

Upazila roundup

**RAJSHAHI**  
Shibir activists  
gherao DC office

**From Our Correspondent**  
Nov 18: Activists of Jamaat backed Islami Chhatra Shibir Rajshahi University Unit gheraoed the Deputy Commissioner's office on November 14 demanding immediate arrest and exemplary punishment of killers its leaders Aslam, Asgar, Shafik and Khalil.  
A rally was held on the occasion in front of DC office chaired by Rafikul Islam, President of ICS, RU unit. It was addressed, among others, by Nurul Islam Bulbul and Abdul Alim.  
Speakers at the meeting called upon the students to build resistance against terrorism and violence in the educational institutions of the country. They also demanded immediate recovery of all illegal arms from the campuses and punishment of the killers of its four leaders.  
Later, ICS leaders also submitted a memorandum to the DC.

**GHORASAL**  
10 injured  
in blast

Nov 18: At least ten people were injured when a drum full of bleaching powder exploded at Palash Bazar, reports UNB.  
Five injured persons were admitted to a local clinic and others were released after first aid.  
The explosion occurred at the store room of a shop on November 9 causing fire which was put out with the help of the local people.  
The big bang caused by the explosion created panic in the area making people run for safety.

**JP leaders' release  
demanded**

Jatiya Party Palash upazila unit at a meeting here demanded immediate release of arrested JP leaders including its chairman H M Ershad.

The meeting held on Wednesday was presided over by the acting president of the unit, Advocate Delwar Hossain. It was also addressed by Mahbulul Haque, Shahjahan Shaju, Babul Sarkar and Aby Layes Ferdous.  
Later, they brought out a procession parading main thoroughfares of the upazila.

**NARAIL**  
Plan to release  
2 lakh fish fry  
in Chitra

Nov 18: The district Fisheries Department has taken up a programme to release two lakh fish fry in the river, reports UNB.  
Of the total, 40,000 fry were released in the river Chitra at local Jaminder Bari ghat.  
The programme was inaugurated recently by the Deputy Director of Fisheries, Khuina, while the Deputy Commissioner and the Additional Deputy Commissioner (Rev) were present on the occasion.  
The rest 1,60,000 fry would be sold to the fishermen and interested farmers to boost fish output.  
With the implementation of the programme, it is expected that protein deficiency in the district will be met to a great extent.

**GAZIPUR**  
Tk 17 cr IDB  
grant for Sreepur  
Textile Mills

Nov 18: Islamic Development Bank (IDB) has sanctioned US dollar 43.50 lakh equivalent to Tk 17 crore for Sreepur Textile Mills for rehabilitation and modernisation of the mills, reports UNB.  
The mills will procure equipment for textile production with the loan.  
The IDB president Dr Ahmad Muhammad Ali and Managing Director of the mills signed an agreement in this connection recently.

**Ceramic industry**

The standard ceramic industry constructed at a cost of Tk 16 crore at Shaipur in Sadar upazila is facing acute financial problem.  
Reconstruction works of the factory damaged by cyclone on May last was hampered due to financial constraints.  
A total of 250 workers recruited for experimental production have not been getting their salary.

**COMILLA**  
Potato farming  
faces setback

Nov 18: Potato cultivation in the district may face a serious setback due to scarcity of seeds, fertilizer and dearth of running capital, reports UNB.  
According to growers, about 10.70 lakh kgs of potato seeds were allotted by the Bangladesh Agriculture Development Corporation for the district but only about 1.52 lakh kgs have so far been disbursed.  
As a result, most of the farmers are not getting seeds, although cultivation of potato has already been started.  
The high prices of potato seeds and fertilizers in the market have aggravated the situation further. Each kg of potato seeds is now being sold between Tk 9 and 10.  
Almost all varieties of fertilizers have recorded a sharp rise in recent days hampering cultivation greatly in the district.  
Farmers of the locality urged the authorities to provide them credit and adequate supply of fertilizers and seeds at fair prices.

**PIROJPUR**  
BRDB to disburse  
Tk 22 lakh  
crop loan

Nov 18: Bangladesh Rural Development Board (BRDB) has taken up a programme to distribute Tk 22 lakh as crop loan in the district in the current financial year, reports UNB.  
Official sources said, of the total amount, Tk 9.63 lakh will be disbursed for Aman cultivation, Tk 3.63 lakh for IRRI and Tk 8.76 lakh for Aus cultivation.  
According to another report, work is in progress on the construction of a 2-km long embankment, under food for works programme in Patuakhali.  
Informed sources said about 200 mts of wheat valued at Tk 12 lakh will be utilised for construction of the embankment.

