

Upazila roundup

NARSINGDI
Reception to recipients of pry scholarship

From Our Correspondent

June 2: A reception was accorded to the recipients of primary scholarship recently at a local kindergarten school. The function was presided over by Md Nasir Uddin.

Dr Abdul Mannan, Member of the Public Service Commission and ex-VC was present on the occasion as chief guest while Abdus Samad, DC, UNO's of Bhatrab and Raipura were present as special guests.

SATKHIRA
Nazrul's birth day observed

From Our Correspondent

June 2: The 93rd birth anniversary of National Poet Kazi Nazrul Islam was observed here with a befitting manner.

To mark the occasion, different socio-cultural organisations chalked out programmes.

A discussion meeting under the auspices of the local Nazrul Academy on the life and works of the great poet was arranged at the premises of the academy with Professor Abdul Hamid in the chair.

Asif Kumar Majumder, ex-Principal of Satkhira Government College, Kudrat-e-Khoda and Rabeya Banu were present on the occasion as chief and special guests.

The discussion meeting was followed by a musical soiree and dance drama which were participated by the local artists. A cultural function was also arranged by the local Shilpakala Academy at its office premises.

BARISAL
3 Sharbahara Party men arrested

From Our Correspondent

June 2: The local police has arrested three members of the so-called Sharbahara Party (Kamrul Group) including an Union Parishad Member, Fazle Rabee who had connection with the Sharbahara men for a long time.

Fazle Rabee is the member of the Agarpur Union Parishad under Babuganj Upazila of the district.

The UP Member was arrested by the local camp police on Thursday last with the help of local people from his house.

Two other arrested persons are Alamgir Talukder (25) and Sadeq Sikder (26) from village Jayesree under Uzirpur Upazila of the district.

COMILLA
Smuggled pepper, mugdal seized

June 2: Bangladesh Rifles have seized 2 gunny bags full of smuggled black pepper and 10 bags full of mugdal worth Taka 1 lakh from a bus heading towards Feni and arrested 2 people, reports UNB.

Acting on tip, a BDR patrol party on May 17 stopped a bus at Jagannath Dighi in Choudagram upazila on Dhaka-Chittagong Trunk Road. They searched the vehicle, recovered the goods and arrested the helper and the owner of the goods. The driver managed to escape. There was no passenger in the bus.

A case has been lodged with the police and the arrested were handed over to police.

Seized goods have been deposited with the customs in Comilla.

AGRI-VARSITY
Agri Engr Faculty Assoc committee formed

June 2: An eleven-member executive committee for the Association of the Faculty of Agricultural Engineering and Technology (AET) of Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU) for the session 1991-92 has recently been formed with the Dean of the Faculty of AET Prof. Dr. R. I. Sarker as its President and Farid Ahmad, a final year student of the faculty as its Vice-President, says a press release.

Other office-bearers of the Committee include ASM Abdul Awal, Associate Professor in the Department of Farm Structure as Treasurer, Hasan Zakir as General Secretary, Abdul Majid as Joint Secretary, Mahub Alam as Literary Secretary and Abul Hasan, MA Ahad, M. Altaf Hossain, Abul Kalam Azad and Hasan Alamgir as members.

CHAPAINAWABGANJ
Jewellery shops without licence

From Our Correspondent

June 2: The mushroom growth of unlicensed jewellery shops and illegal hundi business have been causing huge revenue loss to the government.

It is learnt that most of the jewellery shops have no valid licence and they are engaged in hundi business. It is informed that these dishonest businessmen are also engaged in gold smuggling and the recent seizure by the BDR men prove that they are doing the same.

At present, there are about 500 jewellery shops in the district and of them 200 are at the district town. But there were only 15 jewellery shops at the town 15 years back.

It is learnt that most of the jewellery shops evade excise duty and it could not be brought to book as they were not registered with the concerned authorities.

GAIBANDHA
Woman Ansar VDP leaders training

From Our Correspondent

June 2: Two-week long VDP woman leaders training course began here at district Ansar and VDP Complex on May 21.

The programme was formally inaugurated by district Ansar Adjutant Aminul Islam.

