Upazila roundup

SYLHET

Steps to check river erosion demanded

From Our Correspondent

May 13: The leaders of Greater Sylhet Ganadabi Parishad, a non partisan welfare organisation of the district have demanded for immediate steps to check erosion of different areas in Greater Sylhet

Md Mubaswir Ali and Md Ashraf Ali, President and General Secretary of the organisation in a statement said, the different areas like Jakiganj, Kanaighat, Beantbazar, Fenchuganj, Markulibazar, Raniganj, Chhatak, Tajpur, Sherpur Bullah, and Kanishail, Kazirbazar and Chunarughat had been eroded by the rivers Surma, Kushiyara, Bibiana, Manu, Piain, Khowai, Cholai, and Sutang in Moulvibazar, Habiganj, Sunamganj and Sylhet districts for the last few years causing great miseries to the people in

They called for immediate steps by the concerned authorities in this regard.

RANGPUR

Farmer killed in shallow tubewell mishap

May 13: A farmer met the tragic end of his life while using a shallow tubewell to water his farming land, reports UNB.

Shada Mia (35) was killed instantly when an end of his shawl was suddenly caught by the fast rotating blades of the tubewell generator at village Kishoreganj under Pirganj upazila.

The forcefully pulled shawl, wrapped round his neck. quickly choked him to death. The body was sent to the morgue for autopsy.

A case has been registered in this connection with the local police.

BRAHMANBARIA

Tagore's birth day observed

May 13: Tributes were paid to poet Rabindranath Tagore at a discussion organised by Shahitya Academy. Brahmanbaria on May 8 to mark the 131st birth anniversary of the Nobel Laureate. reports BSS.

Held at the Industrial School premises, the discussion was presided over by Dr Faridul Huda, a former minister among others Dr Ahmed Al Mamun, Joydul Hossatn, Abdun Noor and Nuruddin Jahangir discussed various aspects of the life and works of Tagore.

The discussion was followed by a musical sotree. Local artistes presented Rabindra sangeet on the recession.

NARSINGDI

Two commit suicide

From Our Correspondent May 13: Two committed

suicide in the different areas of the district recently.

One house wife, Nargis Begum committed suicide by taking poison at village Shavarda under Monohordi upazila.

It is learnt that the victim Committed suicide over family

In an another incident, an old man, Pandob Ali (65) committed suicide by hanging himself at village Khachar Kandi under Raipure upazila recently.

It is learnt that the victim had been suffering from stomach ailment for a long time. He had not enough money for his medical treatment. Finding no other alternative, he hanged himself.

KISHOREGANJ

Bus journey hazardous,

risky

From Our Correspondent May 13: Journey by bus on Kishoreganj-Bhairab route become hazardous due to overloading and carrying of goods which causing accidents frequently.

According to information, the law enforcing agency is unable to find out the drivers responsible for the accidents as they use fake names and addresses in their licences.

The bus conductors realise excessive fare and often mis-

behave with the passengers. The drivers on this route do not maintain any time-table to reach Bhairab from Kishoreganj though the dis-

tance is only is 33 miles. The buses ply on the road are of depiorable condition and often face engine trouble on their way.

GAIBANDHA

10 hurt in **BCL-Shibir** clash

From Our Correspondent

May 13: Ten persons received injuries in a clash between the supporters of Chhatra League and Chhatra Shibir of Palashbari unit recently.

According to eye witnesses, a procession of Chhatra Shibir was resisted by the supporters of Chhatra League at local Bus Stand where a clash took place in which ten persons received

Police later came to the spot and brought the situation under control.

BARISAL

Schools need early repair

From Our Correspondent

May 13: The condition of more than 300 non-government primary and secondary schools in the district is in bad shape due to shortage of fund.

About 50,000 students of these schools have been suffering much especially in rainy season. The shortage of teach ers, furniture and other educational appliances has further aggravated the situation.

It is reported that some schools are on way to collapse. These schools should immediately be repaired for the safety of the teachers and the stu-

There are 64 non-government schools in Sadar upazila while 60 in Bakerganj, 43 in Uzirpur, 23 in Gournadi, 26 in Agailjhara 28 in Muladi, 12 in Hizla, 30 in Mehendigani and 26 schools in Banaripara dis-

MAIJDEE COURT

Municipal market beset with problems

May 13: The local municipal market is beset with multifarious problems causing great inconvenience to the business community, reports UNB.

lack of accommodation facilities, drainage system and water supply hamper the smooth running of the market.

The municipal authorities. however, has taken up steps to reconstruct the market. The authorities dismantled

71 pucca shops of the market but only 24 of the them have so far been given temporary accommodation pending construction of the new building.

