

## Upazila roundup

### CHAPAINAWABGANJ

#### Shifting of morgue demanded

Mar 21: The town dwellers have renewed their demand for shifting the morgue from the heart of the town to prevent environment pollution, reports UNB.

Leading citizens said the morgue established 40 years ago was now surrounded by the circuit house, the bungalow of the Deputy Commissioner, a village and Professor Para, the Chapainawabganj Government College and its hostel.

Residents in the vicinity complained that bad smell emanating from the morgue was polluting the environment and affecting their health.

Decomposed and dead bodies are brought to this morgue from Shingaj, Gomostapur, Bholahat, Nachol and sadar upazila of the district.

The morgue is in an old dilapidated building with no doors or windows. Autopsy is done in the open.

### SIRAJGANJ

#### 45 hurt in rival group clash

Mar 21: At least 45 people were injured, 8 of them seriously, in a clash between two rival groups of people at village Khaga of sadar upazila of the district early Friday morning, reports UNB.

Eye witnesses said Friday's clash was a sequel to a hot exchange of words that took place Thursday night between Mazem Ali, a supporter of ex-chairman Siddique and Zel Haq, a supporter of newly elected Chairman Mujibur Rahman over last UP election.

It ensued when Mazem Ali and his group attacked Zel Haq's house at about 5 am. Both groups used lethal weapons in the clash.

Seriously injured Abdul Malek (45), Mutalib (25), Zel Haq (50), Sukur Ali (45), Sultan (35) and Belal (25) were admitted to local hospital while two others whose identification were not known immediately, were sent to Dhaka.

Another report adds: A minor girl was allegedly Friday raped in village Sujapur of Royganj Upazila of the district Friday morning.

Hospital sources said Lutfun Ara Khaton (6) was allegedly raped by Abdul Kader (25) when she went out of her house on a natural call.

Lutfun Ara was admitted to sadar hospital in critical condition.

### PABNA

#### 7 growth centre connecting roads to be constructed

Mar 21: Government has sanctioned about 998 metric tons of wheat and Taka 1,14,397 for construction of seven Growth Centre Connecting Road (GCCR) under Food for Works Programme (FWP) in seven upazilas of the district during the current season.

Executive Engineer of Local Government Engineering Bureau of Pabna told UNB that the works of the projects were in full swing and about 35 per cent works have already been completed. The remaining work will be completed by April — if there is no shortfall in the supply of wheat.

The projects include Debuttar-Akdanta Road of Aithoria Upazila, Bera-Nakatia Hat Road of Bera Upazila, Bhawaninagar-Demra Road of Faridpur Upazila, Santhia-Nazirganj-Kashinathpur Road of Sujaganj upazila, Mizapur Hat-Astomanisha road of Vangura and Bhawaninagar-Demrahat road of Faridpur Upazila.

### COMILLA

#### Collaborators' elimination body formed

Mar 21: A 100-member committee for 'Elimination of Collaborators of '71' was formed here Friday in a meeting of the pro-liberation forces. Held at the local Muktiyoddha Sangsad Bhavan, it was presided by Shaful Ahmed Babul and addressed, among others, by AKM Bahauddin, Maj (Retd) Enamul Haq and Nazmul Hassan Pakhi.

Muktiyoddha Enamul Haq Chowdhury was elected Convenor of the committee while Qhafil Ahmed Babul, District Commander of Muktiyoddha Sangsad and Nazmul Hassan Pakhi were elected joint convenors.

Later, they submitted a memorandum to the Deputy Commissioner demanding restoration of Golam Azam's citizenship.

### SYLHET

#### Property worth Tk 8 lakh gutted

From Our Correspondent

Mar 21: Property worth about Taka eight lakh were gutted in a big fire at village Kumna under Chhatak upazila of Sunamganj district recently.

According to a report, the fire originated from the house of Moulana Ahmed Hossain, Amir of the Sunamganj district unit of Jamaat-e-Islami and soon the fire engulfed to the adjacent rooms of his house.

