Upazila roundup

MADARIPUR

Sale of adulterated edible oil rampant

Mar 29: Sale of adulterated edible oil is rampant in the district causing health hazards of the consumers, reports

Some dishonest traders are mixing low quality oil with mustard oil and selling those in open markets at a comparatively cheaper rate.

Consumption of the oil caused outbreak of various stomach ailments like dysentery and gastro-intestinal diseases, doctors said.

Local people called upon the authorities to take stringent measures against the adulterators.

JHENIDAH

Arrest of Golam Azam protested

Mar 29: District unit of Islami Chhatra Shibir held a rally at Agrani Bank Square protesting the recent killing of a Shibir activist in Khulna and arrest of Golam Azam Saturday last, reports UNB.

Mostafizur Rahman presided over the meeting which was addressed, among others, by Khairul Bashar, Saifur Rahman and Omar Ali.

They rally was followed by a procession.

KUSHTIA One electrocuted to death

Mar 29: A youngman was electrocuted when he was playing a cassette recorder in his house at Aruspara in the town recently, reports UNB.

According to family sources, the victim Anu (22), while switching on his cassette recorder suddenly got electrocuted and was rushed to General Hospital where he In another incident, Anwara

(30) wife of Ainuddin of West Majampur received electric shock when she was handling a heater.

She was rushed to the hospital where her condition was

stated to be critical. one revolver with four rounds of cartridges from two students of Islamic University on Saturday, reports BSS.

Additional Superintendent of Police said that acting on secret information Sergeant Sajjat Hossain and TSI Abdue Samad recovered the illegal arms and arrested the stu-

FARIDPUR

Indian sarees worth about Tk 6 lakh seized Mar 29: Indian sarees worth

about Taka six lakh were seized by police from Charbhadrasan upazila of this district recently, reports BSS.

According to a police source, 2279 pieces of Indian sarces were being carried from Piazkhali bazar under Sadarpur upazila to Dhaka via Charbhadrasan. The sarees were in gunny bags in a country boat on the river Padma.

Police also arrested three persons in this connection action on secret information, a contingent of police force led by Officer-in-Charge of Charbhadrasan thana seized the sarees. The raid was a part of the country wide antismuggling drive, police source

PABNA Toll collectors stab businessman

Mar 29: A businessman was stabbed in the town recently when he refused to pay tolls to ports UNB.

local mastans, police said, re-Abdul Kashem (35), owner of a local departmental store,

was admitted to the Sadar hospital. A case was filed with local

police but one was arrested in this connection.

SATKHIRA

One robbed of Tk 31,000

Mar 29: A man was robbed of Taka 31,000 in the town recently by a gang of miscreants,

police said, reports UNB. According witnesses, Jagannath Adhikari of Nurnagar in Shyamnagar upazila was attacked and over . powered by the miscreants while he was shopping in the morning and snatched away

the money. The miscreants made good their escape riding their motor cycles. A case has been filed with local police.

NAOGAON

Founding anniversary of Charan Shilpi Gosthi observed

Mar 29: The fourth founding anniversary of Naogaon Charan Shilpi Gosthi was observed here with great enthusiasm, recently, reports UNB.

Famous singers Sohrab Hossain and Rathindranath Roy attended the three-day celebration as guest artistes and enthralled the audience with their splendid performance.

Artistes including Mamunal Chowdhury Raza and Mrs Afroza Mamun sang a number of songs.

They were also awarded special gifts by the gosthi at the ceremony which was inaugurated by the Deputy Commissioner U Ka Zain.

Elite of the town attended the function.

COMILLA

2 killed, 35 injured in road mishaps

Mar 29: A young woman was killed and 19 people were injured in two separate road accidents at Dharampur on the Dhaka-Chittagong Trunk Road here recently police and hospital sources said, reports

On the day of incident, three passengers of a private car were seriously injured when a truck collided head-on with a car coming from the opposite direction. The injured persons were admitted to the Comilla General

In another accident one passenger was killed and 16 others were injured when a passenger bus hit a truck parked on the road.

