

Upazila roundup

SIRAJGANJ

Demonstration of flood-hit people

Oct 28: About 5,000 flood-hit people demonstrated in front of Belkuchi Upazila Parishad Saturday and Sunday demanding food and job. Upazila Chairman Abdul Latif Biswas said, reports UNB.

Led by local unit president of Jatiya Sramik League Nur Hossain and general secretary Hela Miah, the demonstrators submitted a memorandum to Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) and Upazila Chairman to press home their demand.

Another report from the upazila adds: diarrhoea claimed two more lives during the last 24 hours.

The victims are: Ismat Ara (4) of Raiganj upazila and Shahera Khatun (20) of Shahjadpur upazila.

Upazila Chairman said 29 people died of diarrhoea during the last month.

TANGAIL

Family planning assoc AGM held

Oct 28: The annual general meeting of Family Planning Association of Bangladesh Tangail Branch was held on Friday at district council auditorium with Dr. H. R. Khan in the chair. Mr. Shaukat Ali Tajukder General Secretary and Advocate Khan Mohammad Khaled Treasured placed their respective annual reports.

Mr. Tajukder in his report stated that the branch is rendering family planning and much services through 14 projects covering six upazilas of the district. He said family planning programme is very important but complex task. Coordinated effort is required for its success, he said.

CHITTAGONG

NATAB health edn centre opens today

Oct 28: The newly built health education centre of the National Anti-Tuberculosis Association of Bangladesh (NATAB) will be inaugurated on Tuesday at Katalganj, Panchlaish here, reports BSS.

Deputy leader of the Jatiya Sangsad and President of NATAB Prof. A. Q. M. Badruddoza Chowdhury will be the chief guest at the function, says a press release.

Planning Minister A. M. Zahuruddin Khan, Mr. Akhtiaruzaman Chowdhury MP Advocate Mir Mohammad Nasiruddin, Mayor, Chittagong City Corporation, Dr. Sakawat Hossain, Secretary-General, NATAB, Kazi Akramuddin Ahmed, Ex-region Chairman, Lions Club, Chittagong, and Mr. Atual Hakim, President, Chittagong Press Club will be the special guests.

JHALAKATHI

1,286 acres khas land distributed

Oct 28: A total of 1,286 acres of Government khas land have been distributed among the distressed people of four upazilas of the district, reports UNB.

Informed sources said, of the total land, 539 acres have been distributed in Naichiti upazila, 500 acres in Rajapur upazila, 200 acres in Kathalia and 47 acres in Sadar upazilas.

It is reported that 1,508 landless families have been benefited in the district.

Another report says, 116 metric tons of wheat valued at Tk 7 lakh have been distributed under VGF scheme in four upazilas of the district in the current fiscal year.

According to official sources, about 1,500 distressed families got the wheat under the scheme.

BHERAMARA

25 injured in bus accident

Oct 28: Twentyfive persons were injured, two of them seriously, when a coach bound for Pragpur skidded into a ditch at Charpara, half-a-mile from here on Sunday, reports BSS.

The injured persons were admitted to Bheramara health complex. Cash and belongings of the passengers of the coach were looted by miscreants after the accident, the wounded passengers alleged.

A case has been lodged with Bheramara thana.

None has been arrested in this connection.

PATUAKHALI

BKB exempts Tk 156.35 cr agri-loan

Oct 28: Bangladesh Krishi Bank (BKB) has exempted agricultural loan totalling Tk 156.35 crore in 11 southern districts following the government directive to write off agricultural loans upto Tk 5,000, reports UNB.

Bank sources said, a total of 2,85,490 farmers have got the exemption.

