

Upazila roundup

KISHOREGANJ

Closure of jute purchasing centre protested

From Our Correspondent

Aug 20: A meeting was held at Tarail upazila headquarter in protest against the decision of the closure of jute purchasing centre of BJC at Tarail Wednesday last.

Chaired by A Razaque Bhuiyan a veteran political leader the meeting was addressed, among others, by Md Ismail Bhuiyan, a Razaque Khan, Baziur Rahman steno, Adhir Bhowmick and Habibur Rahman. After the meeting a big procession was brought at which paraded different 'streets of the upazila town. The processions later handed over a memorandum to the Upazila Chairman and UNO in this regard.

CHITTAGONG

65 arrested

Aug 20: Police arrested 65 people on various charges from different parts of the port city yesterday, the third day of the anti-criminal drive, code-named "Operation Doorbar", reports UNB.

One cut-rifle and three rounds of ammunition were also recovered from Miakhah Nagar of the city during the day's operation conducted jointly by Chittagong Metropolitan Police (CMP) and the Detective Branch.

Meanwhile, the Chittagong Range Police sources said they arrested 382 people, recovered one pistol, one cut rifle, two rounds of bullets and electric wire worth about Taka 2.25 lakh during the last two days of the operation launched Aug 17.

Districtwise breakup of arrest: Chittagong-77, Cox's Bazar-26, Feni-12, Laxmipur-9, Comilla-41, Brahmanbaria-44, Chandpur-33, Sylhet-51, Habiganj-22 and Moulvibazar-18.

KUSHITIA

Smooth holding of HSC exam discussed

Aug 20: Measures to hold the ensuing HSC examination smoothly were discussed at a meeting here on Saturday at the Collectorate Conference Room with Additional District Magistrate in the chair, reports UNB.

Chairman of Jessore Education Board Nazmul Haque was present in the meeting as Chief Guest.

He called upon the teachers and local elite of the town to cooperate in holding the examination in a peaceful and fair manner.

On behalf of the administration, the ADM assured all kinds of cooperation in successfully holding the examination.

RANGPUR

Husband commits suicide after killing wife

Aug 20: A couple of village Trepur in Pirgacha Upazila met a tragic end following a family feud, police source said here today, reports UNB.

Khatrul Islam (30), stabbed his wife Begum (18), to death on August 13 when he picked up a quarrel over selling a bicycle.

After her death he allegedly committed suicide with a sharp knife.

The bodies were sent to morgue for post mortem. A case has been instituted with local police in this connection.

PATUAKHALI

AED to set up 33 demonstration plots

Aug 20: Agriculture Extension Department will set up 33 demonstration plots for transplanted aman crop in six upazilas of the district during the current season, reports UNB.

Of the total plots, 11 will be set up in sadar, six in Galachipa, five in Bauphal, three in Mirzaganj, and four each in Dashmina and Kalapara upazilas of the district.

The department will supply seeds, fertilizers, insecticides to the farmers as per need for this purpose, official sources said.

JHENIDAH

15 arrested

Aug 20: Police arrested 15 people and recovered one abandoned pipe gun and three SLR bullets, conducting operations in different villages of six upazilas of the district on Saturday, reports UNB.

According to police, four

people were arrested from Sadar, four from Kaliganj, two from Shaikupa, two from Kotehandpur, two from Mohehpur and one from Harinakundu for their involvement in criminal activities.

The arrested were Farook, Chandu, Nanu, Anwar, Mojel, Bimal, Taleb, Jiten, Mohammad Ali, Abdul Majid, Attar, Scab, Sultan, Sabedali and Bisharat.

Separate cases have been filed in this connection.

JCD conference

Leaders of the Jhenidah Government KC College unit of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) in its annual conference Saturday pledged to implement late President Zia's ideals for establishing people's democratic rights.

Presided over by Anwarul Karim Badsha, General Secretary of the College Students' Union, the conference was addressed, among others, by Moshirur Rahman MP, Abdul Wahab MP and Joint Convener the JCD unit Fazlul Hoq Milon.

The conference elected a 201-member committee of JCD Jhenidah Govt KC College unit with Moniruzzaman Mithu and Shajahan Ali as President and Secretary respectively.

COX'S BAZAR

Workshop on diarrhoeal diseases begins

Aug 20: A week-long workshop has begun here on control of Diarrhoeal diseases programme management for civil sergeants and deputy civil sergeants, reports UNB.

