## Upazila roundup

#### KISHOREGANJ

### Violation of traffic rules rampant

### From Our Correspondent

May 3: Bus journey has become risky and hazardous on different routes in the district due to rampant violation of traffic rules.

Overloading and reckless driving of buses have become a regular feature on the routes.

Due to absence of proper checking by the concerned department, vehicles are seen running at drivers' own whim causing road accidents and suffering to the travelling pas-

Excessive fares are realised from the passengers leading to frequent altercations with the conductors.

Moreover, the passengers have been facing great inconveniences due to absence of waiting sheds and toilets at the different bus stands. Female passengers are the worst sufferers. Despite repeated appeal, no action has yet been taken by the law enforcing agencies.

### CHUADANGA

### 79 intellectuals accorded reception From Our Correspondent

May 3: Seventynine intellectuals and personalities of Chuadanga district were rewarded and accorded reception for their outstanding contributions to the society at the local Sree Monto Town Hall recently.

The function was arranged by four organisations of the town like Tohrum-Sarafat Smrity Palli, Rabea-Hamider Palli, Fatima-Shahdat Smrity Palli and Ambia Smrity Library Polli in cooperation with sociocultural organisation "Forum".

Former MP, Dr Ashab-Ul-Haque presided over the func-

Monsufa Begum, District Education Officer, Chuadanga and Zebunnessa Begum, Headmistress of local Adarsha Girls' High School gave away the rewards to the 79 intellectuals and personalities.

### PABNA Removal of DC

# demanded

May 3: A cross-section of people today demonstrated in the town demanding immediate removal of the Deputy Commissioner on corruption charges, reports UNB.

Organised by "Swachetan Nagorik Committee" a procession came out from court premises and paraded the main thoroughfares. Later, a rally was held in the court premises.

Secretary of the DSA Wajiuddin Khan filed on Saturday a case with the Sub-Judge Court, charging the DC with embezzlement of DSA's money.

### AGRI-VARSITY

### Minor girl raped From BAU Correspondent

May 3: A minor girl (7) was raped in Baluka Upazila Health Complex of the district re-

According to police, Toli Rant (7), daughter of Aumullah Mohan Sarker of Baluka Bazar was raped by one Nazmul Huda Shabuj of village Mollikbart.

The victim has been sent to the Mymensingh Medical Coll age Hospital for medical test. Police arrested two persons

in this regard. A case has been lodged with

the police. Another report adds Nokhla police rescued one kidnapped house-wife, Umma

Shalma (21) recently. Police sources said, she was kidnapped from her father's house of village Shanerchar under Sadar upazila of the dis-

#### trict. **JAMALPUR**

## Bidis being sold without bandrolls

From Our Correspondent May 3: Bidis are being sold here without bandrolls to

evade taxes. It is reported that all the owners of the bidi factories in 12 upazilas of the district, staff of Customs and Excise Department are directly involved

in this malpractice. Bidis are being sold without bandrolls in all the areas of the district town. It is learnt that used bandrolls are collected from some whole sellers and retailers. Moreover, the owners do not show actual account of production to the customs officials.

Local people have urged the concerned authorities to check the tax evasion for the greater interest.

### BRAHMANBARIA

## Body recovered

May 3: Police recovered the body of an old man from a paddy field near his house at Pagachong Chandpur in Sadar upazila of the district on Thuraday, reports UNB.

Hamidul Haque Hamdu (50) was called out of his house by two persons of the same village on Wednesday night and he did not return home, family sources said.

Police suspected that he was strangled to death.

The post-mortem of the deceased was performed in Sadar hospital.

A case was lodged with local

### MAGURA

### Four cows roasted alive, 2 injured

May 3: Four cows were roasted alive and two people received burn injuries in a devastating fire at Goalkhali village in Sadar upazila recently, reports UNB.