It is gathered that during the fire all of the male inmates were in mosque performing Tarabih prayers. Then they ran away from the mosque and brought the fire under control.

### GAZIPUR

#### Mosquito menace

Mar 21: Mosquito-menace has taken a serious turn in almost all parts of the district causing problems particularly to the examinees of the on going degree examinations and that of forthcoming SSC examinations, reports UNB.

Life here in general has become intolerable with the growing menace of mosquitoes. The situation turns worse after sundown, ditches, derelict ponds in Tongi industrial town, Kaliakor Gazipur Pourashava and its adjoining areas were filled with dirty waters and garbage causing bulk breeding of mosquitoes.

Experts said that the mosquitoes and their larvae have developed a resistance power within themselves which can not be vanquished by spraying kerosene and larvicide.

Local people have urged the authorities to take effective steps to eradicate the mosquito menace.

### TANGAIL

#### Construction of Gorai-Sakhipur Road opens

Mar 21: The State Minister for Relief Lutfur Rahman Khan Thursday inaugurated the construction of three-kilometre long Gorai-Sakhipur Road in Tangail district, reports BSS.

The construction of the road will be completed within one year at a cost of Taka one crore with the assistance of the German government.

On completion of the road, communication of Sakhipur upazila with Mirzapur, Tangail and Dhaka will be improved, fulfilling the long felt demands of the people.

Speaking on the occasion, the Minister said a better communication network was the precondition for development of a country. That is why, the BNP government has given much emphasis on development and construction of roads, he added.

### GHORASAL

#### Young girl commits suicide

Mar 21: A young girl allegedly committed suicide in Palash upazila of the district, reports UNB.

According to police, Asma Begum (18), daughter of Abdul Mutalib of village Khippara of Palash Upazila was found hanging from the ceiling of their house on March 13.

The reason behind her suicide could not be known. A case has been filed with Palash police.

### KUSHTIA

#### Rally protests formation of public court to try Golam Azam

Mar 21: Local activists of Jamaat-E-Islami brought out a procession and held a rally at the collectorate premises in the town Thursday protesting the formation of public court to try their leader Golam Azam on March 26, reports UNB.

Processionists paraded the main thoroughfares of the town and chanted slogans slating 'Dalsi Nirmol Committee' and accused them of creating a civil war in the country.

Signaling fear of a political chaos, the Jamaat leaders at the rally said it might foil the hard earned democracy.

The rally was addressed by former MP and local Jamaat Ameer Abdul Wahed. Later, they submitted a memorandum to the Deputy Commissioner demanding restoration of Golam Azam's citizenship.



RANGPUR: A view of Collective ploughing of the lands which has become popular among the farmers of the district recently. —Star Photo

## 50 pc riverine transports have no survey certificate

From Our Correspondent

BARISAL, Mar 21: More than 50 per cent riverine transports in the country have no proper survey certificates.

It can be mentioned here that there is a standing government rule that no riverine transport is allowed to ply on the routes without any valid survey certificate.

Moreover, more than sixty per cent masters, drivers and sukans of the vessels are not properly trained and fit for driving vessels in big rivers.

According to official source, there are more than 6,000 riverine vessels who have regular survey certificates. Of the total, 1950 are passenger vessels, 1180 are cargo carriers and 225 are tugs and oil tankers. The others are speed boats, fishing boats, ferries, observatory launches, barges including private and government owned launches.

A reliable source informed that there are more than one thousand riverine vessels which have got survey certificates though those are lying out of order.

It is complained that the maximum number of do not maintain passenger vessels time-table for which the passengers on different routes suffer much.

More than 60 launches including the doubledecker ply to and from Dhaka, Chandpur, Bholahat, Barisal, Patuakhali, Jhalokathi, Pirojpur, Khulna, Borguna, Bagerhat Madaripur, Shariatpur including other destinations.

It is gathered that many owners of the passenger vessels carry both people and cargoes. The trollers on service on different routes use power pump machines which no doubt hamper irrigation.

According to BIWTC source, there will be no less than 10,000 trollers in the country which are engaged in services on different routes.