The deceased was identified as Hasina Akhter (21) of Dehidwar of the district.

SIRAJGANJ

Hartal observed

Mar 29: An eight-hour hartal was observed recently in Raigani upazila of the district protesting the delay in transferring the Sub-registry office from Salonga to Raigani, reports UNB.

Government ordered the shifting of the office recently. But, implementation of the order was held up after the people of Salonga staged demonstration and submitted a memorandum to the DC protesting it.

The dawn-to-noon hartal was observed in Raigan Dhangora and Chandanbaisha of Raigani upazila.

TANGAIL

2 held, forged passports recovered

Mar 29: Tangail police arrested Amullah Chandra and Harendra Nath Bashak from village Shandhara under Mirzapur upazila recently in connection with a passport forgery case.

Police said that twentyeight forged passports and other forgery materials were recovered in an operation.

Police added that another passport forgery den was unearthed in Tangail town a few months ago when two persons were arrested and huge forgery materials were recov-

SHERPUR

Forest resource on the verge of extinction

Mar 29: Indiscriminate felling of trees for use in the brickfields has put forest resource in the district on the verge of extinction, reports

It has been alleged that about 15 brickfields in the district were using firewood to

The timber traders in col laboration with the brickfield owners were felling trees in the area threatening ecological

balance. Bridkfield owners said scarcity of coal and non-avail ability of any alternative fuel have compelled them to use

But officials denied the charge and said supply of coal is adequate in the district. The owners use wood as it is comparatively cheaper, they said.

About 25 maunds of fuel are needed to burn 1,000 bricks and daily requirement of each field is over 30,000 maunds. This requirement doubles when work in the fields is in full swing in the months between December and April.



GOPALGANJ: The Deputy Commissioner, Akramuzzaman taking salute of the march past held at the local stadium on the occasion of Independence Day. - Star photo

No Fire Service Station in 10 UZs

Modern fire fighting equipment needed

From Our Correspondent

RAJBARI, Mar 29: Every year fire incidents cause heavy damage to our property and claim a good number of lives due to shortage of fire stations and fire equipment.

At present, there are 117 Fire Service stations in the country including nine naval service stations.

According to statistical report of the Fire Service and Civil Defence office, 605 fire incidents' took place during 1991 where a total of 31 lives was lost.

But according to unofficial estimate, the number of fire incidents will be more than double and the death toll would also be increased fur-

We do not get many news of fire incidents and the extend of damages as there is no fire service units in big hats, bazars, banders, upazilas and some districts. Due to bad communication system, the Fire Service workers can not reach to the spots and this no doubt increases the extend of damage.

. Some plastic foam and chemical industries have been

set up in and around Dhaka are in other cases. city and other important

towns. But in case of fire, the department has no modern equipment to extinguish fire. According to Fire Service Headquarters source, 1293 fire incident originated from

291 from open lamps, 243 from burning ashes, 141 from children's fire-play. The source added that 691 fire incidents happened from unknown reasons, 82 cases were by the mob, 73 cases from the chemical reaction, 58 from misfire, 49 from machin

oven 1161 from eigarette puff

ery trouble and 35 from excessive heat. The department gathered that maximum fire incidents occurred from the electric short circuit. The second largest incidents took place from the oven fire, it is Out of the total fire incident

damaged, 2940 are houses and kitchen, 760 are cowsheds, 529 are shops and bazars, 222 are industries and godowns. 128 are automobiles, 102 are hospitals, 71 are cotton mills and garment industries, 40 are boats, 38 are coal fire and 575

It is learnt that there is no

fire station in 10 upazilas of the country. As a result, damage from the fire incidents in the villages and pourashavas of those upazilas is huge.

It can be mentioned here that fire stations had been set up in private initiatives in many places of the abroad. It is learnt that it takes only Taka 40 lakh to set up a small-scale fire station. A Fire Service Department source expressed that private initiative in our country can help reduce the extend of damage of the fire incident through setting up of Fire Service Stations.