The fire originated from the cow shed of one Mukul Sen. He was burning straw for smoke inside the cow-shed just to drive out mosquitoes. Suddenly the flame caught the house and soon engulfed the adjacent dwelling houses.

Four houses and property worth about Taka 80,000 were gutted. Local people rushed to the spot and brought the fire under control.

### SHERPUR

### More telephone lines demanded

From Our correspondent

May 3: The existing telephone lines of the district is quite inadequate to face the growing demand of over 85,000 town dwellers.

According to the official sources, at present there are only 400 telephone connections in the town while a large number of applications for new connections have been pending with the telephone office for a long time.

The demand for new lines has expanded with the upgradation of sub-division to dis-

Subscribers have demanded the concerned authorities to take steps for increasing the capacity of the telephone lines immediately.

### KURIGRAM

### One lakh people suffering from Elephantiasis

From Our Correspondent

May 3: Elephantiasis causes in Kurigram, Nilphamari, Rangpur, Gaibandha, Laim-anirhat, Panchaghar, Thak-urgaon, Dinajpur, Chopa inawabganj, Naogaon, Bo-gra and Joypurhat districts of northern region have been swelling day by day.

More than one lakh people in these 12 districts have been suffering from this disease whose Bangla name is "goad roge" (Phyleris). The facilities for detection and treatment of the disease in the region are very meagre. The number of Phyleria patients is increasing day by day. Mosquitoes spread this disease, it is gathered.

In the first stage, this disease could not be detected. Some days after, some parts of the body of the patients started swelling like tumour and creates hindrances in movement. Sometimes Phyleria attacked patients become disabled and could not even move from one place to another.