A total of 117 women VDP leaders is taking part in the training programme from Palashbari, Fulchhari, Shaghata and Gaibandha sadar upazilas.

The participants will receive primary training on socio-economic development, physical exercise and operating fire arms. The programme will be concluded on June 8 after awarding prize and certificates.

Jamaat-e-Islami, Gaibandha district unit launched a demonstration on May 27 in observance terrorism resisting day.

The procession paraded main roads of the town. Later, a protest meeting was held at station premise where the speakers criticised the activities of a section who devalued the prestige of honourable religious persons. The meeting was conducted by Aminul Hoque.

MANIKGANJ
Erratic power supply

From Our Correspondent

June 2: Frequent power failure has been causing sufferings to the dwellers of Aricha Ferry Terminal in Manikganj district.

Due to the irregularities in power supply, the traders and owners of small business have been facing immense difficulties.

Another report adds: Two housewives committed suicide by taking poison here recently.

It is learnt that one Amro Rani Das (18) of village Rishpara under Savar Upazila and another Sajeda Begum (20) of village Kownara of Satura Upazila of the district committed suicide over family feud.

KURIGRAM
Forty five degree examinees expelled

From Our Correspondent

June 2: At least 45 degree examinees were expelled during the first three days of degree examinations for adopting unfair means in four examination centres in Kurigram district.

In total 1351 examinees were appearing at the four centres namely Kurigram Govt. College Centre, Kurigram Mahila College Centre, Nageswari College Centre and Bhurungamari College Centre under Rajshahi University.

Another report adds: Misuse of loudspeakers has become rampant in Kurigram town.

Under the relevant law, loudspeakers can be used only from 6 am to 10 am and from 6 pm to 10 pm and the volume should be kept low. Besides, the police are empowered to seize the microphone if the rules are violated.

Five unnatural death cases have been reported from different areas of the district in the last few days, reports



Finance Minister M. Saifur Rahman inaugurated the tree plantation programme of woman VDP members at the premises of the Maulvibazar Circuit House on May 29. — PID photo

Mathabhanga Bridge needs early renovation

From Our Correspondent

CHUADANGA, June 2: The bridge on the river Mathabhanga adjacent to local Bara Bazar popularly known as Mathabhanga Bridge is on way to be collapsed.

Due to lack of maintenance and repair for several years, innumerable potholes and breaches have developed on the bridge causing great inconveniences to the people.

The quarter mile long Mathabhanga Bridge was constructed at cost of Taka 10 lakh in 1962. This bridge connects the road from Chuadanga to Meherpur and a large number of vehicles ply on it every day.

Gradually the bridge is becoming unfit for all kinds of vehicular traffic causing impediments to the development of trade and commerce of the districts of Chuadanga and Meherpur.

Every day, hundreds of vehicles including Meherpur-Dhaka day and night coaches, Meherpur-Khulna coasters, Meherpur-Chuadanga and Meherpur-Jhenidah buses and trucks and other official and private cars and jeeps have been crossing the bridge day

and night. Besides, over one lakh people cross the bridge every day.

During the War of Liberation, the occupied army damaged the bridge partly but it has not yet been repaired by the concerned authority. The damaged portion was levelled by earth cutting which causes immense difficulties during the rainy season.

A disaster may happen at any time in the absence of any early step.

The people of Chuadanga and Meherpur have urged the concerned authorities to take immediate steps to renovate the bridge and help avoid any accident.

Huge lands of the Roads and Highways Department have been occupied by some people of the district.

It is learnt that some people have been occupying lands for last 30 years and they have constructed semi pucca buildings. They are continuing their business unabatedly.

Hundreds of illegal shops have also been constructed on these lands despite frequent vacate orders by the Roads and

Highways Department. Even some pucca residential quarters have been constructed on some plots of lands.

The local office of the department informed that after the spot visit they had asked the illegal occupants to vacate the lands. But the occupants are paying no heed to the instructions. The authority informed that they had also served notices to the persons but those are of no effect.