Jointly sponsored by the ministry of Health and Family Welfare and World Health Organisation, the workshop was inaugurated Sunday by Deputy Commissioner Mr. Dauduzzaman Chowdhury at the conference room of the hill top circuit house.

The inaugural session was presided over by Project Director, Control of Diarrhoeal diseases, Dr. Anwarullah.

Among others, the inaugural session was addressed by WHO representative Dr. Hillbard Hark, a WHO official in New Delhi Dr. Richard Peck, Civil Surgeon, Cox's Bazar Dr. Fatz Ahmad Khan, and Civil Surgeon, Khagrachari Dr. Niharendu Talukdar.

Dr. Anwarullah Chowdhury stressed the need for creating mass awareness through concerted efforts so that the society would be free from the diseases.

He said, impure water, unhygienic foodstuff and degradation of environmental sanitation were mainly responsible for the outbreak of the disease.

The government, he said, has taken up a pragmatic programme to provide necessary preventive, promotive, curative and rehabilitative services to improve health status and socio-economic development of the country.

A total of 24 civil sergeants from all over the country are attending the workshop.

BRAHMANBARIA

50 injured in clash

Aug 20: Fifty persons were injured including two police personnel following a clash between two rival groups of two villages of Sarail upazila near Bishwa Road on Sunday, police said, reports UNB.

A group of armed people led by one Mukbul of Hattihata village raided the village Kuttapara and picked up one person. At this the people of Kuttapara became furious and attacked the kidnapers with lethal weapons and recovered their co-villager.

Police rushed to the spot and resorted to lathicharge and fired tear gas to disperse the mob.

The situation was then brought under control and police rounded up seven persons in this connection.

Meanwhile, following the clash road communication between Dhaka and Sylhet and Comilla and Sylhet were disrupted for three hours.

RAJSHAHI

5 MPs nominated to RU Senate

Aug 19: Five members of parliament were nominated to the Rajshahi University Senate, reports UNB.

University officials and the MPs nominated recently to the 103-member Senate are: Fazlur Rahman Patal (Natore-1), Golam Rabbani (Joypurhat-1), Golam Mohammad Straj (Bogra-5), Md Akhter Hamid Siddiqui (Nawgaon-3) and Syed Manzur Hussain (Nawabganj-2).

The nomination was made by the Speaker under the University Act 1973, the officials added.



MUNSHIGANJ: In absence of a bridge on Arial-Kalma road at village Niti Roy under Tongibari upazila people of the area experiencing a lot of problems. Photo shows the villagers crossing a canal through a bamboo bridge locally known 'sako' which may collapse at any moment. — Star photo

Problems grip Karimganj upazila

From Our Correspondent

KISHOREGANJ, Aug 20: The people of Karimganj upazila town have been facing manifold problems due to lack of civic amenities for a long time.

According to the informed sources, paucity of drinking water, absence of drainage system, deplorable condition of roads and lanes, shortage of accommodation, mosquito menace and lack recreational facilities have been prevailing in the town causing untold sufferings to the dwellers.

Moreover, frequent power failure and inadequate street bulbs have aggravated the situation. The town plunges into darkness after sundown almost every day giving rise to anti-social activities. Besides, fused bulbs are not replaced by new ones.

Most of the roads of the upazila are kutcha. Cracks and

potholes have developed at many points. Due to lack of proper drainage system the roads become muddy and slippery even after slight rainfall. Waters remain stagnant on the roads causing untold sufferings to the pedestrians and vehicular activities.

On the otherhand uncleaned roadside ditches filled with filth and garbage have turned into mosquito breeding centres. Mosquito menace has made life miserable and it has become impossible to work at night. Students are the worst sufferers who face extreme troubles in preparing their lessons.

The fish and vegetable markets in the town are in very bad shape causing unbearable sufferings to the buyers and sellers.

The unhygienic condition of the hotels and restaurants is posing threat to the public health. Adulterated foodstuffs are freely sold in the open places of the upazila which are ignored and left unchecked.

Construction of new houses are not increasing according to the growing population. Officials and other employees of various departments are facing problems due to acute shortage of accommodation.

Recreational facilities are completely absent excepting a cinema hall.

Necessity of a park is keenly felt. Sports activities in the town have received a setback in recent times.

The conservancy service of the upazila areas is not at all satisfactory. There is no public toilet or urinal in the town area. Absence of waiting shed at Karimganj bus stand is

causing much to the travellers specially during summer and rainy season. Passengers remain standing for buses in rain and scorching heat. There is no urinal or toilet in the bus stand.

