

Upazila roundup

MAGURA

Re-excavation of 2 canals complete

June 23: The re-excavation of two canals have been completed under self-help basis in the district, reports UNB. According to district Relief and Rehabilitation officer, the two canals are — three-kilometre long Chapra-Jagdol Khal in Sadar upazila and two-kilometre long Kathalbaria Khal in Salikha upazila. The government sanctioned 104 metric tons of wheat for 50 per cent re-excavation work of the projects and rest 50 per cent work was completed on self help basis. About 2000 acres of land will get irrigation facilities in the area with the implementation of the projects.

GAIBANDHA

One to suffer lifeterm for killing child

From Our Correspondent June 23: One Abdul Matin was sentenced to suffer life imprisonment on charge of killing a child and fined Taka 1,000 in default to suffer one month R.I. The judgement was delivered by Abdul Haf, District and Session Judge recently. The prosecution of the case is that on 10.3.91, the victim Tuku (5), nephew of accused, Abdul Matin, village Mohimaganj under Gobindaganj upazila was plucking potato from the land of accused person. All on a sudden accused, Matin appeared there and hit the victim with a spade in which the victim fell down on the ground and died. The mother of the victim rushed to the spot and raised hue and cry in which farmers working nearby caught the accused from the spot. A case was filed with Gobindaganj thana. On trial, the accused was found guilty of murder and sentenced to suffer lifeterm. The case was conducted by Public Prosecutor Rahamatullah Azad.

KISHOREGANJ

Undersized fish catching unabated

From Our Correspondent June 23: The undersized fish are being indiscriminately caught and sold throughout the Kishoreganj district defying the government order. The fishermen of Hossainpur, Kuliarchar, Karimganj, Tarail, Bhairab, Katiadi including Sadar upazilas of the district are catching undersized fish — Rui, Katla, Mrigal, Kalboush, Chital, Kot, Magur, Singi and other kinds of fishes from haor, beels, canals, river and ponds in large quantity and selling them in different village markets defying the government restrictions. Many dishonest fishermen are also catching fish fries from open water, reserve fishery and private (fishery) projects. Kishoreganj District Fishery Authority is not taking any action in this connection.

SYLHET

Registered letter, cheque missing

From Our Correspondent June 23: A registered letter sent from abroad alongwith a cheque was found missing and the amount of money misappropriated from the bank account at Kanaighat upazila of Sylhet recently. According to the report, one Hossain Ahmed from New Jersey, USA sent a registered letter alongwith a bank cheque to his son-in-law Nazir Ahmed of village Shibnagar under Kanaighat upazila in the month of April. After waiting for the letter, Nazir Ahmed wrote to his father-in-law, in reply of this, Hossain Ahmed informed in details and sent the counterfoil of the cheque and receipt of the registration of the letter from USA. The National Bank Ltd when contacted informed that the amount had already been withdrawn from there on May 12, 1992. Nazir Ahmed then contacted the postal authority but got no satisfactory answer. The matter has created much resentment among the people in general. The matter was brought to the notice of the higher authorities, but no action has yet been reported against the concerned officials.

RANGPUR

Irri-boro farming not satisfactory

From Our Correspondent June 23: The Irri-boro procurement is not running satisfactorily in Rangpur district. Only four thousand metric tons Irri-boro rice have so far been procured in the district out of the target twenty-five thousand metric tons during the current season. Food Department has established 15 purchasing centres for smooth procurement of the Irri-boro paddy and rice but response from the farmers is far from satisfaction for reasons best known to the authority concerned, it gathered. Another report adds: One Abu Taleb was killed by his elder brother Lokman at Madhupur union under Bandarganj upazila recently. The incident took place when the brothers and the other members of the house locked in a quarrel over sharing of their property. At one stage Lokman hit his brother with a lathi on the head of Taleb causing his death at hospital later on. At least five persons were injured due to lightning at Rowmari recently. According to the information, the incident occurred at around 11-30 am and at that time all the victims were inside a house as there was raining. The victims were immediately admitted at the local health centre where they are improving.

BARISAL

Sarbahara activists' eye gauged

From Our Correspondent June 23: Eyes of four so-called Sarbahara Party members were gauged out by the villagers at Char Dhaleswar under Mehendiganj upazila of the district recently. According to local people, at about 8-30 pm a gang of 5 Sarbahara Party members came to the house of one Sattar Mia of this area for collecting tolls. At that time villagers rounded them up from all the sides. Then leader of the gang Rafiq managed to flee but his four followers were caught by the villagers. At one stage, the unruly villagers beat them mercilessly and later gauged out eyes of three of the four persons caught. These members of the Sarbahara Party are: Berek Bepari (25), Ismail (27) and Selim (26). Another one is Faruk, who could have managed to flee with a stungun.