**MAULVI BAZAR**  
Anti-socials  
active in Kulaura  
railway station

Nov 18: Kulaura railway station, a busy railway junction, has become the centre of floating prostitutes, smugglers and musclemen, local leaders alleged, reports UNB.  
Anti-social and unlawful activities have been going on unchecked by the railway authorities and even the law enforcing agencies.  
Thousands of passengers who come and wait here for journey to different destinations are subjected to harassment by miscreants and prostitutes.

**KHULNA**  
13 JP leaders  
expelled

Nov 18: Thirteen local leaders of Jatiya Party have been relieved of their responsibilities for keeping themselves aloof from party activities for a long time, reports UNB.  
The decision was taken unanimously at a meeting of the district committee held on Friday with Dr Mansur Ali in the chair.  
The expelled leaders include ex-President of district committee Kazi Faruque Ahmed, Vice President - Gazi Rahmatullah, Treasurer Golem Kibria, Secretary for student affairs Prof Abu Selim.  
The party in a press release said the leaders were isolated themselves from party activities since the ouster of Ershad from power.

**KISHOREGANJ**  
Discussion on rat  
killing held

**From Our Correspondent**  
Nov 18: A discussion meeting in connection with the observance of rat killing drive fortnight, organised by District Agriculture Department was held at Sadullarchar Bazar under Sadar upazila recently.  
Chaired by Abdul Bari Khan, Upazila Chairman, Kishoreganj Sadar upazila, the meeting was attended by Mr A S M Ruhul Amin, Deputy Director, Agriculture as chief guest. Among others Dr Nurul Haq, district Livestock Officer, Mr Chan Mia, Subjectmatter specialist (crops), Subodh Chandra, Sadar upazila Agricultural Officer, Gopal Chandra Shah and Abdul Abed Khan took part in the discussion.



RANGPUR: A signboard hung on a tree by the anti-Tinbigha Sangram Committee near Tinbigha in Indian territory while Sudhir Smriti is seen in its beneath with cross mark. Sudhir Kumar Roy, an activist of Forward Block was killed by BSF gun shot on July 6, 1981 while he along with hundreds of Indian militants let loose reign of terror in a bid to undo an Indo-Bangladesh joint border survey. —Star photo

**Non-professionals get lease of  
water bodies: fishermen suffer**

**From Our Correspondent**  
RAJSHAHI, Nov 18: The future of about 20,000 fishermen in nine upazilas of the district have become uncertain due to fund constraints. Price hike of fishing appliances, decline in fish production and leasing of water bodies to the fake fishermen.  
It is learnt that fishermen of these upazilas have no capital to run their business. They borrow money from local money lenders at an exorbitant rate of interest. Besides, absence of bank loans for the fishermen has aggravated the situation.  
Moreover, price hike of fishing nets and boats have adversely affected them. A fishing boat is now selling at Taka 40,000 to 70,000 which is beyond their purchasing capacity.  
Moreover, some fake fishermen in co-operation with vested quarters have allegedly formed co-operative societies and take lease of beels, jalmahals and other water bodies in different upazilas and union parshads of the district depriving the genuine fishermen.  
It is alleged that genuine fishermen hardly get any co-operation from relevant department.  
Meanwhile, a large number of fishermen have already left their ancestral profession and have taken up other jobs for their livelihood.  
**Rajbari**  
Our Correspondent from Rajbari says that similar situation is also prevailing in Rajbari. More than 30,000 fishermen of Rajbari district have been facing unemployment because of sharp fall in fish production in the district.  
Fish production this year has been suffering a serious set back owing to massive siltation of rivers, canals, haors and beels, indiscriminate catching of fish fries by non-professionals and alarming outbreak of fish diseases.  
With the advent of the winter season water starts receding from the rivers, canals, beels and haors resulting in the decline of fish output.  
Unabated catching of fish fries by non-professionals has also hampered natural growth of fish production.  
It is alleged that a group of people living near the rivers rampantly catch fish fries defying the government restriction.  
Fish diseases that broke out in an epidemic form all over the country had perished about 50 per cent of the fishes in rivers, beels and haors of the district. The use of pesticides in crop fields also contaminate the water and a huge quantity of fish is perished every year.  
On the otherhand, the fishermen are unable to culture fish in their hatcheries due to fund constraints.  
They alleged that they got neither bank loan nor post-flood rehabilitation facilities after the last floods.

