

## National

## Upazila roundup

## SATHKIRA

BTA confce held

## From Our Correspondent

Oct 1 : The triennial conference of Bangladesh Teachers' Association, Sathkira district unit was held at Shahid Abdur Razzak Park auditorium recently.

Shaikh Amanullah, President, BTA, Sathkira district unit presided over the function while Mr. Abdur Rashid, Vice President, BTA was the special guest. It was addressed, among others, by Abdul Mutalib, President, Sathkira Press Club, Shaikh Akbar Hossain President, Sathkira district College Teachers Association, Golam Rahman, Ashraf Ali, Abdur Rauf, Abdus Samad, Nirmal Kumar, Abdul Jalil, President BTA, Khulna district unit and Anwarul Haq.

A 33-member executive committee of BTA Sathkira district unit was formed with Shaikh Amanullah as President and Anwarul Haq as General Secretary.

## KURIGRAM

Nazrul Jayanty observed

## From Our Correspondent

Oct 1 : Nazrul Jayanty was observed at Kurigram under the aegis of Kurigram Shilpkala Academy recently.

In this connection a discussion meeting was held at Kurigram Town Hall with Advocate Amanullah in the chair. Mr. Shafiqul Islam, Deputy Commissioner, Kurigram was present as chief guest. Among others, Prof. Sk. Abu Bakar Siddique, Prof. Tapan Kumar Rudra, Mr. Rafiuddin, Mr. Alokanjan Basu, and Samsun Nahar Sanu took part on the discussion.

It was rounded off with a musical soiree which was conducted by Mr. Badal Ahmed.

## BCL conference

The conference of Bangladesh Chhatri League (NS), Kurigram Zila unit, was held recently at the local Shaheed Minar campus with Towhidul Islam Baskhi in the chair.

It was addressed, among others, by Ruhul Quddus Babu, GS RUCSU, Emdad Ali, Motlibur Rahman Shafi, Hasibur Rahman Hasib, Khondoker Shahidul, Munna, Samiul Huda and Kartik Chandra.

## MYMENSINGH

461 criminals arrested : huge arms recovered

## From BAU Correspondent

Oct 1 : Mymensingh police under its Operation Doorbar have arrested 461 persons and recovered 42 firearms from different upazilas of the district during its three week-long operation, police said.

The arms included 33 pipe guns, one Chinese rifle, one cut gun, one revolver, one pistol, three country made pipe guns, 89 rounds of ammunition, 3 cocktail, 15 rambo, 21 daggers, 7 kirch, 14 katra, one Chinese axe, 19 ballam, and 11 knives.

The arrested persons included 195 absconding prisoners, 36 members of the Sarbohara Party, 43 mastans and 28 kidnappers.

## JHENIDAH

Young man drowned

Oct 1 : A young man drowned in a boat capsized on Friday night at Binni haor in Horinakunda upazila of the district, reports UNB.

The victim Ayub Ali drowned in the middle of the haor while he was returning home after showing 'Lathi Kela' across the haor.

The other people accompanied him, however, managed to save themselves. His body was recovered from the haor next morning.

## GAIBANDHA

Boy crushed under train wheels

Oct 1 : A boy was crushed under the wheels of a running train at the railway station in the town, police said here yesterday. reports UNB.

The victim was identified as Sajid, the younger child of one Rezwan of the district.

According to witnesses, Sajid was walking along the side track of station yard. Meanwhile, Dinajpur bound 7-UP mail train entered the same track, knocked the boy down and crushed to death under its wheels recently.

A case has been filed in this connection.

## GAIBANDHA

Rain damages Aman crops

## From Our Correspondent

Oct 1 : Standing Aman crops on vast tract of land in seven upazilas of the district went under water following incessant rain for the last few days and onrush of water from upper catchment of the rivers Chagot, Teesta and Brahmaputra.

All the seven upazilas of Gaibandha district have been badly affected by rain water.

With the rise in water level in Brahmaputra basin erosion took an alarming turn at Kamrani and Fulchari areas where meanwhile huge cultivable lands, buildings, institutes and market have been devoured by the river erosion.

## CHUADANGA

Withdrawal of DC demanded

Oct 1 : The district Teachers' Association in a press conference at Chuadanga Academy in the town Thursday demanded withdrawal of the Deputy Commissioner, reports UNB.

According to the sources, the members of the association after a meeting at Hasan Chatar area in the town Wednesday went to the DC to submit a memorandum to press home their demands. But the DC refused to receive the memorandum.

Later the teachers held a press conference on the following day in which the secretary of the association Khaled Masud declared that if the DC is not withdrawn from the district immediately they will be compelled to go on strike for an indefinite period.

The also urged the government to fulfil their various demands including timely disbursement of government grants, regularisation of services and ensure congenial atmosphere in the educational institutions.

## BARGUNA

Posts of Asstt judges lying vacant

Oct 1 : The posts of Assistant Judges have been lying vacant since last one year in Bamina, Betagi, Pathergata upazilas of the district, reports UNB.

According to informed sources, a huge number of cases have been lying pending in these upazilas causing untold suffering to the people.

A total of 2160 cases are awaiting disposal in the district due to absence of Assistant Judges for a long time. At least 168 cases remained pending in Pathergata upazila, the sources said.

Besides, 627 civil suits, 44 session cases and 267 others have been pending in the court of the district judge which were filed since last January, this year.