Of the total loan, Tk 16.93 crore involving 32,395 farmer loanees were exempted in Patuakhali district, Tk 13.33 crore involving 25,262 farmers in Barguna, Tk 21.91 crore involving 38,592 farmers in Barisal, Tk 16.05 crore involving 34,547 farmers in Bhojla, Tk 10.12 crore involving 24,473 farmers in Pirojpur, Tk 5.44 crore involving 13,327 farmers in Jhalakathi, Tk 16.98 crore involving 29,274 farmers in Faridpur, Tk 15.14 crore involving 25,959 farmers in Gopalganj, Tk 15.42 crore involving 21,185 farmers in Madaripur, Tk 17.91 crore involving 26,644 farmers in Shariatpur and Tk 7.92 crore involving 13,832 farmers in Rajbari districts.

BHOJA

PHE to sink 525 deep tubewells

Oct 28: Public Health Engineering (PHE) Department has taken up a programme to sink 525 deep tubewells in seven upazilas of the district in the current fiscal year, reports UNB.

According to official sources, 251 tubewells will be sunk under post-flood rehabilitation scheme and 274 others under annual development programme.

Of the total, 95 tubewells will be sunk in Sadar upazila, 58 in Borhanuddin, 65 in Daulatkhan, 68 in Lalmoan, 148 in Charfashion, 39 in Tajumuddin and 52 in Manpara upazilas.

The department will also distribute 7,200 sanitary latrines in Patuakhali and 5,800 latrines in Barguna districts in the current year, the sources said.

MANIKGANJ

Money lenders active

Oct 28: Most of the farmers in the district are forced to sell their crops to money lenders in advance against their loans, reports UNB.

Unabated erosion, recurring floods and crop failure in the last few years are learnt to be the main causes of their borrowing money from the money lenders at exorbitant rate of interest.

Many farmers complained that they did not get any loan from banks as they failed to pay back the previous loan.

As a result, hundreds of farmers of Shibabaya, Ghior, Daulatpur, Singair, Hariumpur, Sauria and Manikganj Sadar upazilas were forced to sell their crops to the money lenders in advance.

KISHOREGANJ

Diarrhoea claims 27 more lives

Oct 28: Diarrhoea claimed 27 more lives and attacked more than 3,000 people in nine upazilas of the district over the last one week, reports UNB.

With this the death toll rose to 255 in the district since the disease broke out in an epidemic form from September 1.

About 13,000 people of different upazilas of the district were attacked by the disease during the period.

According to unofficial sources, of the 27 deaths, five died in Hossainpur, six in Pakundia, three each in Katiadi and Sadar, two each in Nikli, Itna, Bajitpur, Kularchar and Karimganj upazilas.

MALJDEE COURT

One lakh fish fry released

Oct 28: Local fisheries department released one lakh fish fry under an open water fish fry scheme being executed in the current fiscal year, reports UNB.

The fish fry have been released in the Noakhali khul at Begumganj upazila of the district.

Official sources said villagers in five upazilas of the district were also being given loans amounting to over Tk. 87,000 to encourage fish cultivation in the privately owned ponds.



PABNA: This dilapidated century old private building at Gopalpur area may collapse at any moment. — Star photo

Satkhira City College lacks amenities

From Our Correspondent

SATKHIRA, Oct 28: Satkhira City College at the district head quarter is facing multifarious problems including shortage of furniture, laboratory equipment, games and sports materials.

The college was established in 1980 as an intermediate institution with Arts, Commerce and Science courses. It was later upgraded to a degree college with the understanding of introducing arts and commerce subjects, in addition to science.

But this lone non-government college in the area is not big enough to accommodate an ever-increasing number of students. It was set up on five acres of land. There are only six class rooms in the college which lack requisite number of benches. One common room meant for the female students is mostly used by male students.

At present the number of students are 800 with 17 teachers and five non-teaching staff.

Due to inadequate number of books and other teaching materials the students have to suffer enormously. The condition of the science laboratory is very poor.

One housewife Jahanara Khatun (26), wife of Kabir Sardar under Sadar upazila was allegedly beaten to death by her husband for dowry recently.