The encroachment of roads by the unauthorised persons is also posing another problem to the town dwellers. Besides, pye-dogs have become a menace who are found roaming all around particularly in meat and fish markets.

Local leaders urged the authorities concerned to take immediate steps to construct a shed at the Karimganj bus stand.

The upazila authorities, however have turned a deaf ear to the public demand for immediate solution of these problems through they are collecting taxes on enhanced rates every year.

Govt firm to solve problems in edn sector

BARISAL, Aug 20: State Minister for Education Principal Mohammad Yunus Khan has said that the present government was determined to solve the problems of education sector accumulated during the last 9 years long autocratic rule, reports UNB.

He was addressing the installation ceremony of the newly elected Students Union of Barisal Government College here yesterday.

The function was addressed by Mosharrif Hossain MP and Begum Selima Rahman MP. She said a PID handout. Emphasising the need for

national consensus to maintain peace and discipline in the campus, the State Minister said that some vested quarters were trying to create intellectual vacuum in the education sector by engaging in anarchy and terrorism.

Concerted efforts of all conscious and patriotic citizens of the country would foil this conspiracy, he added.

Stressing the need for expansion of technical and vocational education, Mr Khan said in order to achieve our cherished goal of self-reliance there was no alternative to this form of education.

Mizan demands release of all JP leaders

RANGPUR, Aug 20: Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury, Acting Chairman of Jatiya Party has demanded that all the detained Jatiya Party leaders be released forthwith, reports UNB.

Addressing workers' meetings at Badarganj, Pirganj, Mithapukur and Gongachara upazilas here recently, he said former President Ershad was being deprived of his constitutional rights as a member of parliament.

He said Jatiya Party established its right through movement and he called upon the workers to work unitedly with Ershad Mukti Parishad to get their leader released.

'Anti-democratic forces out to destabilise govt'

SYLHET, Aug 20: Finance and Planning Minister M Saifur Rahman has urged the people to give their verdict in favour of parliamentary democracy in the forthcoming referendum, reports BSS.

Addressing a public rally at Sylhet Circuit House premises on Monday, the Finance Minister said democratic rule has been established in the country after a long struggle against autocracy.

The BNP government was working hard with a firm determination to realise the hopes and aspirations of the people, he said.

The rally was also addressed by Joint-Secretary

Medicare absent at Munshiganj hospital

From Our Correspondent

MUNSHIGANJ, Aug 20: The fifty-bed Munshiganj Sadar Hospital is beset with problems like lack of blood bank, shortage of medicines, absence of ENT specialist and lack of X-ray facilities. Moreover, the campus area plunges into darkness after dusk and the overall unhygienic condition prevailing in and around the hospital has aggravated the situation.

The shortage of medicines and apparatus, absence of X-ray machine and the overall poor maintenance system have made the patients more sick.

The fifty-bed district hospital needs expansion and modernisation to meet the increasing demand from six upazilas of the district.

Erosion has taken a serious turn in Munshiganj and the situation is becoming dangerous day by day.

The Munshiganj-Mukterpur road, Katakhal launch-ghat road, Batlakashigonj, Sreepali and Islampur within the municipal area are affected by

erosion. A large portion of these areas has already been engulfed by the Daleshwari river.

Munshiganj district needs emergency protection from erosion of the Padma and Daleshwari. The very existence of Dighirpar Bazar and PTI Institute road is now at stake.

Dhaka-Munshiganj bus service has been suspended for a long time due to the erosion at Mukterpur road.

Eight villages in Tangibari upazila and hundreds of dwelling houses and vast areas of croplands have been devoured by the Padma.

Notes from Kushtia

KUSHITIA, Aug 20: A dacoity was committed Sunday night at a pharmacy here. The dacoits decamped with cash and medicine worth about Taka one lakh, reports BSS.

The owner of medicine shop Dr Latla Arjumand Banu said that at least ten persons armed with cut rifles and other deadly weapons broke open the door of the shop and decamped with a cash of Taka 20 thousand and medicine worth Taka 80 thousand.

Police Super, Kushtia visited the shop. Police arrested three persons including guard of the shop for interrogation.

Body recovered

UNB adds: Police recovered a body of an unidentified young man from the bank of river Mathabangna under Daulatpur upazila on August 14.

Villagers said two bodies of unidentified young women were also seen floating on the river Gorai near Souta Bazar in Ghatra union of Kumarkhal upazila on the same day.

They however said, the decomposed bodies could not be recovered.

The body of the ill-fated young man was sent to district General Hospital for autopsy.

