives

Aug 10: A 15-member executive committee of Rajshahi University Sangskritik Jote (RUSJ) was formed in a meeting held at the teachers' lounge of the Arts Faculty of the university, reports UNB.

Eminent writer Hasaan Azzul Hlaq and Enamul Islam were elected as President and General Secretary respectively.

Four presidium members are Dr. Priobroto Paul, Shah Azam Santanu, Kishor Roy and Shams ibne Obaid Sooman.

Dr. Priobroto Paul, Dedarul Alam and Solkat Pramank conducted the election.

The election was held first time recently after seven years since the Jote's inception.

The meeting was presided over by Abdus Salam, outgoing president of the Jote.

MANIKGANJ

Wine recovered, 2 arrested

Aug 10: Police seized a huge quantity of country made wine worth about Tk 50,000 and arrested two people in this connection Tuesday from Aricha Ghat here, reports UNB.

Acting on a tip, officer in charge of Shibayala police station raided an unauthorised wine shop in the ghat and recovered the contraband.

The arrested Selim Master and Lablu of Aricha Ghat area were sent to jail hjat and a case has been lodged.

MYMENSINGH

Diarrhoea claims 20 lives

Aug 10: Diarrhoea that took a serious turn in three upazilas of the greater Mymensingh district claimed 20 lives and affected 3,000 others in the last few days, reports UNB.

According to informed sources, of them, three died in Jamalpur Sadar, five in Baxiganj, two in Danganj, three in Mymensingh Sadar, five in Valuka and two in Bhanpur upazilas.

Taking of adulterated food and impure water were attributed to the outbreak of the disease. People alleged that emergency medicines including oral saline are scarce in the affected areas.

Meanwhile, five people were killed by snake bite in the district recently.

The victims are Jamsed Ali (20) of Nakla upazila of Sherpur district, Majnu Miah (3) of Ghatail village of Tangail district, Alauddin (25) of Sarishabari upazila of Jamalpur district, Nurunnahar (10) of Netrakona district and Jewel (8) of Isharganj upazila of Mymensingh.

FENI

One jailed for keeping illegal arms

Aug 10: A man was awarded life term and fined Tk 10,000, in default to suffer one year rigorous imprisonment more on charge of possessing illegal arms, court sources said, reports UNB.

According to prosecution story, the accused Serajul Haq son of Kala Miah of Bhatpara village in Chhaganaya upazila was arrested from Motua village of the same upazila and a

pipe gun was recovered from his possession on April 4, 1989.

Police after investigation charge-sheeted him and the learned Sub-Judge Abdur Rahim Miah awarded the punishment recently after examining the evidences and records under Section 19 (A) of Arms Act.

CHANDPUR

College student killed in road mishap

Aug 10: A college student died on the spot when he was run over by a speeding bus here Wednesday, police and family sources said, reports UNB.

The tragic incident happened at the local bus stand.

The killer bus (Comilla BA-6-3060) crushed the victim Zahidul Islam (18) a student of Chandpur Government College when he was returning to his house after appearing at the annual examination.

Later, a group of agitated students converged at the bus stand and damaged the bus.

Police in the meantime reached the spot and brought the situation under control. The bus was seized by the police but the driver managed to flee.

A case has been filed with the local police.

The college student hailed from Rajapur upazila of Jhalakathi district.

Centering round the alleged rowdism of a section of students, all bus owners stopped operating their vehicles on Chandpur-Comilla route causing inconvenience to home bound passengers.

KISHOREGANJ

Housewife strangulated to death

Aug 10: Housewife Marjina Khatun has been killed. Post mortem report reveals that she was strangulated to death.

According to the police, body of Marjina Khatun wife of Zakir Hossain of village Krikkhilla in Tarail upazila was found lying on the floor with a rope on her neck on July 18 last.

Police sent the body to the morgue of Kishoreganj Hospital for post mortem. After getting the post mortem report police started a murder case accusing her husband. The accused husband is absconding.

PABNA

30 injured as students clash

Aug 10: At least 30 people were injured in a series of clash between two rival student groups during the last two days at Ishwardi town, police said, reports UNB.

Of the injured, 13 were admitted to the Ishwardi Health Complex with serious wounds. Of them the condition of six were stated to be critical.

They are Bablu (22), Swapan (24), Biplab (24) and Khalek of JCD and Jamir (25) and Awrang (27) of Juba League.

Witnesses said the trouble started on Thursday when a cocktail was thrown on a procession of Jatiyatadabi Chhatra Dal in the town. They brought out the procession to celebrate the passage of the 12 Amendment Bill.

