

Upazila roundup

SIRAJGANJ

Dalal Nirmul activists attack Jamaat leader

June 21: A local Jamaat leader was seriously injured in a sudden attack allegedly by the activists of Ghatak Dalal Nirmul Committee here during the hartal hours on Saturday, reports UNB.

According to witnesses, the victim Advocate Hafizur Rahman, Secretary of Jamaat-e-Islam district unit while going to local Bar was attacked and beaten mercilessly near Mousumi Cinema Hall at 10 am.

He was rushed to Sirajganj General Hospital in a critical condition. He received serious head injuries, hospital sources said.

District Jamaat leaders blamed Awami League supporters of the Nirmul Committee for the incident. But Awami League denied the allegation.

A case has been filed with the police.

JAMALPUR

Training on seed development

June 21: A day-long training on seed development was held here recently under the joint auspices of the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and Bangladesh Agriculture Development Corporation (BADC) at its regional office here, reports BSS.

A total of twenty seed dealers and traders of Jamalpur and Sherpur districts participated in the course.

The inaugural function was presided over by the Joint Director, BADC, Deputy Commissioner, Jamalpur, Jalal Ahmed was the chief guest, on the occasion.

RANGPUR

Social worker Mohi master dead

From Our Correspondent June 21: Mohiuddin Ahmed Alias (Mohi master), reputed social worker and life president of Rangpur district auto-tempo and baby taxi samity, breathed his last on June 13 at his residence at local Salbon Shahipara. He was 55.

He was the executive member of the Rangpur Chamber of Commerce and Industry and was associated with different social welfare organisations.

He left behind wife, two sons and a daughter and a host of relatives, friends and admirers to mourn his death.

He was buried at the local Noorpur graveyard. A large number of people from all walks of life attended at his namaj-e-zanjana.

TANGAIL

Tree plantation programme starts

June 21: A weeklong tree plantation programme sponsored by Bangladesh Muktiyoddha Sangsad, Tangail district branch, started at Shahid Smriti Pura Uddyan here recently, reports BSS.

Valiant Freedom Fighter Abdul Kader Siddiqui, Biruttam, Chairman Editorial Board, the Daily Al Amin, inaugurated the programme as chief guest by planting a mahogani sapling.

In his speech on the occasion he said: "Bangladesh is one of the worst victims of the adverse environmental condition. To save the country from greenhouse affect huge number of tree plantation is a must. We should plant enough trees to safeguard our environment."

BARISAL

Shops, goods worth over Tk 30 lakh gutted

From Our Correspondent June 21: Twenty four shops and goods of more than 30 lakh taka have been gutted at Chandrakanta Bazar area of Siddhakathi union of Nalchity upazila under Jhalakathi district recently.

According to eyewitnesses, the fire originated from a teastall at about 11:30 pm night and within a very short time spread out in a vast area.

It is gathered that 18 grocery shops 2 cloth stores one medicine shop and other 3 different shops were burnt to ashes during the time of five incident for about five to six hours.

FARIDPUR

5 Sharbahara activists arrested

From Our Correspondent June 21: The outlawed five Sharbahara Partymen were arrested from Patrail union under Bhanga upazila of the district recently.

Acting on a tip Bhanga police arrested two brothers Basudev and Rasudev of village Dalkundi, Jahangir and Kohinor of village Brahmanpara and Abdul Jabbar of village Korri of Patrail union.

Another report adds: Bangladesh National Society for the Blinds (BNSB), Faridpur branch donated five rickshaw vans to five blindmen under its blind rehabilitation programme recently.

MAGURA

Transport facilities absent

June 21: About 700 students of Magura Government Girls' High School have been facing difficulties to attend their classes due to absence of transport facilities, reports UNB.

The students come to school from different parts of the municipal area and its suburbs. On their way to school they have to cross many busy roads risking their lives.

Most of the time they become late in attending their classes. Traffic jam and speedy vehicles pose a danger to their lives when they are in hurry to attend their classes in time.