Suicide

Two attempted suicides were reported in two villages of Sadar upazila here on Friday and one of them died later, police and hospital sources said.

Bedana Khatun (18), wife of Zulfikar Ali of village Derpara took insecticide for unknown reason and died at Kushtia General Hospital.

In another incident, a young man named Kina (22) of village Shibpur also took poison after having a quarrel with his wife but recovered after first aid at the same hospital.

A housewife of village Jugia under Sadar upazila of the district gave birth to triplets in the District General Hospital Saturday, hospital and family sources said.

Shaheda (32) wife of one Nurul Islam and her newly born daughters are keeping well.

The couple has two more kids, one daughter of aged 10 years and a son of six years, sources added.

Believe it or not

PATUAKHALI, Aug 20: Believe it or not one Babu Kabiraj Nibaran Chandra Roy aged about 133 years is quite capable to walk without the help of any stick or support, reports UNB.

Roy hails from village Lakshimpur in Dashmina Union Parishad of Dashmina upazila of the district.

He claims himself to be the oldest man in the region.

He claimed that he has already crossed 133 birthdays in his life and father of 11 sons and one daughter.

His eldest son aged about 95 years is still alive. Local people said Roy is a very rich man in his village, although he does not take care of his properties now.

According to his version, he handed over the responsibilities of looking after his assets and properties to his sons about 12 years ago.

Roy have been leading a very simple and plain life-style since his early life.

During his middle-age he was famous for his wisdom and judgement, local people said.

He rendered voluntary services for long 18 years as a member of the Jury Council during the British rules, he said.

Two elected to RU Syndicate

RAJSHAHI, Aug 20: The Academic Council of the Rajshahi University Saturday night elected two affiliated college principals to the University Syndicate, officials said today. The newly-elected Syndicate members are: Dr. Mohammad Anwarul Islam, Principal of the Rajshahi Medical College, and Enamul Haq, Principal of the Teachers Training College of Rajshahi, reports UNB.

Shantibahini kills two

From Our Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Aug 20: Two non-tribals were killed Monday when outlawed Shantibahini men opened indiscriminate fire at Kaokhal in Rangamati district.

Law-enforcing agency sources said the two non-tribals came under the attack on their way to a local bazar. After the incident, the Shantibahini men fled into deep forest.

Security forces rushed to the spot and recovered the bodies. Meanwhile tension mounted at the locality after the incident.

In another incident on Sunday at Longadu in Rangamati district two non-tribals remained missing after the Shantibahini men fired from hilltop upon a group of bamboo cutters numbering about 12.

1695 cases lying pending in Maulvi Bazar

MAULVI BAZAR, Aug 20: A total of 857 criminal and 838 civil cases including appeal cases are lying pending in the District Sessions Judge's court, court sources said, reports UNB.

According to the sources, 25 criminal and 12 civil cases are also lying pending in the Additional District and Sessions Judge's court, 43 criminal and 1039 civil cases are pending in the courts of the Sub-Judge and the Assistant Sessions Judge.

Another 98 cases are pending in ADM's court and 795 civil cases in Sadar Assistant Judge's court.

Besides, 246 criminal cases in Sadar upazila, 460 civil and 517 criminal cases in Kulaura upazila, 300 civil and 114 criminal cases in Kamalganj

upazila, 220 civil and 168 criminal cases in Rajnagar upazila, 130 civil and 126 criminal cases in Srimangal upazila and 120 civil and 155 criminal cases in Barlekha upazila are still pending for disposal.

The construction work of the Maulvi Bazar Government Boys High School building is going on at snail's pace, local leaders alleged.

According to an official source, construction of the building had taken up in 1986-87 at an estimated cost of over Tk 10 lakh.

It was left incomplete as fund got exhausted. The local PWD warned the education authorities against holding classes saying half done building may collapse at any moment.

There are 900 students of the school at present but there has been no headmaster since 1980.

Tk 22 lakh for farmers

The district authorities have allocated Tk 22 lakh for rehabilitation of the farmers seriously affected by the recent flood.

Official sources said the money would be spent for purchasing agricultural implements lost by the farmers. A seven-member committee has been formed to assess the requirement of agricultural inputs.

District agriculture officials are also considering what measures to be taken to meet the acute shortage of seeds like BR-11 in the flood affected areas, it is learnt.



SYLHET: Finance and Planning Minister M Saifur Rahman addressing a seminar on 'Role of trees in protecting environment' as chief guest at Sylhet auditorium organised by Forest Department on August 18. — PID photo