Erratic power supply Lakhs of people including the farmers and owners of mills and factories of the

southern districts have been facing utter problems due to frequent power failure for the last few weeks.

According to PDB source, a total of 32 to 33 megawatt power is needed for Barisal town whereas the authority supply only 20 megawatt power which is creating much sufferings to people.

It is learnt that due to shortage of supply of power from Bheramara Power Station loadshedding has become a regular feature in the area like Barisal, Jhalokhati, Patuakhali and Borguna.

Now, at least one hour power cut is being continued in phases at the district headquarters while loadshedding continues for hours together in adjoining areas of the town.

Due to erratic power supply the students community is affected much.

The concerned authorities have been urged to take immediate steps to mitigate the sufferings of the people of this district.

Committee to root out anti-liberation forces formed

From Our Correspondent

RANGPUR, Mar 21: A 101-member committee to root out anti-liberation elements was formed here recently at a meeting held at Rangpur Town Hall under the auspices of Combined Sanskritik Jote with Sakawat Hossain in the chair.

The meeting unanimously elected Advocate Nazrul Islam, President Rangpur Ainjibi Samity as convenor and Bimola Ghose, Sakawat Hossain Ranga, Mojaffar Hossain Chand, Mahmood Hasan and Anis Rahman as Joint Convenors of the committee.

The meeting was followed by a procession which paraded town streets chanting slogans against the anti-liberation forces and later the processionists assembled at old press club premises and held a street corner meeting there. The speakers of the meeting called for complete unity among the pro-liberation forces and vowed to root out anti-liberation elements from the soil of the country.

1300 dowryless marriages

The Gramin Bank has performed about one thousand and three hundred dowryless marriages during the last 10 years in Rangpur zone.

The bank through its 190 branches has performed these dowryless marriages among their loanee member families in the zone in last decade.

3 persons nabbed

The Pirgacha Police has arrested 3 persons on the allegation of their involvement in dacoity cases recently.

The arrested persons are - Abdus Sattar, Abdul Malek and Asker Ali.

The Pirgacha Police has further recovered a body of an unidentified youngman recently.

According to the police, the body was found beside a deep tubewell, but reasons of his death could not be ascertained immediately.

Jamaat for showing due respect to democratic norms

CHITTAGONG, Mar 21: Jamaat leaders here on Wednesday urged all political leaders and other to show due respect to the democratic norms in order to maintain law and order in country and avoid any sort of anarchy, reports BSS.

"Any move to hold trial of any political leader outside the country's court will amount to direct violation of country's constitution and the people can not take the law into their hands ignoring the existing court and parliament of the country, they said.

Speaking at an after party organised by city unit of Jamaat-E-Islami, Bangladesh, at its Dewan Bazar office here they called for up holding the spirit of the holy Ramadan and work with dedication and honesty to ensure peace and stability in the society.

Organising Secretary of Central Committee, Maulana Momtunul Haq Chowdhury, City Ameer Maulana Abu Taher, City Nayeab-E-Ameer Absaruddin Chowdhury, Mr Shahjahan Chowdhury MP, were among others who spoke on the occasion.

The Jamaat leaders said Jamaat-E-Islami was striving to establish Islamic rule to ensure peace, progress and stability in the country. "Islam being a complete code of life can establish a balanced human society ensuring economic emancipation and political salvation of the people, they added.

Headmaster, 3 others kidnapped by insurgents

RANGAMATI, Mar 21: Four people including the Headmaster of Panchari High School of the district have been abducted by the tribal insurgents, reports UNB.

They were identified as Headmaster Ganoranjan Chakma (45), Shantirajan Chakma (30), Subinay Chakma (24) and the fourth was not identified immediately.

Officials said, they were abducted from their houses in Lattiban village of Panchari upazila of the district at about 8.30 pm on March 14 at gun point. There is no trace of any of them yet.

The members of the security force conducted a raid on one of the hideouts of the insurgents and recovered a sizeable quantity of arms and ammunition.

These included one handmade gun, three country made

pistols, three granades, one bayonet, one pair of olive green uniform and some documents relating to insurgency.