Md Nurul Islam Lasker, Director of the Fire Service Department informed this cor respondent that the personnel of the department are devoted to minimise the damage from the fire incidents. Lasker also told that the existing amount of damage can be reduced through opening of new small fire service stations.

The MD has urged the people to be careful against any fire incident and that could also reduce the damage to a

Remarkable success of FP scheme

From Our Correspondent

JESSORE, Mar 29 : The Upazila Initiative Project (UIP) on Family Planning Programme at Jagodishpur union of Chowgacha Upazila in the district has achieved tremendous success during the first year of its beginning.

According to official source, the project was started in September 1990 and achieved 333 per cent success during the period.

A comprehensive report on the progress of the project during the period indicates that Contraceptive Preventive Rate (CPR) rose to 64 per cent where as the target was 61 per cent. The rate of increase was 51 per cent at the beginning of the project. The number of new cases stood at 377 while the target was 302.

The number of acceptors rose to 1474 against a total of 2151 able couples. The number of acceptors at the beginning of the project was only

Cases of sterlisation stood at 16 where as the target was 10. The rate of increase is 160 per cent. The rate of increase in IUD was 398 as the case stood at 175 instead of 160. The cases of injectables rose to 234 against the target of 44.

Use of oral ptlls cases rose to 234 while the target was

100. The rate of increase in this respect is 234 per cent The target of condom achieved 123 while the target was 50. Similarly, Maternity and Child care Services made remarkable progress.

The Upazila Initiative Project (UIP) was formally inaugurated by Dr. Horyono Suevonoo, Chairman, BKKBN (Family Planning Coordinating Board) Indonesia at Chowgacha Upazila auditorium on July 22, 1990.

It was attended among others by Taslimur Rahman Joint Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Planning. Malcom Pervis, Director USAID, Bhuyan Rabfuddin, DC, Jessore, M A Sayed, Project Director and others.

When contacted, the director of the project informed this correspondent that the UIP presents a picture of won derful success. It's activities were most impressive and

noteworthy, he expressed. The UIP is a mechanism imported from Indonesia to operate on family planing exclustvely in rural Bangladesh.' It trains up villagers to organise social movement against popu lation explosion and paves way for mass acceptance of the family planning in a drive to

ensure lower fertility and higher economic growth. It is a package plan solely designed to defuse birth rate and size up family on planned parenthood. It is an inceptive for the acceptors to attain small, happy and prosperous family norms.

Concept of the project is based on the principle of community participation. Formal and informal commu nity leaders including volunteers, professionals, teachers and religious leaders i.e., Imams form committee at dif ferent tyres. They sit at monthly meetings with government officials to discuss problems and find out modality for solution.

The role of Imams is very vital to motivate and mould public optnion in favour of famfly planning. Women volunteer are also very effective. They accept the family planning and go round from house to house to recruit new acceptors and add to increase the strength of CPR This is on any account a great plus in implementation of the project.

The project is an organisation changed with the mission to control birth rate and bring about socio-economic devel opment of the unprivileged ru



BOGRA: Dr Gulshan Ara, a prominent Gyne Consultant of local Mohd. Ali Hospital voluntarily performed major successful operation of 11 distressed women in Gabtali Upazila Health Complex. In that operation programme, one 15 kg tumour was removed from a women's belly. - Star photo

storms, cyclones and natural calamities during the last few Notes from

the pay-roll.

DINAJPUR, Mar 29: About

80 per cent government pri-

mary schools in 13 upazilas of

the district are facing difficul-

number of students.

ties to accommodate the rising

dilapidated condition. The

shortage of teachers and fur-

niture have made the situation

now studying in 486 govern-

ment primary schools and 146

non-government primary

schools of the district. The

number of sanctioned posts of

teachers is 2,868, but hardly

one-third of them are now on

been damaged by floods.

Besides, schools which have

About 2 lakh students are

Most of the schools are in

KUSHTIA, Mar 29: One Abul Kalam (20), a cyclist was killed under the wheels of a minibus recently at Taragunia Bazar under Mirpur upazila, reports BSS.