JCD, however, blamed the BCL activists for throwing the cocktail on their procession.

As a sequel of Thursday's incident some JCD activists today attacked the house of a local Awami League leader and Upazila Chairman Nuruzzaman Biswas.

It was also alleged that two grocery shops belonging to the local AL President were looted by the processionists.

RAJBARI

AL victory procession

Aug 10: Awami League and its front organisations brought out a victory procession in the town on Thursday last celebrating passage of 11th and 12th Amendment Bills in the Jatiya Sangsad, reports UNB.

A combined procession of Awami League along with Juba League, Chhatra League (A-A), Krishak League and Sramik League paraded the main thoroughfares of the town at 11 am chanting slogans welcoming the switch over to parliamentary system after a long spell of over 16 years.

The procession over, a rally was held at Azadi Maidan presided over by Rafiqul Salehin, General Secretary of the district unit of Awami League.



Farmers sowing transplanted Aman seedlings in a marshy tract at a village in Comilla.

— Star photo.

Fake marriage registrars on rise

From Our Correspondent

RANGPUR, Aug 10: The number of fake marriage registrars is rising in Domar and Jaldhaka upazilas. According to the sources, some persons identifying themselves as marriage registrars have been performing marriage registrations at nominal charges without any valid licences who never pay any fees to the government. If this practice continues people would never get any legal support in case of litigations on such marriages, it is feared.

Workshops on rural sanitation course has been started in all 34 upazilas of the greater Rangpur district from August 4 and it will continue till 31 of this month.

The headmasters of all primary schools will participate in the workshop in their respective upazilas. The UNICEF is providing required fund to

meet the expenditure. The district and upazila level primary education and health officials will conduct the training on rural sanitation in the workshops, it is learnt.

In this connection a day-long orientation workshop on rural sanitation of the district and upazila primary education officials was held at Rangpur PTI recently.

Presided by Abdus Sobhan, Superintendent, Rangpur the orientation workshop was attended by A K Mirza, Md Shahidul Islam, Deputy Director of Primary Education of Rajshahi, Ehsanul Haque, Executive Engineer of the Public Health Engineering Department and Jahangir Kabir, Programme Officer of UNICEF. At least 70 district and upazila level primary education officials and the UNICEF officials took part in the orientation workshop.

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Shal trees

Shal trees are being stolen on large scale causing huge loss to the government.

Dumtia Shal tree field in Projganj upazila owned by the government and a huge amount of money is being spent every year for its development and maintenance. Even after having required staff for its protection yet large number of Shal trees are allegedly being stolen from the field. Local people alleged that a section of forest officials are involved in stealing of Shal trees. Rampant felling is going on regularly to sell it in black markets.

Primary education faces setback

The Primary Education in

Badarganj upazila is in jeopardy following dilapidated condition of the primary schools.

There are about 100 primary schools which lack required furniture, teaching equipment and staff. Besides, these school buildings are in very deplorable condition without sheds or walls or fences causing immense sufferings to both staff and the students. On the other hand the dilapidated condition of the schools is generating disappointment among the guardians to send their wards to school.

According to further information, Jamalpur and Natyaram government primary schools have already collapsed which were built under the financial assistance of UNICEF, few years back. But due to lack of proper maintenance works these buildings were damaged.

One stabbed to death in Sylhet

SYLHET, Aug 10: A day labourer who was stabbed critically by a gang of miscreants in Sadar upazila of the district succumbed Thursday, reports UNB.

According to police, a gang of miscreants attacked the victim Nuruddin (27) Monday night while he was returning home and snatched all his belongings at Bagmara area near Tukar bazar while he was returning home.

He was rushed to Sylhet Osmani Medical College Hospital where he succumbed after three days of struggle for life.

A man was arrested in this connection.

Eight people were sentenced here Wednesday to life term on charges of murdering BKSAL leader Ataur Rahman.

Court sources said the convicts were also fined Tk 5,000 each and in default to suffer two years' rigorous imprisonment more.

According to prosecution story, Ataur Rahman (25), general secretary of Balaganj upazila unit of BKSAL while going home was killed by the accused in broad daylight in May, 1989 following previous enmity.

A case was filed and police after investigation submitted charge-sheet against 15 people.

After examining the evidences and records Additional District and Sessions Judge Mahmud Hassan Siddique found the eight accused guilty and acquitted seven others.