According to the family sources, the victim Jahanara, the third wife of Kabir Sardar of Chandpur village was beaten mercilessly when she failed to bring dowry from her poor parents. She died on the spot. A case was lodged with the Satkhira police station in this connection.

Immunisation plan

The country wide week-long National Immunisation Programme was observed at Satkhira recently. In this connection a two-mile long rally was held by the students and local elite. It paraded the main streets of the town. One elephant, two horses and other animals were decorated with EPI banners.

Mr. Katebur Rahman, Deputy Commissioner of Satkhira, Dr. Abdul Momin Civil Surgeon, Satkhira and President of Press Club addressed the rally. The immunisation programme has been launched to save the children of the country from the attack of six serious diseases.

According to official sources, about 70 per cent of the target of EPI has been achieved in the district.

After the rally a seminar was held at the Shahid Abdur Razzak Park and hundreds of students, elite and district level officials of the town attended it.

Mr. Katebur Rahman said that the EPI offered a great opportunity to protect the health of the children. He further said that only a healthy child can hold a promise for building up a future healthy nation.

Number of quacks on rise

From Our Correspondent

SIHERPUR, Oct 28: The number of quacks has increased in the five upazilas of the district. Now-a-days quacks are found in the villages of Sreebordi, Jhenaitali, Nalitabari, Nakla and Sadar upazilas of the district.

It is gathered that many youngmen disappointed by prolonged unemployment educated have taken up to quackery in the rural areas. A few of them have basic training on health care. Poor people mainly landless and labourers who can hardly afford to get themselves treated at the hospitals go to these quacks because they charge nominal fee.

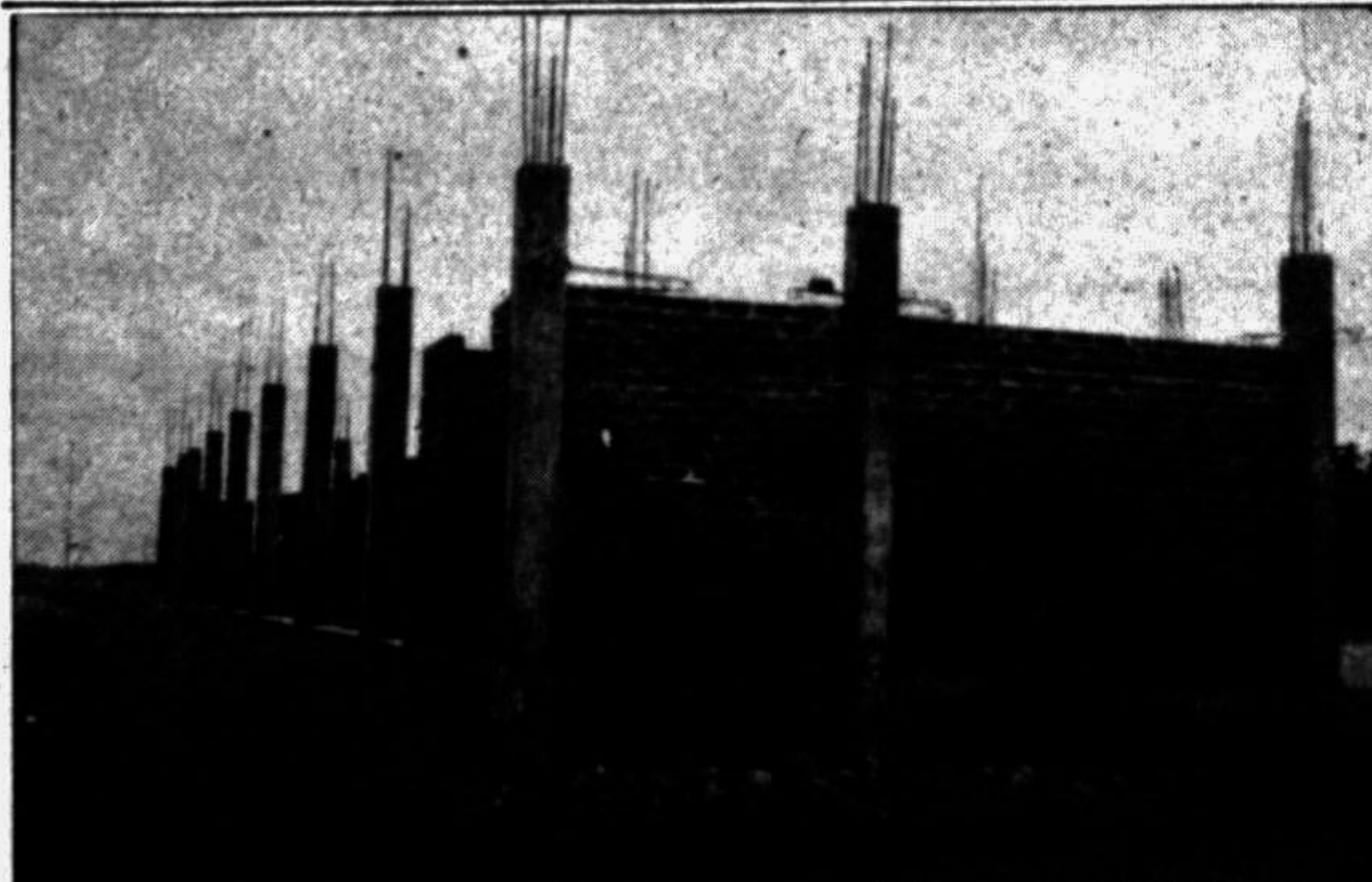
A large number of graduates are found among these quacks while HSC and SSC passed young boys are taking quackery as profession on a large scale.