### RANGPUR

## Cobblers kill cattle, take

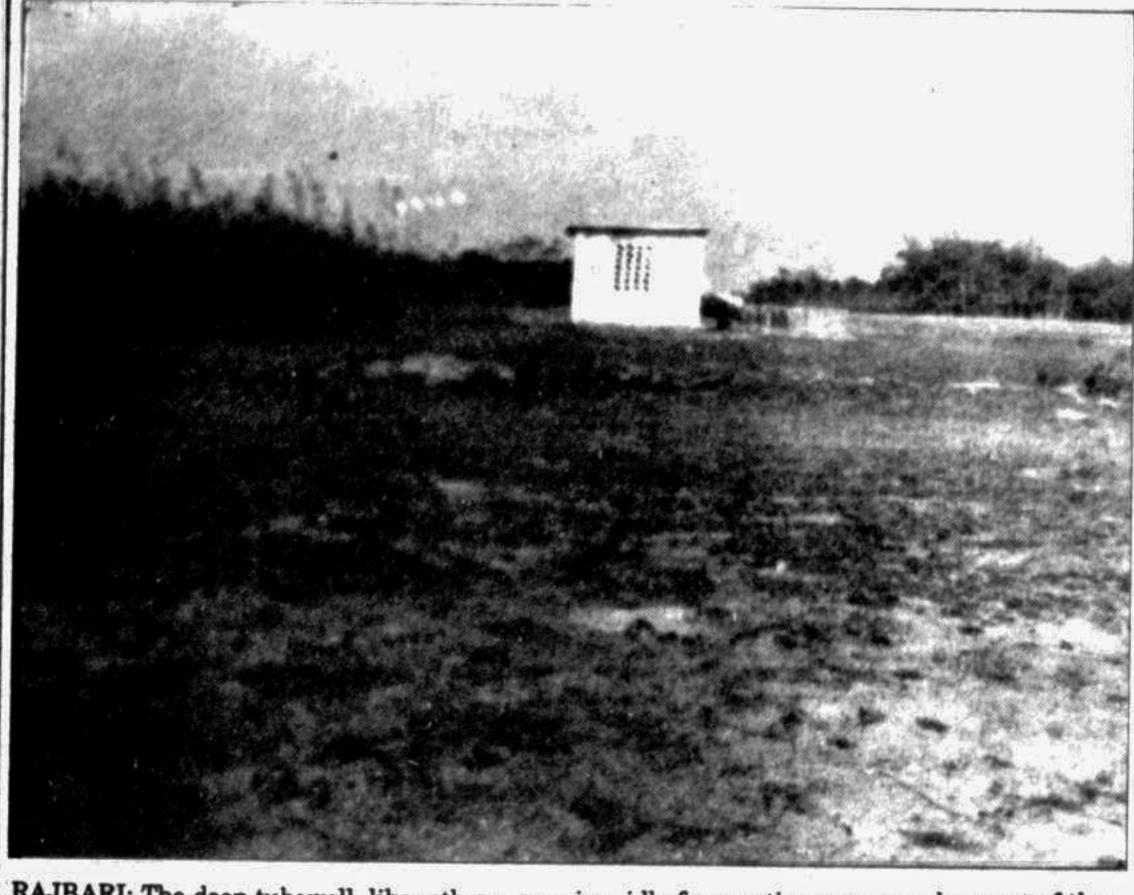
skin From Our Correspondent

May 3 The miscreants are slaughtering the cattle and taking skin in Pirgonj and Mithapukur upazilas for the past few months.

According to the allegations, an organised gang of miscreants have created a havoc in the rural areas in stealing skin of the cattle by slaughtering them at night.

The affected farmers informed that the miscreants taking away their cattle from the cowsheds at night and slaughtering them at lonely places. After fraying of skin, the miscreants disappear with the skin leaving behind the bodies of the slaughtered cattles on the spot.

This has resulted a grave panic among the farmers of the areas who are now started to sleep in the cowshed at night in fear of skin lifters. But yet the miscreants continuing their brutalities unabated taking out the cattles from the sheds at an unguarded moment of their masters.



RAJBARI: The deep tubewell, like others, remains idle for erratic power supply most of the times affecting the irrigation to crop fields. - Star photo

# Inadequate, irregular power supply

# Production in fields, factories threatened

From Our Correspondent

RAJBARI, May 3: Shortage of power supply and erratic distribution have posed serious threat to agricultural and industrial production in the southern and western regions of the country.

The 110 MW Goalpara Power Station in Khulna recently faced a serious breakdown and as a result power supply was snapped for over 12 hours in the region.

According to informations, the Goalpara Power Station is not in a position to produce required electricity due to continuous mechanical trouble. Rajbari needs 15 MG power

on an average but the supply stands between 5 and 10 MG on an average daily. As a result, there is continuous loadshedding in the area.

The Ganges-Kobadakh Project in Kushtia has been badly affected due to shortage of power supply. A project source told this correspondent that the project requires at least 9 MG power supply for irrigation in the project area which cover one lakh acres of land.

The project area include Kushtia, Meherpur, Chuadanga, Jhenidah, Jessore, Magura, Faridpur and Rajbari regions. But the project gets only four MG power supply on an aver-

age and this is also irregular. The shortage of power supply and alarming fall in ground water level have affected the crops in the project seriously.

The project derives water from the Ganges through an intake channel at Bheramara and irrigate the lands with the help of three main pumps. But the erratic power supply has left the irrigation to the project almost uncertain.

The entire southern and western districts experienced severe drought and most of the rivers of the regions went dry. Consequently, the total irrigation to the areas had faced a serious setback.

# Old roads mount sufferings

### From Our Correspondent

GAIBANDHA, May 3: The problem of communications at the district headquarters has been acute because of bad con-

dition of roads and lanes. The local pourashava authority did nothing since 1971 to increase the number of roads or to improve the existing ones. As a result, traffic jam has become a regular feature at this town.

The few old roads and lanes had been serving the purpose of the increasing population and business of the town for

### Teenaged girl rescued from brothel

MAGURA, May 3: A woman was arrested and a teenaged girl rescued from a brothel in the town, police said here on Thursday, reports UNB.