Kushtia

The victim died on the

The driver and helper fled away. Police seized the bus and a case has been registered with Mirpur police station.

4 hurt, 80 houses gutted in fire Four people were injured

and 80 houses were gutted completely in a devastating fire at Gorura in Daulatpur upazila Wednesday. The five rendered 37 fami-

lies shelterless. The extent of damage was estimated at 25 lakh. The origin of the fire could not be ascertained immediately. Among the injured

Chanchal (4), Sabut Ali (17) and Khokan Ali (14), were admitted to Kushtia General Hospital with serious burn injuries. In another incident, a

worker of Bangladesh Tobacco Company was killed in train accident on Friday.

Hanging of Golam Azam demanded

The Muktijoddha Sangsad Command Council, district unit, held a rally at Public Library premises in the town demanding handing of war criminal Golam Azam.

They brought out a procession which paraded the main thoroughfares of the town chanting slogans in favour of hanging for his anti-liberation role in 1971.

The procession also demonstrated at Collectorate Building premises which was addressed by Unit Commander Nasimuddin Ahmed.

The council, later handed over a memorandum to the Deputy Commissioner in this

Indian clothes

recovered

The law enforcing agencies on Wednesday recovered Indian clothes and insecticides valued at Taka one lakh and five thousand from Allardaga Bazar under Mirpur upazila and Alamdanga under Alamdanga According to an official

source, acting on secret information the Bangladesh Rifles personnel raided the areas and recovered the contraband goods. The goods were deposited

to Kushtia Custom authorities.

Workshop on Higher Secondary edn

KHULNA, Mar 29 : A divisional workshop on Higher Secondary Education institutions was held Wednesday at the auditorium of Boyra Government Mannuzan Girl's school, reports BSS.

The heads of all Higher Secondary institutions of the division attended the workshop. Former Director General of Secondary and Higher Secondary Education Dr Hafez Ahmed conducted the workshop as Coordinator of Cambridge Education Cons-ultant and Pathmark Associates of Dhaka, Vice Chancellor of Khulna

University Prof Dr Golam

Rahman, Director of Higher

Education Dr Shamsuzzoha and

Professor Md Nazrul Huq.

Chairman Jessore Secondary

Education Board spoke at the workshop. Speakers at the workshop stressed need for correct study of the Higher Secondary Education institutions in the country which is essential for the future of post secondary education in Bangladesh.

From Our Correspondent

accommodate students

80 pc pry schools can't

years have not yet been repaired. A good number of schools are holding classes in feeble buildings which may collapse at any moment.

Buildings of New Town. Police Line, Pulhat, Khetripara, Baluadanga and Barabandar Government Primary Schools in Dinajpur town were handed over to the Facilities Department but the contractors left them halfdone for want of fund.

Some schools have no building at all and eight schools in Sadar upazila, 21 schools in Birol, 15 schools in Birganj and 13 schools in Kaharol upazila are either kutcha or dilapidated. About eight schools in Chirirbandar, 10 schools in Birganj and 16 schools in Khansama upazila

have no roofs at all, 23 schools in Ghoraghat upazila are also in

deplorable condition. Fifty per cent students sit either on mats or on bricks due to lack of benches. In some schools there is not a

sit in. Moreover, supply of necessary appliances including blackboards, chalk, dusters is too inadequate. Eighty per cent of the schools have no playgrounds. Moreover, some of the teachers are not discharging their duties regularly,

single chair for the teachers to

it is informed by guardians. Besides, abnormal high price of paper and other materials coupled with chronic poverty continue to hinder guardians sending their children to schools.

Want of wheat hits FWP in 4 dists

BARISAL, Mar 29: Shortage of wheat in the southern districts are hampering development work under the Food for Works Programme, reports

Works on several projects have been suspended due to meagre supply of wheat in the districts of Barisal, Patuakhali, Bhola and Borguna.