Some government health workers are also found practicing as quacks in the rural areas throughout the district. The people suffering from various diseases including diarrhoea go to the quacks for necessary treatment.

The number of quacks has been increasing mainly due to absence of medicare at health complexes set up at every upazila headquarters and union.

A section of doctors and other staff of the hospitals realise gratification from the poor patients for providing them with prescription and medical treatment. Being harassed by them the helpless poor patients go to the quacks instead of health complexes.

Communication with the health complexes is also in a precarious state. As a result patients are generally reluctant to go to the qualified doctors at the upazila headquarters and district towns. Moreover the poor patients from rural areas cannot afford to pay fees of qualified doctors. Many people alleged that the quacks exploit the patients by wrong treatment.



SYLHET: Construction works of the Osmany Charitable Hospital building at Gen Osmany's village home at Dayamir of Balaganj upazila has been lying incomplete for more than three years. — Photo by M Iqbal Siddiqi

Jamalpur needs more relief

From Our Correspondent

JAMALPUR, Oct 28: Serious food crisis has been prevailing all over greater Jamalpur district for the last one month following the recent floods that caused havoc to the standing crops and other property.

The district suffered a massive crop loss during the last three years because of heavy rainfall and onrush of flood water which crippled the economic life line of the rural farmers.

It is learnt that about 80 per cent farmers of the district this year cultivated crops by borrowing loans from different banks but drought, floods and other natural calamities damage about 70 per cent crops. At present Jamalpur district has turned into a deficit area rendering the day labourers jobless. They roam about door to door begging jobs and food. Many labourers left for district towns in search of jobs. These unemployed labourers are passing these days in utter misery for the last one month.

About 50 per cent people will starve if immediate relief operations are not geared up. Besides labourers, farmers are facing hardships due to price hike of essentials.

This correspondent on a visit to some rural areas found distressed condition of a calamity-stricken people.

The government, however, has arranged relief through upazila authorities but these proved quite inadequate to meet the requirements.

The government should take steps to increase the quantity of relief rice, oil, salt, through ration and also allot more relief to save the inhabitants of Jamalpur district.