Acting on a secret information, a police party raided the brothel and recovered Ashma Khatoon (16) daughter of Tujam Sheikh of village Dariapur in Narail district and arrested Shapna (34) in this connection.

Shapna confessed to the police that she allured Asma for a good job and later forced her to stay in the brothel against her will. She admitted that she was trying to sell Asma in the brothel.

A case has been filed with the police.

more than a century. The population of the town-

was few hundreds in the sixties when the it was constructed as the sub-divisional head quarters. Now, the population has risen to about fifty thousands. But not a single new road or lane has been constructed for the convenience of the people.

The present roads are very narrow and two rickshaws even cannot cross each other at same point. For want of adequate roads, there is a heavy pressure on each road. The Station Road, Dak Banglow Road and Bridge Road are virtually closed very often for hours together when traffic am occurs.

After the upgradation of this sub-division town into a district head quarters, traffic police has been posted to some important points.

The existing roads were renovated several times. But after the construction, innumerable potholes and cracks developed throughout the

Moreover, the road communication of the district with its upazilas is pitiable. Out of seven upazilas, communication with only Palashbari and Gobindaganj upazilas are somewhat better as both the upazila headquarters are situated on the national highways.

Rickshaw is the main transport in the town area. But in most cases the rickshaw-

pullers are threats to the passersby due to their reckless driving. As a result, accidents occur frequently. The concerned authorities

have been urged to take steps to make these roads wider to avoid rush of vehicular traffic as well as pedestrians. The construction work of a bridge on river Alai could not

be completed due to fund The work of said bridge was inaugurated three years back

### plemented Betel leaf production on decrease

but the work is yet to be im-

MAULVIBAZAR. May 3 Betel leaf production in the district has decreased to a great extent due to increase in bamboo, fertilizers, oilcake and pesticides prices, reports UNB.

Betel leaf is being cultivated on large scale in Rajnagar, Kulaura, Barlekha and Kamaganj upazilas.

The growers have been deprived of bank loans which are badly needed to continue their occupation. They are compelled to borrow money from the village money lenders at an exorbitant rate of interest.

The growers urged the authorities to extend financial assistance to help continue their age-old profession.



RANGPUR: Despite government ban, the use of firewood in brickfields is unabated. The small trees are not left for which the country is becoming ecologically imbalanced. - Star → photo

# Satkhira

### From Our Correspondent

SATKHIRA, May 3: The town dwellers of the district have been suffering much for want of night post office.

The main post-office of the town is rendering services only in daytime when the businessmen and service holders remain busy with their respective job. As a result, they can not avail post office services in day time. So they are compelled to wait till the next day. Local people urged the concerned authorities to introduce a night post office which can easily solve the problem and render a useful service to the town dwellers.

### Housewife commits suicide

One Shahanara Khatun (22), wife of Mansur Ali of village Tujalpur under sadar upazila committed suicide by taking pesticides recently. Police said, she committed

suicide over family feud. The body was sent to the Satkhira hospital for postmortem.

A case was lodged with Satkhira police station in this regard.

#### 2 lakh workers jobless

More than two lakh workers have been rendered unemployed following the suspension of works of 200 projects under Food for Works Programme.

It is learnt that the stock of wheat in the government godowns has depleted and the works of the projects have become uncertain.

During the current dry scason, CARE and World Food Programme (WFP) took up 200 projects through upazila parishads. The Water Development Board (WDB) and Fisheries Department sanctioned 13083 metric tons where only 3500 metric tons were utilized. The remaining works of the projects left undone due to wheat shortage. Four dacoits held

### with 4 arms

Police arrested here four dacoits with four arms including 22 cartridges from their possession recently.

Acting on secret information, Kalaroa thana police led by Sub-Inspector Abu Baker raided the house of one Shahjahan Moral of village Bheekholi under Kalaroa Upazila and arrested him with three revolvers including 17 cartridges from his possession.