JAMALPUR

Muktijoddah Sangsad unit formed

From Our Correspondent

May 13: The biennial conference of Bangladesh Muktifoddah Sangsad, local unit was held at Public Library Hall recently.

The conference was presided over by Shafiqul Alam and it was attended by Mahfuzur Rahman, Chairman, Central Command Council of the sangsad as chief guest.

The conference was addressed among others by Ruhul Amin and Abdur Rahim.

An 11-member executive committee of the Jamalpur unit of Muktijoddah Sangsad was formed with Aminur Rahman Talukder as Commander and Ruhul Amin as Deputy Commander.

SATKHIRA

Dacoity in bus, Tk 2 lakh looted

From Our Correspondent

May 13: A daring dacoity was committed near at Belkuchi under Kalaroa upazila on Satkhira-Jessore Road recently. The dacoits decamped with valuables worth Taka two

According to sources, a gang of dacotts numbering about 8 to 10 boarded the Satkhtra bound minibus No-Ba 1047 in disguise and attacked the passengers when it reached the place of occur-

The dacotts looted away all the belongings of the passengers at dagger point and decamped with the booty.

A case was filed with Kalaroa Police Station in this connection.

Two youngmen committed suicide at their houses in Sadar upazila recently by taking liquid insecticides.

It is reported that Alam of Kamalnagar and Anisur Rahman of Kushkhalt following family feuds took poison and died on the spot.



MAULVIBAZAR: A truck procession was brought out here protesting terrorism recently. -Star photo

UPEP implementation

Favourable academic atmosphere needed

From Our Correspondent

JAMALPUR, May 13: The Universal Primary Education Programme (UPEP) in all the upazilas of the district has been facing manifold problems.

The dilapidated condition of most of the government primary schools, shortage of teachers and furniture including benches, chairs and blackboards have been creating great problems to the implementation of the programme which aims at removing the curse of illiteracy.

The high prices of paper and other educational appliances, financial crisis of the guardians and some social problems have been depriving a considerable number of students from the education under the programme.

Many schools of the district which were damaged by floods. cyclones and other natural calamities have not yet been repaired or reconstructed for shortage of funds. Some of the schools have no

house for which the students are to attend classes under the open sky. Besides the accommodation problem, the students are to sit on bricks, mats and other things for want of requisite number of benches.

Most of the schools have no tubewell and latrine for which the students are collect drink ing water from nearby places and they are go away to respond to the call of nature.

It is learnt that the Upazila Education Officers have been provided with residential ac commodation to help them devote to their duties but this has created a dissatisfaction among some of the teachers.

For improper distribution of teachers, the education of the students is greatly hampered. It is reported that there are excess teachers in some of the institutions while some schools have been facing acute teacher's shortage.

It can be mentioned here that there are 812 government and 185 non-government primary schools in the district which are inadequate to meet the demand of the increasing number of students.

According to the Primary Education Department source,

the students of 380 primary

schools in seven upazilas of the district have their requisite facilities to continue the stud-

It is informed that the posts of 1176 primary teachers have been lying vacant in seven upazilas of the district for a long. The district Education Office source informed that 111 posts of Headmaster and Assistant Teachers have been lying vacant in the district.

A reliable source said that 68 government and 51 nongovernment primary schools were damaged during the unprecedented flood in 1988 but these schools have not yet been repaired or reconstructed for shortage of fund.

Local people have urged the concerned authorities to take steps to make the Universal Primary Education Programme a success for the greater interest of the future citizens of the district.

teachers in the name of Charnangla Government Primary School in Madarganj upazila have been allegedly drawing salary regularly though the school was washed away long ago, reports UNB. Local people informed that

the school building was eroded by the river Jamuna in 1989 and since then no building was built to run the school and not even an alternative place was chosen for it. The teachers have been al-

legedly drawing salaly since then without any signature of the chairman of its managing committee.

When contacted, the chairman of the managing committee told UNB the matter was brought to the notice of the district education officer recently and an official order has been issued to suspend the payment of the salary.

Four held while rewriting SSC scripts

JAMALPUR, May 131 Police arrested two teachers and two students on Sunday while they allegedly rewriting scripts of the SSC Examination held on Saturday at the Bakshi Centre in Bakshiganj Upazila, reports

One of the arrested teach ers is the Head Master of a high school and Superintendent of the examination

Officials said candidates Ibrahim and Al Amin with the help of the teachers were rewriting the script Commerce and Bookkeeping in a closed room of the centre.