Heroin recovered in Kushtia

KUSHTIA, Aug 10: Police recovered 500 grams of heroin from the house of Abdul Alim, son of Choyen Ali of village Jutiadanga under Mirpur upazila here on Wednesday, reports UNB.

According to police, the colour of heroin was brown with its brand name Panja of Pakistan.

A case was lodged with Mirpur police station but none was arrested.

Police seized 16 Indian cows and nine buffaloes worth about Tk 75,000 from Kushtia-Rajbari road.

Police acting on a secret information, challenged the alleged smugglers recently and recovered the contraband worth about Tk 75,000. None was, however, arrested in this connection.

Sirajganj govt poultry farm needs care

From Our Correspondent

SIRAJGANJ, Aug 10: The lone government poultry farm at Siakola in Sirajganj district is beset with manifold problems. It is learnt that established in 1981 at Siakola about three kilometres away from the town financed by the Live Stock Department, the poultry farm is running without adequate number of staff.

According to the organogram of the farm, seven staff members including one Manager, one Project Development Officer are required, moreover it is running without any hatchery and poultry attendants.

There are 1384 poultry birds including cock, hen and goose in the farm. Daily 140 to 150 eggs are collected from the farm which are sold through the selected agents.

The manager of the farm told this correspondent that more revenue can be earned if hatchery project is started whereas local people supply chickens on payment at fixed rates.

The only poultry farm of the district will not be able to meet shortage of protein if proper steps are not taken for the development of the same, it is widely felt.

Primary education in Sirajganj district is facing a

setback due to manifold problems.

It is learnt that there are 1091 primary schools including 879 government and 212 non-government schools. Only 191 non-government primary schools are registered. In all 3,79,559 students are being

imparted education in the government primary schools and 20,913 students in the non-government primary schools. The government schools of remote areas are in grip of irregularities and schools of charlandas are opened twice or thrice a week while the teachers are engaged elsewhere on the other days. But regular attendance is shown in papers in collaboration with some unscrupulous employees of the upazila education offices.

It is further learnt that some teachers and headmasters known as leaders of teachers association are always seen at the upazila education offices leaving aside their respective duties.

Situation in registered non-government primary schools has worsened following government declaration of paying Taka 500 as honorarium each to four teachers of every school. Unemployed young boys and girls gave rushed to the non-government schools to be listed as teachers. A section of corrupt employees are allegedly collecting bribes from the job seekers. Irregularity in preparing list of honorarium deserving teachers is reported from different upazilas including Chowli, Raiganj, Belkuchi and Ullapara under the district.

A case has been lodged with Alamdanga PS in this connection. High police and bank officials visited the spot.

CHUADANGA, Aug 10: At least 40 villagers were injured in indiscriminate firing and bomb blasts by a gang of dacoits while they were looting a Sonali Bank branch at Gakulibhat bazar at the early hours of Wednesday, police said. The dacoits, numbering about fifty, broke the strong room and vault of the bank and looted one rifle, 49 round bullets and Taka 175,000 from the bank branch, 9 kilometres from Chuadanga town.

Sensing arrival of the dacoits the bank guard sneaked out, gathered people from around and gheraoed the dacoits. But the dacoits escaped with the booty under the cover of firearms.

A case has been lodged with Alamdanga PS in this connection. High police and bank officials visited the spot.

Wild elephants kill 15 in 11 months

RANGAMATI, Aug 10: At least 15 people were killed, crops and orchards over few hundred acres of land as well as homesteads of hundreds of villages were damaged by wild elephants in the last 11 months, a survey conducted recently in the greater Chittagong Hill Tracts reveals, reports UNB.

A wild elephant damaged a motor bike and a baby-taxi and injured the taxi driver at Sitaghat on Kaptai-Chittagong road near Shilchari of Kaptai upazila on July 14.

Sub-divisional engineer of Water Development Board Moazzam Hossain posted at Karnaphuli Hydro Station was killed and some of his associates injured and the jeep he was driving was partially damaged by a wild elephant in November last year.

Later, the elephant was gunned down by security forces.

In the midnight of July 4, wild elephants raged through 30 houses, croplands and orchards at Dainchari and Cheppurpara villages of Manikchari upazila of the district.

A herd of wild elephants killed a housewife Suiropa Tripura, wife of Manichandra Tripura of village Naobhangu of Rangarh upazila of the district on December 23 last, besides destroying five homes, croplands and fruit plants.

Three people of a family of Talkarma village and another from Thalpara village of the same upazila were killed, where massive massacre were carried out on croplands, orchards and homesteads by a herd of wild elephants in January this year.