Drinking water scarce in rural areas

From A Correspondent

SYLHET, Oct 28: Acute scarcity of pure drinking water has posed a serious problem to the people in general in the rural areas of Sylhet district for long. According to the reports, the existing number of tubewells in the 11 upazilas of the district sunk by the department of Public Health Engineering (PHE) is inadequate to meet the demand of the people, especially the villagers.

According to an official source, there are 16,920 tubewells in the district. The total population of the district is over 21 lakh. Of the total number of tubewells, 841 are now lying choked-up in different areas of the district. Many of them went out of order two or three years ago. But no effective measure has yet been taken either to replace or resink these tubewells by the authorities concerned, it is alleged.

Several representations for resinking these tubewells were given to the authorities but no step has yet been taken, it is also learnt.

The people in general, especially those who live in the remote villages have to depend on wells, tanks, rivers, etc for drinking water due to the non-availability of pure drinking water. It has also resulted in the spreading of various diseases in different rural areas of the district.

The situation had further worsened by the outbreak of different diarrhoeal diseases due to the recurrent floods.

Immediate and effective measures should be taken up by the government with a view to resinking the choked up tubewells in the district, it is felt widely.

According to the reports, the victim autorickshaw was on its way to Lalabazar from Sylhet collided head on with a minibus from the opposite direction and met the accident at about 9-15 pm. The driver of the autorickshaw Majnu Miah (22) died on the spot. Two injured passengers had been admitted to the MAG Osmany Medical College Hospital.

Just after the incident, the local people blocked the road demanding the immediate arrest and punishment of the driver of the minibus. It continued for four hours.

A case has been started with the Kotwali police in this regard.

One person was killed and five others injured seriously in a road accident that took place at Teitil on Dhaka-Sylhet Highway recently. The agitated local people, just after the incident blocked the road for four hours causing much sufferings for the passengers at night.

Indian goods including salt and sugar worth about Taka one lakh 17 thousand 545 were seized by the BDR personnel from Tukerbazar area of Sylhet Sadar upazila on Tuesday last.

Unmarried mother absconding

SIRAJGANJ, Oct 28: An unmarried mother who fled away from the Sadar hospital after giving birth to a premature male child could not be traced out till today, reports UNB.

Hospital sources said maid servant Nazma (13), daughter of Abdul Jalil of village Nabogram in Ullapara upazila was admitted to the hospital with seven months pregnancy on August 29. But after the delivery she fled away on the same night.

Hospital authorities on the following day handed over the child to sweeper Belmont to look after him. But the sweeper sold the child to an unknown person where after four days the baby died.

The unfortunate mother Nazma was said to be working as maid in a house of a local Ullapara upazila official.

Huge arms recovered in Chuadanga

From Our Correspondent

CHUADANGA, Oct 28: Huge illegal arms and ammunition were recovered and many veteran criminals were arrested from the different areas like Chuadanga Sadar thana, Alamdanga thana, Damurhuda and Jibannagar thanas during the month.

According to the Chuadanga district police, 174 criminals were arrested on different charges. One gun, 10 pipeguns, 3 pistols, 21 rounds of rifle ammunition, 18 rounds of gun ammunition, 41 hand bombs, one ramdao, three daggers, three grenades were seized by the police during the period.

Vigorous drive is still in progress throughout Chuadanga district by the police to recover illegal arms and ammunition, it is learnt.

Manikganj chamber executives

MANIKGANJ, Oct 28: A 24-member Board of Directors of local Chamber of Commerce and Industries was elected here Thursday with Alhaj Md. Akram Hossain as the Chairman, reports UNB.

The board was elected directly by the votes of its executive members at the biennial election.

Another report from Brahmanbaria says, a 20-member executive body of local Chamber of Commerce and Industries was elected here recently with Fariduddin Ahmed as its president.

One awarded life-term for killing school girl

MANIKGANJ, Oct 28: A man was awarded life term in absence and fined Tk 5,000, in default, to suffer two years rigorous imprisonment more for killing a school girl, reports UNB.