Further 332 cases are pending in Sub-Judge court, while 439 and 42 cases are yet to be tried in the courts of the Sub-Judge and Assistant Judge respectively.

Local elite have urged the authorities to fill up the vacancies to redress the sufferings of the people.

## PIROJPUR

Kacha washes away vast tract of land

Oct 1 : The mighty river "Kacha" in the region washed away a vast tract of land and seriously affected a number of hats, bazaars and ghats by the erosion during the last few days, reports UNB.

The affected areas are : Hularhat, Charkhali, Chahoria, Teliakhati and Tushkhali.

According to informed sources, launch and steamer ghats of Hularhat Bandar was shifted several times and about a half kilometer away from the Bandar, at least 300 shops and houses were eroded by the river and the villages Deonkhali and Kumirpara also went into the river.

According to report, Charkhali, Chahoria and Teliakhati under Bhandaria upazila are also on the verge of destruction and the rocket ghat of Charkhali is seriously threatened by the erosion of the river.

Local leaders informed that many shops, houses including the Tushkhali Girls School were washed away. They urged the authorities to take steps to check the erosion without further delay.

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According to witnesses, Sajid was walking along the side track of station yard. Meanwhile, Dinajpur bound 7-UP mail train entered the same track, knocked the boy down and crushed to death under its wheels recently.

A case has been filed in this connection.



NAOGAON : With the onrush of flood waters a vast tract of land has been submerged in the district. Photo shows a villager going to his destination by a raft.

— Star photo

## Fertilizer, insecticide prices high

## Transplanted Aman, rabi crops farming may drop

## From Our Correspondent

JHENIDAH, Oct 1 : Transplanted Aman paddy (Ropa aman) and Rabi crops cultivation may drop in six upazilas of the district due to high price of inputs including fertilizer and pesticides.

According to the Agricultural Extension Department (AED) in Jhenidah Sadar, Shaikupura, Kalganj, Kotchandpur, Moheshpur and Harinakunda upazilas the target of transplanted Aman paddy has been fixed at 161476 acres of which 155499 acres are high yielding variety including Pyjam and 5977 acres are local variety.

On a visit to some local markets this correspondent observed that the prices of different kinds of fertilizers and

pesticides have gone up adversely affecting the farmers incentives for Rupa Aman paddy and Rabi crops cultivation which need maximum fertilizers and pesticides.

Different kinds of fertilizers like Urea, Triple Super Phosphate (TSP) and Murate of Potash (MP) are now selling at Taka 380, 275 and 220 respectively per bag which were sold at Taka 245, 250 and 205 per bag a fortnight ago. The government rate of Urea is Taka 240, TSP Taka 240 and MP Taka 200. It may be mentioned that each bag contains 50 kg fertilizer.

Tossa variety was sold at Taka 220 to 310 per a maund which is far below the production cost.

The poor farmers particularly the share-croppers and

marginal farmers were compelled to sell their jute at throw away prices as they have no other alternative. But they have to purchase fertilizers and pesticides and other inputs at exorbitant rate.

The competent sources said that as the government has no control over the prices of fertilizers and pesticides, businessmen are making brisk business depriving the farmers of the actual price. On the other hand government has failed to fix up fair price of jute.

Farmers of the area have urged upon the government to take necessary steps for fixing the fair price of the jute and to provide fertilizers and pesticides at reasonable prices.

## Flood situation improves in Shariatpur

## From Our Correspondent

## Jute growers at stake

SHARIATPUR, Oct 1 : The flood situation in Shariatpur district is improving following the recession of water level in the rivers of Padma and Kirti-nasha. Numerous people of Katiakhati, Taraboria, Char Attra and Noapara under Bhederganj and Norai upazilas are living under open sky. Only a small quantity of relief goods of Red Crescent has reached here.

About 2000 people have taken shelter on the high banks of Sureshwar, Bangla Bazar and Noapara, while many of them are residing in Charattra Primary School and Aitzia High School. Sureshwar Primary School, Noapara hat and Taraboria station bazar have already been engulfed by the Padma.

**Seedlings distributed**  
District Agricultural Extension Department recently distributed 400 Kazi guava

saplings among the students who secured first, second and third positions in every class under Pourasava schools and madrasahs. It was done under afforestation programme to encourage students in tree plantation.

## 65 criminals held

District police department has arrested 65 criminals from six thanas of Shariatpur district under Operation Durbar. The criminals included convicted and absconding persons, members of Sarbarha Party and suspected persons.

Another district police source says that Jajira thana police have recently recovered a country-made pigeon from a paddy field in BK Nagar village.

A police case has been filed against the four accused employees after a three-member probe body headed by Assistant Controller of Food, Bogra detected the crime committed by forging allotment orders.

According to some experts, a ten-mile long char which emerged in the mid Meghna has been responsible for massive erosion of the banks.

Local Water Development Board officials said an alternative embankment from Raghunathpur to Haimchar was being planned if the existing embankment is washed away.

They apprehend that erosion would be more serious when the water would be receding during the dry season.

The Deputy Commissioner, Yakub Ali said 10 metric tons of rice, 5 metric tons of wheat and 200 sarees and lungis have been allocated for distribution to erosion affected people.

Further police investigation is continuing. No arrest has yet been made.

The villagers have been shifting their belongings including utensils and bullocks to safer places.

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