**Cyclone-damaged electric  
line yet to be repaired**

**From Our Correspondent**  
PATIA, Nov 18: The farmers under 52 IRRI schemes, a good number of domestic consumers and the owners of the five rice mills have been facing much inconvenience due to non-repair of electric line.  
The three-mile-long Naya Khal electric line constructed on three unions of Nella, Keckhia and Dhensa under Saitkania upazila was damaged by the last April cyclone is yet to be reconstructed. The cyclone uprooted all the electric poles and ultimately the fallen aluminium wires are reported to have stolen.  
After repeated complaints, the concerned people started repairing work, but for unknown reasons the group left the work half-done. In the meantime, the wires of the repaired portion have also been stolen. When contacted the Sub-Assistant Engineer, Saitkania Power Supply Station told this correspondent that shortage of wire had hampered the construction work.  
**System loss reduced**  
UNB from Gazipur adds: Rural Electrification Board of Gazipur has been successful in reducing the system loss by motivating the consumers to pay their electric bills regularly.  
The board arranged training for 300 locals who would advise and motivate the villagers to pay their electric bills in time. They have also been advising the consumers on safety measures and how to use electronic gadgets.  
Officials said a total of 30,380 consumers have given electric lines of which the highest number of 25,996 are domestic, 2228 commercial, 758 industrial and 897 irrigation pumps.  
The rural electrification scheme has directly or indirectly benefited 1,44,539 people of 57,260 families creating employment opportunity for 50,500 people in industrial establishments and 1,30,000 people in agriculture and irrigation. Agricultural output has also increased by a metric tons annually.  
Starting operation in June, 1980, the REB has brought 437 villages under its electrification so far out of total target of 774 villages in the district.



SYLHET: Frequent traffic jam, caused by a large number of rickshaws in the town has become a regular feature. —Star photo

**Fish disease alarming in Sirajganj**

**From Our Correspondent**  
SIRAJGANJ, Nov 18: Fish disease has broken out alarmingly in the district.  
It is learnt that acute fodder crisis is causing sufferings to the cattlehead. At present one mound of straw is sold at Taka 100 in the local markets.  
Due to price hike of straw and other fodders the cultivators are using waterhyacinth on large scale for their animals. While contacted, the source of district Livestock Department told that use of water hyacinth as fodder may have adverse effect on the cattle.  
**Fodder scarcity**  
Acute crisis of fodder is reported from different parts of Sirajganj district.  
It is learnt that during the current season Aman paddy has been cultivated on about 80,000 acres of land. Due to recurrent floods, paddy on about 50,000 acres of land has been damaged. Massive invasion of Mazra and Morano pests is reported in Sadar, Belkuchi, Ullapara and Raiganj upazilas of the district. While contacted, some farmers told this correspondent that high price of pesticides in open market and non-availability of pesticides under agricultural rehabilitation scheme have aggravated the situation.  
**Pest menace**  
Pest menace has affected 30,000 acres of paddy field in the district.

**Anti-Tin Bigha  
bandh foiled**

**From Our Correspondent**  
RANGPUR, Nov 18: Jyoti Basu backed CPI (M) foiled a dawn-to-dusk bandh at Indian Mekliganj, Dhaphrat, Tin Bigha and surrounding areas on November 13 called by anti-Tin Bigha activists belonging to Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Forward Block, SUCI and Komol Guha's extremist group in a bid to stage protest against Jyoti Basu's visit on previous day.  
A large number of people who fled homes from Enclaves including Chairman, Dahagram Union Parishad Mr Shamsul Huda Proddhan disclosed to a group of journalists visiting Tin Bigha on Saturday that anti-Tin Bigha militants clashed with CPI(M) men — several times for almost the whole day.  
As a result anti-Tin Bigha bandh foiled as most of the vehicles started plying, shops opened and industries start functioning. In the last four days no major clashes occurred there but strong agitations are persisting around the enclaves causing grave panic among the entire enclave people residing under cordon of Indians risking lives in face of repeated threatening of crackdown by Tin Bigha militants.  
Indian police arrested about 50 anti-Tin Bigha agitators from Mekliganj, Dhaphrat and Tin Bigha areas, a reliable source claimed.  
Dahagram enclave Chairman said that guardians of enclaves shifted their young daughters to safer places in mainland. On the other hand a large number of youths who fled to mainland narrated the sorrows and dreadful tales of the inhabitants inside enclave.  
**Rina Khatun dead**  
Another report says: Rina Khatun of Dahagram enclave who was brought to Dhaka by deposed President Ershad and underwent free heart treatment at Shuhrawardy Hospital and CMH, Dhaka died on November 13 at her home inside enclave.  
Rina Khatun again fell ill recently but due to abnormal situation around enclave she could not be taken to mainland for treatment.  
She died in the morning of November 13 but lakhs of willwishers all over the country could not help her.