Rajendra College students union office-bearers

FARIDPUR, Aug 10: The election for the office-bearers of government Rajendra University College Student's Union was held Thursday peacefully, reports BSS.

According to a college source, seven office-bearer posts including Vice-President were bagged by Jatiyatadabi Chhatra Dal (JCD) while six posts including General Secretary went to Students Action Committee comprising pro-Awami League Chhatra League Jatiya Chhatra League and Bangladesh Chhatra Union. Of the total eight posts of class representative seven went to Students Action Committee while remaining one to JCD.

Ashraf Ali Nannu of JCD and Akkas Hossain of BCL (S-A) were elected VP and GS respectively.

The sum was collected from Barisal Sadar Upazila, Bakerganj, Wazirpur, Babuganj, Gournadi, Agailjhra, Muladi, Hitzla, Mehendiganj and Banarpara upazilas.

Market in bad shape: buyers suffer

From Our Correspondent

CHAPAINAWABGANJ, Aug 10: Battala market, one of the biggest business centres of Chapainawabganj town, lacks basic amenities including supply of pure drinking water, proper drainage system and conservancy service.

Although the pourashava collects about Taka 30 lakh every year from this market little attention has been paid to solve this problem. The roads inside the market are not spacious enough for easy movement of the buyers, they drink contaminated water from the nearby ponds as the only tube well is lying out of order for quite a long time. It has no sanitary latrine and urinals.

People respond to the call of nature in open space much to the inconvenience of the people. Garbage remains piled up on the roads in the absence of dustbins, blocking the movement of pedestrians. During rainy season most of the areas of the market goes under water because there is

no drainage system. It is not also properly electrified. The major areas of the market plunges into darkness just after sunset. In the absence of hotels traders from the distant areas of the country face difficulties.

Shops have been erected in an unplanned way. Traders have put up their shops on the footpaths and on the roadsides. Cattle and goats are brought for sale on the Godagari Road beside the hat disrupting the movement of traffic.

On the other hand Ejaradars of the market collect excessive rate which is double compared to the government rate from the traders and cattle purchasers. Besides, cattle and goats are left unchecked by the concerned authorities due to which butchers slaughter sick animals defying government restriction. Despite repeated public complaints nothing was done in this regard.

Economic planning

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This report draws on the Policy and its brief Action Plan, both of which have been drafted by the Ministry of Environment and Forest to elaborate further on the questions of sustainability and necessary economic growth. The next step will be to integrate environmental conservation considerations into economic development planning. This will require a number of changes and a new way of looking at the process of economic development. More specifically integration will require:

a) adoption of sustainability as a goal of economic development policy, and then incorporating it in budgetary policy, investment decisions and the mandates and policies of sectoral agencies;

b) establishing in the legal framework the commitment to sustainability, and improving enforcement, increasing accountability, and extending liability;

c) use of economic incentives and regulations to support environmental policy and conservation strategy.

It will also require that investors and consumers face the full social costs of their decisions. This can be done through pricing policy, property rights and fiscal incentives.

The incorporation of conservation needs into the economic development plan will obviously make it easier to implement the Action Programme, which will draw upon this Conservation Strategy, and present a portfolio of projects for halting degradation of the environment, and then improving it.

The National Conservation Strategy document has been made possible through funding from NORAD, technical assistance from IUCN and the generous support of various Ministries and organizations of the Government of Bangladesh particularly the Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council.

Jute production falls by 50 per cent

NETRAKONA, Aug 10: The target of jute production next season in the district may face a setback due to shortage of jute seeds, capital and uncertainty of jute market, reports UNB.

According to district Agriculture Extension Department, this year also, only 50 per cent of the target could be achieved.

A total of 16,400 acres of land have been brought under jute cultivation this year while the target was fixed at 32,000 acres of land.

About 10,000 kgs of seeds were made available for sale to the farmers which was far below the local demand.

It is alleged that the jute growers did not get adequate bank loan to meet the need for cash capital.

Moreover, the uncertainty of the jute market also discouraged the farmers to cultivate jute.

BSS from Jhenidah adds: Jute has been cultivated in 41,500 acres of land in six upazilas of Jhenidah district in the current season.



KISHOREGANJ: Ganja and ganja plants seized by the Narcotics and Liquor Department with the help of the villagers of Majkapon-Kacharipara, Chowdhuryhati and Barokapon in separate raids under sadar upazila recently.

— Star photo.