Some local people informed this correspondent that a group of dishonest staff use to take money from the illegal occupants and they try drop the idea of taking any legal action against the occupants.

Some occupants informed that they pay money to the staff of the department but they do not issue any receipt. The staff also assure the occupants of not taking any action against them.

The local RHD authority have applied to the DC for taking action in this regard against 153 persons but only four persons have been asked to vacate the government lands.

Notes from Magura

MAGURA, June 2: Journey by night coaches in the southern routes has become insecure following withdrawal of armed guards, passengers and local leader here alleged, reports UNB.

Re-excavation work is progressing fast on nine khals under canal digging programme in the district.

According to an official source, a total of 488 metric tons of wheat has been sanctioned by the government against 20 kilometre long re-excavation work through four upazilas of the district.

Three of the canals are in Magura Sadar Upazila, one in Sreepur Upazila, three in Salikha Upazila and rest two in Mohanmadpur Upazila.

Seventy-five per cent of the work has so far been completed, and full implementation of the programme is expected by next month.

Notorious dacoit arrested

Police arrested an alleged notorious dacoit from the village Hazrapoor while he along with his accomplices were preparing to commit a dacoity.

Acting on secret information, police raided the hideout and arrested Mongla and recovered some stolen goods from his possession while his accomplices managed to flee.

Mongla was wanted in connection four dacoities in Sadar Upazila. A case has been registered with the police.

Pry scholarship

A total of 42 students obtained junior scholarships in four upazilas of the district this year.

According to an official source, of the total scholarships 14 students obtained scholarship in Talent Pool scheme and the rest 28 student got general scholarship. A total of 557 students appeared at the examination held in December 1991 in the district.

The source also added that 14 students obtained scholarship from Sadar Upazila with 4 Talent Pool scheme, 10 students from Sreepur Upazila with 4 Talent Pool scheme and the rest 9 students from Salikha Upazila with three Talent Pool scheme.

Jute output target to face huge shortage

From Our Correspondent

JHENIDAH, June 2: The production of jute in all the six upazilas of the district is uncertain during the current season due to absence of rainfall in due time.

The upazilas are Jhenidah sadar, Shailakupa, Harinakunda, Kalganj, Kotchandpur and Moheshpur.

According to Agricultural Extension Department (AED), a total of 37,865 acres of land was fixed for jute cultivation during the on-going season and the production target was fixed at 1.5 lakh tons.

Of the total, only 6000 acres of land have been brought under the cultivation under irrigation system. The present cultivation is only 18 per cent of the original target, AED sources said.

In reply to a question

Nazrul Islam, Deputy Director, AED, Jhenidah told this correspondent that absence of rainfall in due time was the main reason for the shortfall of jute cultivation target.

Some cultivators of different villages of Sadar and Kalganj upazilas informed that they had given up the idea of jute cultivation as the monsoon was late.

The jute mills of our country may face shortage of jute and the earning of foreign exchange might be decreased.

Kalganj police led by Shamsul Huda, Assistant Police Super seized Indian sarces and phynsild worth about Taka one lakh on the night of May 29.

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

Bumper boro output in Barind Zone likely

RAJSHAHI, June 2: Bumper boro crops are expected to be produced from areas of Barind Multi purpose Development Authority (BMDA) during the current season, reports UNB.

A total of 90,000 acres of land have been brought under boro cultivation in Rajshahi, Naogaon and Chapainawabganj and about 162,000 metric tons of paddy is expected from the Barind Zone.

Besides, forty thousand acres of land have been brought under transplanted aus cultivation in Barind Zone and for which 1,100 deep tubewells were sited for extending irrigation facility.

Mr Asaduzzaman, Executive director, BMDA said that ten lakh saplings of different varieties are being planted in Barind Area during the current fiscal year with the objective to maintain ecological balance in the region.

Earlier, 38 lakh saplings had been planted in the region for the same purpose, he said.

The government has sanctioned Taka 20.50 lakh for various welfare projects from the government employees and

their dependents of Rajshahi Division during the current fiscal year.

An official source said that the money will be utilised for the development of sports and games in different parts of the division and construction of shishu park, clubs and community centres.