Police also arrested his three accomplices from village Madanpur of the same upazila with one country-made pipe gun including 5 cartridges from their possession.



**BOGRA: Poet Kazi Rob** is speaking on the occa-- Star photo

## 28th founding anniversary of Kichhudhani observed

From Our Correspondent BOGRA, May 3: The 28th founding anniversary of 'Kichhudhani', a periodical jou-rnal on poetry was observed here at the local Zila Parishad Auditorium recently.

Discussion, songs and recitation from self-composed poem were arranged on this occasion where Poet K M Shamser Ali was awarded Kichhudhani Award-92' for his outstanding performance in the realm of poetry. Abdul Matin, Zahurul Islam,

Kazi Rab, Mohammad Sahidulla, Rezaul Karim Chow-dhury, K M Shamser Ali and Belal Akhter took part in the discussion. The speakers thanked Anwar Ahmed, Editor, Kichhudhani for his endeavour in the field of poetry and prayed for his long life.

Artf Rahman, Astk Sarwar; Kazi Rab, Rezaul Karim Chowdhury, Mahmud Pintu and the award recipient Poet K M Shamser Ali recited their selfcomposed poem. Biddut Sarker, Ratri Hug, Shanti Mahmud and Nayan Rahman also recited poem.

It can be mentioned here that 'Kichhudhani Award' has been introduced first from this On the concluding session,

Mahmuda Sobhan, and Ferdausi Begum Maya rendered songs where Belel Akhter and Mousumi Rahman presented the programmes of the fun-

# Notes from | Tribal insurgents set seed-beds on fire

KHAGRACHHARI, May 3: Tribal terrorists set the seedbeds of Andharmanik Tea Garden a Ramgarh upazila on fire for non-payment of tolls demanded by them, reports

Garden sources said the damage to tea-saplings might amount to about Taka 11 lakh. The tribals also cut off the right ear of Suntl Karmakar

(45), an employee of the garden, on Monday. Besides they abducted two workers, Nidhan (13) and Mordha (14) but released

them after assault. The Executive Director of the garden said the terrorists had earlier sent him 8 hand notes demanding a huge

amount of money as toll. Local authorities have distributed relief materials to five tribal families at Piskichara in Barkal upazila of the district. The heads of these five fam-

ilies were brutally killed by the activists of outlawed Shantibahini for refusing to pay tolls to them early this year. Those who received relief are Hemanukhi Chakma. Badimilu Chakma, Bashantilata Chakma, Kalalata Chakma and Indrapuri Chakma, whose husbands were the victims of the Shantibabini's atrocities.

The Regional Commander said the local authorities had been taking care of these distressed families.

He called upon the people to resist the terrorists unitedly by any means for the sake of peace and prosperity of the hilly region.

## One killed, another abducted

JHENIDAH, May 3 : Unknown assailants killed a JHENIDAH, youngman and abducted his associate at Krishnanagar in Shailakupa upazila recently, reports UNB.

The victim Jahidul Islam (22), was attacked by a gang of miscreants armed with lethal weapons on the night while he was guarding his onion field with one of his labourers.

respective field by June 1992

by reducing system loss and

the Chief Engineer, In-charge,

Khulna Zone also spoke in the

Nuruddin Al-Masud recently

exchanged views with the local

journalists at Khulna Press

emphasised on objective jour-

nalism which he said could

During the discussion he

Member Finance, PDB and

Information Secretary, Mr

enhance revenue collection.

# PDB men asked to reduce system loss

meeting.