JHENIDAH

Tk 3.45 lakh misappropriated by forging cheques

From Our Correspondent June 21: Police arrested one government employee here recently for the misappropriation of Taka 3.45 lakh by forging cheques.

According to official sources, Md Mohiuddin, Office Assistant of Kotchandpur Upazila Nirbahi Officer withdrew a total of Taka 3.45 lakh through three cheques by forging the signature of respective Upazila Nirbahi Officer.

Of the total, Taka 2.30 lakh comprising two cheques were withdrawn on November 23, 1991 while another cheque of Taka 1.15 lakh was withdrawn on April 9, 1992 from the local Sonali Bank branch.

KISHOREGANJ

Stomach ailments, skin diseases alarming

From Our Correspondent June 21: Stomach ailments and skin diseases have been spreading alarmingly in all the 13 upazilas of the district causing concern among the people.

Doctors said, a large number of patients are pouring into the upazila health complex and Sadar Hospital everyday with gastro-intestinal and other skin diseases.

Scarcity of pure water and consumption of adulterated foods and edible oil are learnt to be the main reasons behind the outbreak of the diseases. Adulterated food stuff are sold in open markets, consumers complained.

Local people urged the government to take measures against the sale of adulterated foodstuff.

JHENIDAH

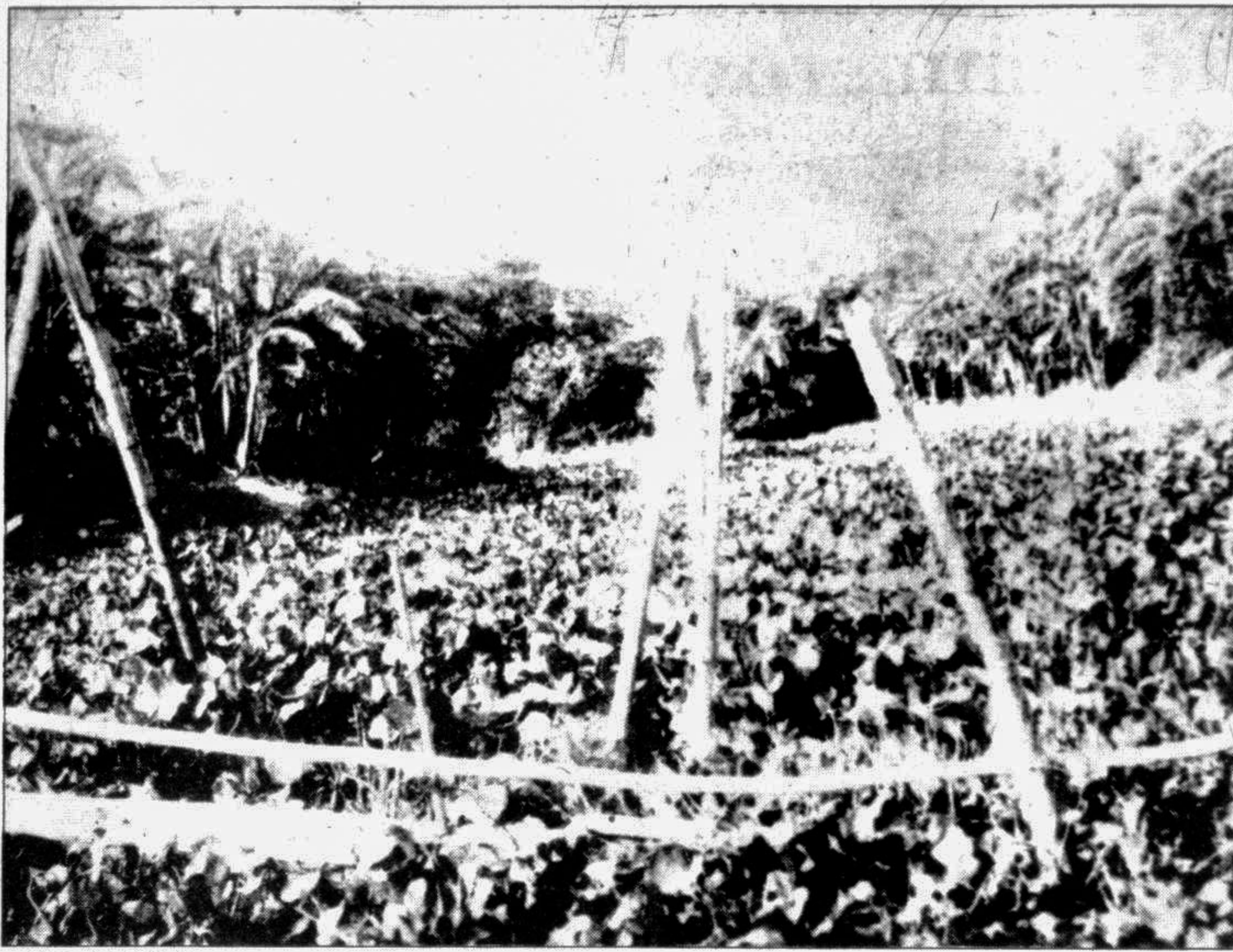
BNP district unit confce

June 21: The biennial conference of the district unit of Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) was held here at the local RD Hall on Tuesday, reports UNB.

Moshur Rahman MP, convener of the district BNP unit, presided over the inaugural session while Social Welfare and Women Affairs Minister Tarikul Islam and State Minister for Agriculture, Irrigation and Flood Control Mosharruf Hossain Shajahan was present as chief and special guests.

The chief guest urged all to be united under the banner of BNP to make the country self-reliant. He also called upon the party workers to work wholeheartedly in nation building activities to materialise the dream of late President Ziaur Rahman.

The conference was also addressed, among others by, Anjand Hossain and Anisur Rahman.



GOPALGANJ: Largescale growth of waterhyacinth has blocked the Gopalganj-Kotalipara naval route. — Star photo