During the current season. 44 per cent work under Relief and Rehabilitation Directorate and 59 per cent work of the Water Development Board were completed. A total of 13,283 tons of

wheat were allocated for 299

projects under Relief and Rehabilitation Directorate while 8,609 tons of wheat was allocated for 68 projects of Water Development Board. But till date only 50 per cent of wheat was received by

the authorities to implement

the projects under FWP, offi-

cial sources said.

civic amenities.

Government has taken steps to minimise and in some cases to withdraw cases filed against the members of Sarbahara Party and other underground parties who surrendered. Committees have been

formed in this regard in 10

districts headed by the Deputy

Commissioners to recommend the cases to the concerned authority. According to the authorities, about 450 members of outlawed underground parties have surrendered between

25th of December '91 and January 25 '92. They also handed over 300 different types of arms and over 500 rounds of ammunition in Barisal, Jessore, Rajbari, Shariatpur, Jhenidah, Chuadanga, Narsingdi, Kushtia

None has surrendered from the districts of Narail. Jhalakathi and Perojpur, an official source said.

and Magura.

Town dwellers seek basic facilities

From Our Correspondent

GAIBANDHA, Mar 25: About 50,000 inhabitants of Gaibandha municipal area have been suffering a lot for lack of

The roads of the town are narrow and in bad shape. Some of them were damaged for want of proper maintenance. It is very difficult to drive vehicles on it and to walk on foot.

Absence of proper drainage system, scarcity of drinking water, want of recreational facilities, mosquito menace, inadequate street lights have been long standing problems being faced by the dwellers of this thickly populated town.

The town is being expanded day by day. With the increasing population, the pourashava authority could not provide minimum civic amenities to the people.

There is no public toilet in the town. People use road side in time of call of nature. There is no arrangement for regular cleaning the roads and drains in the town. Most of the roads of town are dirty and full of garbages.

Power supply is irregular in the town. Most of the light posts of different mahallas do not have bulbs. When these are fused it takes a long time to get them replaced. So, all the areas of pourashava plunge into darkness after sun set due to shortage of bulb in the light

The condition of two markets of pourashava is pitiable. Heaps of filth and garbages are accumulated here and there. The market place situated on a plot which is too small to accommodate shops vendors and buyers. Shops have been erected on the main roads.

The town and its suburb are experiencing mosquito menace for a long time. Bad sanitation condition and the absence of adequate dustbins in the lanes and the roads help the

growth of mosquitoes. Most of the drains of the town are still filled with rubbish for want of proper cleaning. As a result, stagnant water of the drains become another

breeding centre of mosquitoes.

Most farmers have no bullock

NETRAKONA, Mar 29 Acute shortage of bullock has been hampering cultivation in the district, reports UNB.

According to informed sources. 70 to 80 per cent farmers have no bullock and most of them are tilling their lands on share basis.

A considerable area of cultivable land in the district remains undultivated every year causing shortage of production of essential commodities.

The poor farmers cannot afford to buy bullocks as prices are beyond their capacity. At present a pair of bullock costs between Taka 7000 and 10,000 at different markets in the district.

Sometimes the poor farmers are forced to cultivate their lands with spades. Many of them even use milch cows to cultivate their land resulting in gradual reduction in milk production.

According to a survey conducted by social workers, bullock shortage prevails every year due to outbreak of various diseases that take a heavy toll of cattlehead. Besides, a large number of eattlehead are lost every year due to floods and other natural calamities.

On the other hand, slaugh-'ering of bullock has increased in different markets in recent days following the scarcity of fish in the market.

Substandard life saving

drugs have flooded the markets of the district causing serious health hazard to the people, according to representatives of the medical profession.

fungus and flies are often found in many drug containers including saline bags and in-The mushroom growth of pharmaceutical companies is

mainly responsible for the

substandard drug trade, they

Local people said, worm,

A section of physicians are patronising these companies by prescribing their products for which they are said to be given a lumpsum quantity of

medicines free of cost.

doing business in the remote areas without drug licence and these cannot be brought to book for selling spurious medicines The local people urged the

Many medicine shops are

authorities to take necessary measures to stop the manufacture and sale of spurious medicines.