Police seize Indian goods worth Tk 4 lakh

FENI, June 2: Police seized 570 pieces of sarces, medicine and sugar worth about Taka 4 lakh during the month of April. These were smuggled from India, reports UNB.

Another report adds: BDR seized 63 pieces of Indian sarces, three bicycles, 105 bottles of medicine worth about Taka 40,000 while raided in four passenger buses on the night of May 19. They arrested two smugglers on the spot.

The arrested smugglers were Ruhul Amin of Kainpoo village of Lumipuri district and Alauddin of Anyatpur village.

Seized goods were handed to local customs. Separate cases were filed in this connection.

No security of life, property in dists

From Our Correspondent

KUSHITIA, June 2: The security of life and property has become uncertain in all the six upazilas of the district as all sorts of crimes are rampant here.

The peace loving people of the district have been passing their days in fear as they can be victim at any time.

One person was killed and another 35 persons were injured in a bloody clash that ensued over a scuffle between two primary school students at village Bharuapara under Kumarkhali Upazila on May 21. All types of weapons including fire arms were freely used by the rival groups during the clash.

The victims mother, Amcna Begum (50) was also seriously injured in the clash. The other injured persons were identified as Rubia Khatun (30), Taleb(22), Matiar (16), Golam Sarwar, Khalilur Rahman (18) Atiar Rahman (25), Abdul Jalil (20), Monabber Hossain Khan (50), Akbar Ali Khan(55), Altaf (30), Latif (28) and Jahangir (25).

Five houses were also looted during the clash, eye witnesses said.

Separate cases have been registered with local thana in this connection but none has been arrested. The Additional Police Super visited the place of occurrence after the incident. Seven persons were injured

in another clash in village Khagorbaria under Khogsa Upazila over the harvesting of paddy on May 21. The injured persons are Akhay Kumar Roy, Kamalesh Mondal and Nitai Kumar. The injured persons have been admitted to the Khogsa Upazila Health Complex with serious injuries.

Meanwhile, Police has arrested one Nurul (20) from Kushitia town on May 30. Nurul was wanted in double murder case of village Sholgari. The murder created a sensation in the area and the accused were absconding.

Mirpur thana police led by SP and Additional SP recently arrested three terrorists from Mirpur area on charge of murder, dacoity and other heinous crimes. They have been identified as the close accomplices of a terrorist group, Seraj Group who are challenge to the administration.

Kushitia police in another raid arrested six persons wanted in various cases on the night of May 21. They are Hafizur Rahman, Reazuddin Khokon, Mridul, Ketu Abdul Khaleque, Rokon and Ekram.

Chuadanga
Our Chuadanga Correspondent report: The law and order situation through out the district has deteriorated abnormally for some time past.

Murder, dacoity, rioting and

theft are frequent in the area. During the months of April and May seven persons have been murdered in the district.

Besides, 49 crime cases have been registered with the different police stations of the district during April.

One Enamul Haque (27) son of Ebadat Ali Biswas of village Dineedhar under sadar upazila was murdered by some unknown miscreants at a Shisau Park adjacent to Sugla Bridge three miles off from here on May 21.

Another Mostak Ali son of Moksed Ali of village Hakimpur under Alamdanga police station was brutally murdered by the miscreants on May 18. The miscreants forcibly took Mustak from his resident at gun point and killed on the road near Nondopur village. Later, his beheaded body was recovered from the place of occurrence.

Another Karim Sheikh of village Joyrampur under Damurduda Upazila Police Station was also killed mercilessly while he was guarding his jackfruit garden on May 15 night.

Eight persons of village Kashaura under Titudah Upazila were injured by the gun shots of the Sharbahara Party men on May 16 at the residence of one Gafur Mia of the same village. About 20 persons entered into the resi-

dence chanting slogans and started firing shots from their guns which assaulted the villagers.

The situation at the district two is also alarming. There was a heavy clash in front of the local Rupchayha Cinema Hall where the miscreants used various arms including Chinese axes, hand bombs, lathis and iron rods.

It is complained that the law enforcing agency is not taking any effective measures to curb the crimes in the town area.