Theft of fuel rampant at Baghabari depot

From Our Correspondent

SIRAJGANJ, June 21: Theft of fuel from the local depots of Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation (BPC) is rampant for a long time.

It is learnt that a group of organised people in collaboration with some staff of the depot are engaged in the misdeed which causes recurring loss to the government earnings.

It is informed that during storage of fuel, two per cent shortage is approved by the department. But in practice, actual shortage stands at one per cent.

A group of employees of BPC at Baghabari takes the opportunity and grab the excess in the name of approved shortage. A source estimates that the quantity of shortage shown will be at least 200 litres per day.

Besides, fuel is also sold in the black market when the tankers load or unload fuel. Minor boys and girls are seen engaged collecting fuel. Some arranged boats come to the depot and take away the theft fuel.

A large number of vendors and small shops have grown up on both sides of the North Bengal Highway from Shahzadpur in Sirajganj district to Bera in Pabna district. These unauthorised shops mainly depend on theft diesel and petrol.

Such practices needs to be stopped, expressed the local social workers.

6,500 apply for 100 post of pry teacher

A total of 6,500 applicants including 4,000 women candidates have applied for 100 posts of primary teacher in the district.

The women candidates have applied highest in number for the posts primary teacher in the district for the first time, a District Primary Education office source informed.

It is gathered that there are 1072 primary schools including 193 private schools in the district.

Upazila wise break-up of the schools is: Sirajganj Sadar-171

primary schools, Kazipur-134, Shahzadpur-178, Ullapara-186, Kawarkanda-57, Belkuchi-91, Raiganj-107, Tarash-64, Chowhalli-83. An official source informed that there are 3,02,471 primary students in these schools.

It is informed that the number students shown in the registrar is fabricated. The number of students will not exceed 2.5 lakh, it is informed. A section of primary teachers in collaboration with some unscrupulous staff of the Education Department maintain false statement of students to realise undue privilege including free books.