The Gurkha-Ahmia community has urged upon the government to protect their rights and demanded equal facilities to other tribals in the hill region.

In the second extraordinary general meeting of the Gurkha-Ahmia Kalayan Foundation held on Monday at the residence of its chairperson Mangoo Rani Gurkha, the leaders alleged that they were being discriminated against other tribes living in the region for hundreds of years.

Some 4,000 people of about 700 families of Gurkha-Ahmia Community are living in the country, said Bankin Assam, General Secretary of the foundation.

Prices of essentials up in Kushtia

From Our Correspondent

KUSHTIA, Mar 21: The prices of the essential commodities have shot up abnormally during the last one week affecting the poor and low income group especially the Muslim devotees who are fasting during the holy month of Ramadan.

With the beginning of the holy Ramadan, the dishonest traders are selling eggs, edible oils, rice, pulses, onion, chillies, vegetables, fruits, gur, sugar, milk, meat, fish and spices, at higher prices.

The rice of different varieties are being sold between Taka 13.00 and 14.00 as against the earlier prices of Taka 11.00 and 12.00. Ata is now being sold at record high prices as the government godown have become empty. It is being sold at Taka 12.00 per kg.

The edible oil like soyabin now sells at Taka. 42.00 per kg, mustard oil at Taka 60.00 per kg.

Beef is now selling at Taka 50.00 to Taka 55.00 per kg, while mutton between Taka

under Rajganj upazila by bus and rickshaw. There he began to live with Nurjahan as couple forcibly. Later, he went to Bogra and Jamalpur where introduced Nurjahan as wife Malarani.

On the other hand, husband of Nurjahan lodged a case with the Sirajganj police on June 17, 1990. After investigation police submitted chargesheet under Section 4 (c) of Women Repression Act, 1983 and Section 14 of Special Power Act 1974.

The judge after examining the witnesses and evidences delivered the aforesaid judgement against the accused Premnath.

Ullapara upazila unit of Bangladesh Muktiyoddha shahid in Sirajganj district has been formed in a meeting held at local women's Training Hall with Abdul Latif Bakul in the chair.

Convenor of the district, Gazi Shahjahan Ali Tara was present on the occasion as chief guest.

Tk 22.50 lakh property gutted in Kurigram

From Our Correspondent

KURIGRAM, Mar 21: Properties worth Taka 22.50 lakh were gutted in four separate fire incidents those occurred in Fulbari and Ulipur Upazilas of the district recently.

The first incident took place at village Charbarioi in Borobhita union of Fulbari Upazila. The fire originated from the kitchen of one Rahmat of the village and soon engulfed to the entire village which destroyed 46 houses fully with all household belongings and 33 houses partly destroyed.

The second fire incident took place at village Kutichandrakhana of Fulbari sadar upazila which gutted completely 10 houses.

Shafiqul Islam, Deputy Commissioner, Kurigram visited the spot and distributed some relief materials including cash and kinds.

The third devastating fire was occurred at village Dighalaha in Hatia union under Ulipur upazila. Originating from the kitchen of one Abdul Jalil, the fire spread soon the surrounding areas and gutted 13 thatched and 17 thatched houses with all household be-

longings. Seventeen families were rendered homeless in this fire incident.

The fourth incident took place at village Munshipara of Ulipur upazila Originating from the house of one Nizamuddin the fire destroyed five houses with all household belongings. No loss of lives were reported.

2 revolvers, sword, axe recovered

From Our Correspondent

GAIBANDAH, Mar 21: Shaghata tahna police in a drive recovered illegal arms including two revolvers from village Shampur under Shaghata upazila recently.

On getting a secret information, a police contingent raided the house of Zastal and Kaiyum Hossain who were residing together and recovered two revolvers, one sword, one Chinese axe, three daggers and a chain from their possession.

Police arrested the accused persons on the spot and taken to custody.



MAULVIBAZAR: The drivers park their vehicles here and there which creates traffic jam. A bus terminal is needed to avoid sufferings to the passengers. —Star Photo