Toll collection is also rampant at different places of the district. But there is none to check the large scale corruption in the district, some people complained.

Communication main problem

Our Gaibandha Correspondent adds: The tendency of crime has been increasing alarmingly in different remote char lands of Teesta and Brahmaputra due to absence of police out post.

Gaibandha sadar, Fulchhari, Shaghata and Sunderganj Upazilas of the district possesses innumerable char lands along 90 kilometre of river Brahmaputra and Teesta. The people of said areas are to live at the mercy of criminals, touts and local dishonest leaders.

Many of the gang leaders, pirates and anti-social elements have taken shelter in this areas and intensify their criminal activities almost unabatedly. Such criminals are being used by the influential persons for taking possession of disputed plots.

There is no permanent road communication in the areas where bicycles, boats and walking on foot are the means of transportation and take a pretty long time to cover a small distance. Sometimes it takes day long programme to reach the Upazila or district headquarters.

During natural calamity it become much difficult to face the problem from Upazila head quarters.

The people of such remote char lands have been crying for setting up permanent police out post at different points since long but no step has yet been taken to restore smooth law and order in remote areas.

Embarkation facility in most ghats absent

BARGUNA, June 2: Most of the launch ghats in southern region are functioning without arrangements for embarkation and disembarkation causing immense suffering to the passengers, reports UNB.

Some of the launch terminals which have tin-sheds, have become bad and need immediate replacement for the convenience of the passengers.

Sitting arrangements are lacking and toilets are hardly usable. The women passengers are the worst sufferers.

At least 100 hats and bazars of the district are now in deplorable condition for lack of basic amenities causing incon-

venience to both sellers and buyers.

The shopkeepers and traders who have to pay enhanced taxes to the government agents and local "charadars" have been protesting the intransigence of the hat management to improve the condition.

Among other problems, lack of drainage system is the worst. Most of the hats and bazars go under knee deep water after each downpour halting all business activities.

Local elite have urged the authorities to take immediate steps to improve the conditions of the hats and bazars for the greater convenience of the buyers and sellers.

Eight killed in incidents

HABIGANJ, June 2: Three people were killed in separate incidents in the district in one day, police said, reports UNB.

Witnesses said, Arju Miah of village Dashpara of Bahubal Upazila was killed by unknown miscreants on May 26. Police recovered his body from a pond near his house.

Sunil Sarkar was killed by dacoits who raided his house of village Naclarabada of Baniachong Upazila. They looted valuables and injured Sunil. He was rushed to Habiganj Sadar hospital in a critical condition and succumbed the same day.

Meanwhile, Chunarugh police recovered the body of Zaharial Shawal near Shat Chari Forest Area. He was killed by some miscreants.

Separate cases have been registered with the police. A man was died falling from the rooftop of a speeding bus near Sherpur Bridge on Dhaka-Sylhet highway recently.

Witnesses said the victim Makbul climbed on the rooftop to keep his goods there but suddenly fell down causing his instantaneous death.

Another report adds: A man was beaten to death by his nephew at Bausa village of the district recently.

Following a family dispute the nephew Kabir (35) beat his uncle Biam Uddin (65). He died on way to hospital.

Kabir remained absconding since the incident. A case has been filed with the police.

Razia Begum (25), a house wife at Satarbia, Sonagur was allegedly beaten to death by her husband Dulal, who was enraged by her persistent opposition to his gambling habit.

Razia died after severe beating on May 15. She was the mother of two children.

In another incident a housewife Alta Begum (22) of Kotkhal village under Daganbhuiyan Upazila allegedly committed suicide by taking poison on May 17. The reason of her suicide was not known.

Abul Basher (25) of Sindurpur village in the same upazila also allegedly killed himself by taking poison recently. Family sources said he was suffering from an incurable disease and was unable to bear the expenses for treatment.

All the three bodies were handed over to local police.



KUSHITIA: Amanullah Khan, President, UNB addressing a seminar on 'Rule of Law and Islam' organised by Ideal Law Students' Organisation of Islamic University held on May 29. — Star photo