The excess books are sold in the blackmarket which are bought by the students again. The situation in the rural areas is pitiable. In some school in the areas, the teachers come once or twice in a week only to put a signature.

In charlands of Kazipur, Sadar, Balkuchi and Chowgachi upazilas the classes in the primary are not taken regularly. It is informed.

Notes from Comilla

COMILLA, June 21: A motivational seminar on "Health, Nutrition and Family Planning" for the newly married couples was held in Loarchar Primary School of Burichang upazila recently, reports UNB.

Organised by local branch of Family Planning Association of Bangladesh, the day-long seminar was attended by 25 couples.

The speakers dwelt at length on the disadvantages of early marriage, risk or motherhood in early age, primary health care and EPI.

The seminar was formally inaugurated by honorary Treasurer Aftabur Rahman as chief guest.

Presided over by Shajal Charan Bhoumik it was also addressed by Abul Kashem, Kamruzzaman and Dr Syed Ashraf Hossain.

3 smugglers get 2 yrs RI

Three people were awarded two years rigorous imprisonment each for smuggling contrabands, court sources said here Thursday last.

They were also fined Taka 1000 each or in default to suffer another six months in a judgement delivered recently.

The case, in brief, was that the accused Rokanuddin, Shanu and Mahub Alam were arrested from Comilla railway station by police while they carrying Indian sarrees on March 31, 90.

One to suffer life term for killing man

A man has been sentenced to life imprisonment for killing a man and fined Taka 1,000 or in default to suffer another six months.

Court sources said, accused Jashimuddin alias Nashu of Choudhagram upazila along with his accomplices killed Makbul Ahmed of village Kunja Sreepur of the same upazila by sharp weapons on September 11, 1988 following old enmity.

After examining the records and witnesses, Additional District and Sessions Judge Md Nurul Wadud awarded the punishment recently.

Indian goods seized

BDR personnel seized goods worth about Taka 23,30,725 and arrested two alleged smugglers during the month of May from different border posts and areas.

The goods were seized while being smuggled into Bangladesh worth about Taka 22,99,900 included Indian sarees, lungis, blouse pieces, black pepper and other spices, sugar, cycle and rickshaw parts and other luxury items.

The items seized while being smuggled out of the country worth about Taka 30,850 included fish, powder milk and old garments.

110 cases were filed with different police stations during the period.

Ansars, VDP rally held

BSS report adds: A rally of Ansars and members of the Village Defence Party (VDP) of Comilla district was held at town hall premises recently.

Director General of Ansars and VDP Major General Syed Bidruzzaman was present at the inaugural function as chief guest. The Deputy Commissioner, Hedayatul Islam Chowdhury presided over the function. Among others LT Col Mohammad Harunur Rashid, Director (Training), Ansars and VDP addressed the rally.

Chase, clash, arrest mark hartal

CHITTAGONG, June 21: A half-day hartal beginning from 6 am was observed here Saturday at the call of Jatiya Jubo Command and Bharatiya Dalal Protirodh Committee in support of their demand for legal action against the sponsors of people's court, reports BSS.

Shops and other establishments remained closed while rickshaws and other vehicles kept off the road during hartal. Banks and other offices did not function.

Hartal supporters brought out processions. But there was no untoward incident in any part of the city, Chittagong Metropolitan Police sources said.

Narayanganj

A partial half-day hartal was observed here Saturday at the call of Jatiya Jubo Command and Bharatiya Dalal Protirodh Committee demanding legal action against the organisers of Ghatak Dalal Nirmul Committee.

Private cars and buses were off the road and business establishments were closed.

Rickshaws, however, plied on the road. Government offices, banks, and other financial institutions were open.

Cloth market at Tanbazar were open but the shutters of DIT market were down.

Train and launch services operated normally. Adamjee Jute Mills also functioned normally.

Chapainawabganj

At least three people were injured in a clash between the activists of Jubo Command and workers of a local labour union during hartal period Saturday, reports UNB.