The teachers are Abdur Rashid, Head Master of Noor Mohammad High School, and Sanjay Kumar of the same school

Acting on a tip, the Upazila Magistrate along with police raided the centre and caught red-handed, sources

One of the arrested students, Al Amin, was made ap-The arrested were pro-

duced in the court. A case has been lodged with Bakshigani BSS reports: Re-excavation 5,732 metre-long Baner-Shashakhali Canal from Sha-

rifpur Union to Shabajpur

Union under sadar upazila is

nearing completion. Official sources said the government allocated 147 metric tons of wheat for the

One hundred pumps will been installed in the canal for irrigation of 2810 acres of land of the area.

About 2150 farmers of two unions will be able to produce additional 4050 metric tone of food grains following the reexcavation of the canal, the sources said.

Fate of 25 PDB projects uncertain

From Our Correspondent

GAIBANDHA, May 13 . A total of 25 development projects under Power Development Board could not be completed during last financial year for want of requisite materials like wire, poles and transformers

The projects are Kuptola Dariyapur-Kamarjani power line, Laxmipur-Bashaterhat power line, Matherhat Shibpur-Bhajaner

which is now facing uncer-

Khamerpower line projects under Gafbandha sadar upazila. Kochashaher area and Maksudpur-Jagodishpur power line project under Gobindaganj upaztla remain suspended after completion of 40 per cent works. According to an official

source, no further scheme has yet been undertaken during the financial year of 1991 92. But a total of 30 development scheme still lying with higher authority for disposal.

As a result proper extension of electrification programme could not be implemented for which many of the programme including irrigation network will be hampered seriously.

A total of 372 candidates was expelled for adopting un fairmeans in the on going SSC examinations in seven upazilas of the district. Besides, four teachers, one police man and an office peon

were also expelled from exam-

ination halls for supplying

copies to some candidates. A strong team was former

earlier to conduct examination peacefully. Meanwhile, a fake SSC candidate Mehdi Hasan was arrested by police for appearing at the examination on behalf of one Farook Mia, a student of local Kantanager B B High School, Sadullapur upazila. On getting a secret information UNO Sadullapur challenged the candidate and arrest him. Mehdi Hasan is an inhabitant of village Mirzapur under Mithapukur upazila of Rangpur district.

This year 9.244 candidates have so far appeared in the SSC examination in the dis-



CHANDPUR: Md Yakub Ali, DC speaking at a workshop on EPI held here recently. -Star photo

Across the country

Vandalising national riches

- Nazim Mahmood

the government of India think of constructing a tourists' lodge within the precincts of the Taj at Agra or should they make an extension of Moti Masjid to accommodate a larger number of praying devotees? Of course, this is beyond our wildest imagination. Only a fool may not know about the inviolability of a site of historical interest. Everybody knows that such places do fetch a lot of foreign exchange for their archaeological and aesthetic value. A visitor to a historical place always wants to see the original thing and not any travesty of it. Any distortion, major or minor, devalues it by the archaeological standard. The resulting cultural degradation leads to irreparable national loss. That is why the preservation of an ancient monument or even settlement is so very delicate a job. Even if any touch on the original is indispensable, it is done very carefully keeping absolute symmetry and balance with what it

BAGERHAT May 13: Could

had been in the original. A visitor to an ancient site always wants to travel to the days and an ambience of antiquity. Any modern intrusion into the place therefore spoils every-

But if anybody today visits Shat Goombaz and the shrine of khan Jahan Ali in Bagerhat, he would be astounded to see the stupidity of our archaeological Directorate. Believe it or not, this directorate has constructed its divisional rest house within the compound of Shat Goombaz. On entrance into the lawn of the great hall, it is seen sitting squat on the left side. The vulgar intruder if there was one over. As a result, no panoramic view of the vast ness and grandeur of this remarkable monument can be caught by a camera from a proper angle. The rest house obstructs the view and stands in between. One fails to understand why the authorities have allowed such an ugly construction in such close proximity to a holy place

deflowering the overall beauty of the area, although enough land for a small rest house is there all around. What an excellent preservation of an

ancient site indeed! The mausoleum of Khan Jahan Ali has also been sub jected to similar stupidity. The authorities in charge of its preservation have squeezed a brick built prayer room into it When this correspondent visited the shrine last, he saw, to his shock and surprise, the extension of the prayer room was being constructed. If any one points to the foolishness of the action pat comes the reply from those sitting around : 'So many people now want to say prayers, but accommodation is not enough here.

When millions of Taka are spent for the renovation of a palace like Ahsan Manzil, could we not expect our government to sustain a small loss by dismantling the Divisional Rest House within the compound of the Shat Goombaz?