**1,28,959 children  
vaccinated in  
Comilla**

**COMILLA, Nov 18:** About 1,28,959 children upto one year of age were given DPT and Polio vaccines during the last fiscal year under Extended Immunisation Programme (EPI), reports UNB.  
The percentage of success was 89, officials said.  
About 1,38,278 and 1,17,222 children were given BCG and measles vaccines respectively. The percentage of success were 95.54 and 80 respectively.  
Tetanus Toxoid (TT) were given to 1,16,876 women. The percentage of success was 42.66.  
Besides, another 66,117 pregnant women TT, the percentage of which is 38.84 per cent of the target.

**Misappropriation of  
public wheat alleged**

**From Our Correspondent**  
SIERPUR, Nov 18: Eight metric tons of test relief rice worth Taka 69,120 have been allegedly misappropriated by the Chairman of number 8 Losmanpur Union Parishad under Sadar upazila recently.  
According to the sources, the rice was allocated for improvement of kutchra roads.  
It is learnt that Md Nooruzzaman, Chairman of Losmanpur Union Parishad took delivery of the rice and sold the whole lot in black market. In another case the same Chairman also misappropriated a large quantity of wheat worth Taka 31,640 which was allocated to VGD card holders. A written allegation was submitted to the higher authorities against the Chairman.  
Local people demanded proper enquiry into the matter and exemplary punishment to the said Chairman.  
The overall food situation of Sherpur district was reviewed at a meeting held in collectorate building conference room with Deputy Commissioner Md Abdus Salam in the chair last week.  
Chairman of five upazilas, all UNO's and concerned authorities of the district also attended the meeting which had a threadbare discussion on the overall food reserve position.

**Milad mahfil  
held**

A Khatme Quran and Milad Mahfil arranged by Quazi Rahim Uddin Smriti Sangsad (Quazi Rahim Uddin Memorial Association) was held on Wednesday last at the Quazi Bari Mosque at Tongbari, Munshiganj to pray for the solution of the departed souls of the prominent personalities of the locality, says a press release.  
Munajat was also offered for the overall welfare of the area. It may be recalled here that Quazi Rahim Uddin, an eminent personality of the area was one of the pioneers of different uplift activities.  
**1700 ponds lying  
unused**  
About 1700 ponds in five upazilas of the district have been lying unutilised mainly due to dispute among the owners.  
According to Zila Parishad officials, if these ponds were re-excavated and brought under pisciculture a huge quantity of fish worth Taka three crores might be produced in the district. It is mentionable that 50 per cent of the ponds share ownership have got silted and dried up due to lack of maintenance. On the other hand, numerous ponds are lying covered with waterhyacinth in which fish cultivation is impossible.  
According to one official, if a comprehensive scheme is not taken a large number of ponds will be left unused incurring heavy loss.

**Government of Bangladesh**  
Office of the Executive Engineer, RHD  
Comilla Road Divn., Comilla

**Short Notice Inviting Tenders (2nd Call)**

- Tender Notice No
- Name of work
- Estimated cost
- Earnest money
- Name of Office to receive of tender bids
- Name of office of availability of tender
- Time allowed
- Last date of selling of tender bids
- Last date of receipt of tender
- Date and time of opening of tender bids
- Eligibility of contractor

13/ E. E. RHD Road Divn., Comilla of 1991-92  
Emergency repairing of pot-holes, depression and broken edges etc. by pre-mixed carpeting and premixed bituminous seal coat at 8th and 13th K. M. of M. C. Road in 2 (two) groups during the year 1991-92 (Ch. to M. C. head)  
As per group list.  
Tk. as per group list in B. D. T.C. Prairakha Sanchaya Patras/ 5-year Bangladesh Sanchaya Patras/ Bonus Sanchaya Patras in favour of the E. E. RHD, Road Division, Comilla.  
Superintending Engineer, RHD, Road Circle, Sylhet and Office of the undersigned.  
Office of the undersigned/E. E. RHD, Road Divn. Sylhet/ M. Bazar/ Sunamganj and S. D. Es office under this Divn.  
As per group list attached herewith.  
23.11.91 during office hours.  
12.30 P. M. of 24.11.91.  
12.45 P. M. of 24.11.91.  
'A' to 'E' general category of RHD

| Gr. No. | Name of work & location  | Estimated cost in Tk | E/money in Tk | Time allowed from the date of issue of work order | Eligibility of contractors of RHD       |
|---------|--|----------------------|---------------|---|---|
| I       | Emergency for repairing of pot-holes, depression & broken edges etc. at 8th K. M. of M.C. Rd. during 1991-92 | 4,69,134/-           | 9400/-        | 25 (twenty-five) days.                            | 'A' to 'E' General Category Contractors |
| II      | - Do - Do - at 13th K. M. of M. C. Road during 1991-92   | 4,69,134/-           | 9400/-        | - Do -  | - Do -                                  |

DPP (G) 13403-14/11  
G-914  
Anower Ahmed  
Executive Engineer, RHD,  
Road Division, Comilla.