According to witnesses, the clash ensued following ransacking of a shop of a former labour leader near the bus stand in the town. The labour leaders blamed the Jubo Command for the incident.

Later clash ensued between them in which three people were injured. They were identified as Alamgir, 24, of village Shanting in Nawabganj, Mosfiqur Rahman Ranju, 35, of village Godagary of Rajahahi and Anwar, 30, of village Alinagar in Nawabganj.

Mymensingh

UNB report adds: Police arrested two pro-hartal activists along with two cocktails at Machkanda bus stand in the town this morning.

They were identified as Sohul, Islami Chhatra Shibir president of the Mymensingh Medical College unit, and Nuruzzaman Masum (20), vice president of the district Jubo Command.

Most hats, bazars in pitiable condition

MAGURA, June 21: Almost all the hats and bazars in four upazilas of the district are in pitiable condition for lack of proper maintenance and care of the concerned authorities, reports UNB.

The buyers and sellers complained that most of the markets become muddy and slippery after a slight rainfall causing untold suffering to them. Waters remain stagnant in and around these markets due to inadequate drainage system.

Moreover, the market places are not spacious enough to accommodate the people and the open shops are so congested that the buyers cannot move freely.

Most of the hats have no tubewells at all and where there are tubewells, most of them are out of order.

Besides, there are no latrine and urinal in most of the hats and bazars and no scavengers are seen to cleanse these hats and bazars. As a result heaps of filth and garbage are scattered all over.

Affected people urged the authorities to take necessary steps for the development of these markets immediately.

Another report adds: About 700 students of Magura

Government Girls' High School have been facing difficulties to attend their classes due to absence of transport facilities.

The students come to school from different parts of the municipal area and its suburbs. On their way to school they have to cross many busy roads risking their lives.

Most of the time they become late in attending their classes. Traffic jam and speedy vehicles pose a danger to their lives when they are in hurry to attend their classes in time.

One to suffer life term RI for murder

FENI, June 21: A man was awarded life term rigorous imprisonment for killing a man by the District Judge here on Wednesday, reports UNB.

Convicted Shahabuddin son of Jalal Ahmed of Farhadnagar village killed Kabir Ahmed of the same village following a family enmity on November 2, 1988.

District Judge Azizul Hoque delivered the judgement after examining the evidence and records.



RAJBARI: The erosion of the river Madhumati at Madhukhali Upazila. Over 100 families were rendered homeless recently. —Star photo

Quacks more active in rural areas

KUSHTIA, June 20: Treatment facilities in rural areas are still a far cry and people die very frequently due to wrong treatment of quacks who dominate rural area.

Quacks are found in every village or Kushtia, Bheramara, Mirpur, Daulatpur, Kumarkhali and Khoksa upazilas of the district giving treatment to the poor and landless people who can not afford to go to the qualified doctors or can not reach upazila health complexes due to communication difficulties.

Over 80 per cent people of the district live below the poverty line. The problem of unemployment is becoming acute day by day and as a result the youth community of the country is suffering from frustration.

Being faced with unemployment problem, many young men of different areas of the district are seeking sources of income for their survival. Finding no other alternative, a good number of jobless youngmen of the district have taken the profession of village doctors.

The main centre of business of the village doctors or quacks are local hats and bazars.

Some Govt health workers are also found in this profession in rural areas of the district.

Miscreants beat 5 women, crippled boy

COMILLA, June 21: Five women and a crippled boy of the same family in the town were beaten mercilessly by a gang of miscreants on Friday, reports UNB.

According to family sources, the miscreants forcibly entered the house of late Mashur Rahman at east bank of WASA tank near Comilla Cooperative Factory. They ransacked the house and assaulted the inmates.

The victims were Halima Begum (45) and her three daughters Aleya Akhter (15), Afroza Akhter (13), Nazneen Akhter (11) and crippled son Khalil.



SYLHET: The audience at a family planning workshop held here recently. — Star photo