BAGERHAT: Divisional Rest House of the Directorate of Archaeology has been constructed within the compound of Shat-Goombaz. -Star photo

Minor boy crushed under wheels

MEHERPUR, May 13 : A minor boy was crushed under the wheels of a speedy truck and two others were injured at Gangani Bazar in the district

recently, reports UNB. The victim identified as Gugli (8) son of Ramjan of Gangani was knocked down by the Kushtia bound truck (No Dhaka Ta, 432) and died on

the spot. The injured persons were admitted to the local hospital. The driver remains ab-

sconding. A case was lodged with the Gangani police in this connec-

Contraband goods worth Tk 2 lakh seized

SATKHIRA, May 13 Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) here seized contrabands worth about Taka 2 lakh from a night coach at Mirzapur on Stakhira Khulna road Monday, reports

Acting on secret information, BDR challenged the night coach and recovered the smuggled goods. But none was arrested in this connection.

The contraband items including Indian saree, lungi, blouse piece, spare parts, salt sugar and cosmetics. The goods were later handed over to the local customs officials. A case has been filed with

4 to suffer 10 yrs RI for acid throwing

the police.

COMILLA, May 13 : Foer people were awarded 10 years rigorous imprisonment for throwing acid on a woman. court sources said here today, reports UNB.

The accused Abdul Matin.

Khalu Miah, Selim and Nazim

were also fined Taka 1,000 each, in default, to suffer six months RI more. The prosecution story, in brief, was that Bachhu Mia and his aunt Khokonnessa of Homna Upazila while returning home the accused persons

called her from behind and

threw acid on her injuring her

grievously on October 21.

A case was lodged with Homna thana and police after investigation submitted charge

sheet against the accused. The Additional Sessions Judge Mohammad Nurul Wadud after examining the records and witnesses delivered the judgement recently.

4,098 shallow, deep tubewells installed

MAGURA, May 13 Bangladesh Agriculture Extension Department has installed a total of 4,098 shallow and deep 'tubewells and power injured, eight seriously, in a pumps to facilitate irrigation in the district, reports UNB.

Of the total, 3,846 shallow tubewells, 89 deep tubewells and 163 power pumps were installed in Sadar, Shalikha, Sreepur and Mohammadpur upazilas.

· Upazilawise installation is as follows, 1,500 shallow and 51 deep tubewells and 72 power pumps in Sadar upazila, 383 shallow and 6 deep tubewells and 6 power pumps in Sreepur, 1350 shallow and 22 deep tubewells and 48 power pumps in Salikha and 613 shallow and 10 deep tubewells and 37 power pumps in Mohammadpur upazilas.

the scheme, about 43,725 acres of land will be brought under irrigation system. At least 20 passengers were

bus mishap near Ramnagar on Magura-Kamarkhali Highway six kilometres from here re-According to witnesses while the ill-fated speeding

bus crossing a zig zag road suddenly plunged into a road side ditch. On hearing hue and cry, the villagers rushed to the spot and sent Badal Dash (30).

Taher (60), Jamiruddin (30). Abdul Quddus (26) and Babu (30) to Magura Sadar Hospital. Officials of the district ad ministration later visited the

Shajahan Miah (40), Sekandar

Ali (40), Rahman (45), Abu

With the implementation of spot. Woes of phone subscribers

From Our Correspondent

GAZIPUR, May 13: The telephone subscribers under Tongi Exchange and other exchanges of the district have been facing untold sufferings due to poor services and malpractice of the some staff of the exchanges.

The general subscribers do not get the phone line after repeated reminders. The operators use to give lame excuses for the non-availability of phone calls. It is informed that a class of

subscribers who have under-

standing with the dishonest

operators get the phone calls eastly as they pay unofficial monthly payments. On the otherhand, the phone sets remain dead for maximum time. Most of the phone sets receive wrong calls

frequently and the sets also give notsy tones. It is informed by some subscribers that they get wrong phone bills almost in every month. They also complained that the dishonest operators adjust the bill to those numbers who are not actually in-

The phone subscribers are yet to know either these are mechanical trouble or something else.

The local industrialists businessmen and officials of the area informed this correspondent that they have been facing immense difficulties to maintain their regular communication with the capital

places of the country.

city and other important

The local newsmen who are working for different dailies of the country can not send news regularly for the irregular phone service.

The concerned authorities have been urged to take proper steps to mitigate the sufferings of the phone subscribers of the locality.

Telephone connections needed

New telephone connections are not given in Satkhira district for a considerable period

The existing 600-line tele phone exchange is quite inadequate to meet the growing need of the people of the district town. Hundreds of appli cants seeking for new tele phone connections have been pending with the authorities concerned for years together. But no positive steps have yet been taken to enhance the capacity of existing 600-line telephone exchange.

It may be mentioned here that the importance of Satkhira town has increased considerably after its upgradation into a district.

Dacoits loot valuables Dacotts looted gold of naments and valuables worth about Taka 2 lakh from the house of Mostafa Anwar

According to witnesses, the dacoits broke open the doors of the house on April 29, tied up the inmates and looted valuables by welding guns.