The case, in brief, is that the accused Abul Hossain killed Reha Khanam, daughter of Serajul Islam of Junaid in Sauria upazila on Dargam-Banuid road on June 10, 1985, while she was returning home after attending the private tuition. She was the student of Dargam High School.

A case was lodged and police after investigation charge-sheeted the accused.

The District and Sessions Judge M. A. Rashid after examining the witnesses and records delivered the judgement recently.

Tender Notice

1. Tender No. 6/1991-92	
2. Name of work	Development of Eliotganj—Muradnagar Road under Gumti Water Dev. Divn., Comilla during the year 1991-92.
3. Group of work	Works are divided into 3 Nos of group estimated amount varies from Tk. 7,13,674 to Tk. 8,58,000/- and earnest money 2% of estimated amount and 1% for F. D. holder.
4. Prices of tender documents	Tk. 400/-
5. Name of place where tender documents will be available	Janata Bank, Samabhya Bipani Branch, Comilla. Sonali Bank, WAPDA Branch, Motijheel, Dhaka. Sonali Bank, Monoharpur Branch, Comilla. Executive Engineer, Chandpur O&M Divn., Chandpur. Executive Engineer, Chittagong O&M Divn. II, Chittagong.
6. Date of selling tender	Up to 16.11.1991.
7. Date of receiving tender	17-11-91, 18-11-91 and Up to 12-00 Noon at 19-11-91.
8. Date & time of opening tender	On 19-11-91 at 12-30 Noon in presence of willing tenderers.
9. Tender receiving places	Executive Engineer, Gumti Water Dev. Divn., BWDB, Comilla. Executive Engineer, Comilla O&M Divn., BWDB, Comilla. Executive Engineer, Chittagong O&M Divn. -II, BWDB, Chittagong. Executive Engineer, Chandpur O&M Divn., BWDB, Chandpur. Executive Engineer, Dhaka O&M Divn.-II BWDB, Dhaka.
10. Eligibility of Contractor	'B' & 'C' of BWDB.
11. Name of Advertiser	

PANI-88/91-92  
DFP (G) 12291-26/10  
G-788

Executive Engineer  
Gumti Water Dev. Division,  
BWDB, Comilla.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh  
Office of the Executive Engineer (R&H)  
Rangamati Road Division

R&H, Notice Inviting Tender

1. Tender Notice No.	: 36/EE/RRD/1991-92 financial year.
2. Name of work	: Emergency defending work by balla palasiding at 8th K. M. (ch: 0-00 to 0-60 M) of Ghagra-Chandraghona-Bangalhalia-Rajasthali Road (Ghagra- Chandraghona Part) under Chittagong Hill Tracts Road Circle, Rangamati of Rangamati Road Division During 1991-92.
3. Estimated Cost	: Tk. 1,12,042/-
4. Earnest money	: Tk 2,250/-
5. Time limit for completion of work	: 15 (fifteen) days from the date of work order.
6. Offices where the tender to be had at	: (R&H), Road Division, Rangamati/ Workshop Division, Rangamati/ Bandarban and Road Sub-Division-1/2/3/1st line Workshop Sub-Division, Rangamati up to 5-11-91.
7. Officers to receive the tender	: Superintending Engineer, (R&H), Road Circle, Rangamati and Executive Engineer, (R&H), Rangamati Road Division.
8. Last date of receiving the tender	: 6-11-91 upto 12-30 p.m.
9. Date & time of opening the tender	: 6-11-91 at 12-45 p.m.
10. Eligibility of Contractors	: (R&H), 'A' to 'E' general class enlisted contractors.
11. Head of expense	: Ghagra-Chandraghona- Bangalhalia-Rajasthali Road 1991-92.

Sealed tenders through Bangladesh Form No. 2911 are invited from "A" to "E" general class enlisted contractors under Roads & Highways Department for the above mentioned work.

Executive Engineer, (R&H),  
Rangamati Road Division.  
DFP (G) 12237-24/10  
G-790