KIIULNA, of Bangladesh Power Development Board (PDB), Mr Faizur Razzaq asked PDB officials to take necessary measures to bring down the system loss to an acceptable level and realise outstanding bills from the consumers, reports BSS. The Chairman of PDB was

addressing a meeting of the officials of PDB on Monday at the local Bidduth Bhaban. Mr Razzaq called upon the

PDB officers to put in their best to achieve target in their BNP rival

groups clash JAMALPUR, May 3 : The extended meeting Madarganj Thana unit of BNP was postponed on Tuesday following a series of clashes between rival groups of the

party, reports UNB.

help accelerate the process of development and consolidate democracy. He said, steps were being

TV Relay Station. Prof Ali Ahmed, President of Khulna Press Club, Mr Liaquat Ali, Editor of Dainik Purbanchal and Ayub Hossain, President of Khulna Union of Journalists also spoke on the

taken to upgrade the Khulna

# Hailstorm damages crops

HABIGANJ. Standing crops on more than a thousand acres of land were damaged by hailstorm in different parts of the district on

Wednesday, reports UNB. The hailstorm that swept over the Sadar and Baniachong Upazila of the district caused widespread damage to stand-

ing IRRI and Boro crops. About 80 pre cent crops of Noakhali, Chargaon, Shikarpur, Tongirghat of Sadar upazila and 50 per cent crops of Muradnagar, Pukra, Bagaura, Alampur of Baniachong Upazila were damaged by the storm.

A BSS report from Rayshahi

says: Rajshahi and its adjourning areas experienced moderatc rains Tuesday night after prolonged drought. The shower lasted for about

20 minutes and was accompanied with squally wind.

Official sources said despite drought the production of mango, IRRI-Boro and other crops would be more of less satisfactory. Mango and standing IRRI-Boro in the region suffered 15 per cent damage due to severe drought.

The persisting drought also delayed the sowing of aus and UNB from Narail adds : The

district experienced a much expected heavy downpour with strong wind on Thursday

The downpour that lasted for half an hour along with

strong wind caused collapse of a dilapidated dwelling house killing a boy at village Barasula

The seriously injured Noa Miah (5) was rushed to the Sadar hospital where he succumbed Friday.

LALMONIRHAT, May 3: Blood dysentery claimed 11 lives - all children and affected several hundred people during the last few days in three villages of Aditmari upazila of the district, official

Unofficial sources, however, put the death toll at 25 and

The affected villages are Komolabari, Chhoto Komolabari and Bhelabari. BSS adds: A discussion was

poet Sheikh Fazlul Karim. Headmaster of the school. Sekandar Ali presided over the discussion. Abdul Majid Mandal, Abdul Kuddus, Moktar Hossain and Golam Rahman among others discussed vari-

works of Sheikh Fazlul Karim. Competitions on composition of poems and essays were

also held on the occasion.

## 206 mosque-based mass literacy centres to be set up

Feni, May 3 : The govern- the country during the current ment has undertaken a programme to set up 206 mosque-based mass literacy centres in 26 districts of the country during the current fiscal year (1991-92), reports

was sanctioned to establish Masjid Kendrik Gond Skikhya Kandra under the supervision of Islamic Foundation Bangladesh, foundation sources here said. Under the programme,

been set up in Sonagazi and Parshurum upazilas of the dis-Work on rest of the centres

eight centres have already

are expected to start next month, the sources said. The government has sanc-

tioned Taka 18 lakh for distributton of 250 rickshaws among

Of the total rickshaws, 76 will be distributed in Dhaka city and district, and the rest

will be given in other districts

Three new Muslims have enlisted their name here and they will get the rickshaws

An unidentified man aged about 30 was crushed under the wheels of a speeding train at the railway station here on Wednesday.

the tragic end while he was crossing the train line.

the poor and new Muslims in railway police.

occasion.

in Sadar upazila.

## Blood dysentery leave 11 dead

sources said on Saturday, reports UNB.

the number of affected at more than 300.

held at Poet Sheikh Fazlul Karim Girls' School premises here recently to mark the 110th birth anniversary of late

ous aspects of the life and

fiscal year (1991-92). The rickshaws will be distributed through the Islamic Foundation Bangladesh, foundation sources here said. An amount of Taka 50 lakh

> of the country. soon, the sources said.

According to the station sources, the fll-fated man met

A case has been lodged with