PATUAKHALI

Construction of 2 schools in progress

June 23: Facilities Department under Ministry of Education has undertaken the development works of two secondary schools of the town at a cost of Taka 20 lakh, reports UNB. The schools are: Jubilee High School and Government Girls' High School, official source said. The works have already been started and will be completed soon, the sources added. With the completion of the scheme, educational facilities of both the schools will be improved to a great extent.

MAULVIBAZAR

Dacoit nabbed

June 23: Police arrested one alleged dacoit from Durgarag village under Sadar upazila of the district recently, reports UNB. Acting on a tip, police raided a house in the village and arrested Khalil with the help of villagers. Later he was sent to jail. Khalil was involved in a number of dacoities and remained fugitive for a long time, police said.

JAMALPUR

One arrested for killing man

June 23: One Abdul Aziz (28) of village Charbanipukuria under Melanday upazila was allegedly killed recently and police arrested one person in this connection, reports BSS. Abdul Aziz was returning home from bazar at night. On the way, a group of armed miscreants attacked and killed him. Lakat Ali, who was with Aziz was also seriously injured. He was sent to Mymensingh Medical College Hospital.



JHENIDAH: In the absence of a bridge on river Fakki, hundreds of people are to cross over a bamboo-built bridge Shako daily risking the life. — Star photos

40pc buses, trucks have no fitness certificate

From Our Correspondent SATHKHIRA, June 23: About 40 per cent of the total number of vehicles in the district do not have any fitness certificate. As a result, government is losing huge revenue and the number of road accidents is increasing day by day. Most of the vehicles which have fitness certificates are not actually suitable for passenger services. The owners of the buses and trucks manage fitness certificate through illegal way. According to informed source, at least 650 buses, trucks, minibuses and microbuses ply on Sathkhira-Jessore, Sathkhira-Khulina routes. Of these, 260 do not have valid fitness certificates. These motor vehicles are plying on the roads in presence of the law enforcing agencies. The Traffic Department of Sathkhira has recently geared up its drive against the violation of traffic rules. In all, 79 vehicle owners have been fined for illegal plying of their vehicles. It is reported that during the drive some vehicle owners keep their transport off the road to avoid any legal action. These dishonest owners do it on the plea that the vehicles are out of order. Local elites believe that appropriate measures should be taken against the owners who are not obeying the traffic rule. People should also be imparted training on traffic rules which are needed to avoid any mishap. Unemployed youths The number of literate unemployed youths is alarmingly increasing in the district. It is observed that a large number of youths are crowding the notice boards of offices and newspaper stalls in search of jobs. An official survey shows that there are about 60,000 literate unemployed youths in the district. Most of them are graduates and post-graduates. Being frustrated, a large number of youths are taking drugs and some of them have become addicted. Besides, there is no recreational facilities for them at the town. It is felt that the present democratic government should take necessary steps to remove the curse of unemployment. Prices of construction materials up Sudden price hike of the construction materials in different upazilas of the district has been hampering the development works for the last two months. Informed sources said that delay in arrival of ships in Mongla and Chittagong ports is the main cause behind the price hike. The high shipment charges is also contributing to the price rise of the construction materials, another source added. The construction work of Building Division, LGBE and Roads and Highways Department is being hampered greatly due to shortage of building materials and price hike. The present price of bag of cement is Taka 250 against Taka 200 against the actual price of Taka 1400. The prices of different sizes of rods have also increased. Absence of public toilets in different commercial areas of the district creating immense problems to hundreds of people assemble there. The people coming over here for business and other purposes are the worst sufferers. The people often respond to the call of nature in drains and on roads polluting the healthy atmosphere of the areas. Youngman commits suicide A youngman committed suicide by taking insecticide at village Girrd under Golapganj upazila of the district recently. On getting information, a police party sent the body of the victim Abdul Ahad Chowdhury (34) to the Sylhet MAG Osmany Medical College Hospital for post-mortem. The cause of the incident could not be ascertained immediately. A case of unnatural death had been registered with the police in this connection. Miscreants kill one One person was killed by miscreants at village Kargram under Beanibazar upazila of Sylhet district recently. According to the reports, at about 11 pm on the night of incident some armed people called one Cheraq Ali (40) out of his house and tied up the hands and legs of the victim and hit him with sharp weapons. As a result, he died on the spot. His body was recovered from a ditch near Dighirpar area. The police sent the body to the Sylhet MAG Osmany Medical College Hospital for post-mortem. Police later on handed over the body to the relatives of the deceased. A case in this connection had already been registered with the police. One gets 7 yrs RI Abdus Sattar, Additional District and Sessions Judge and Special Tribunal Judge, Sunamganj sentenced one person to suffer rigorous imprisonment for seven years for holding wine in his house and fined Taka three thousand in default to suffer imprisonment for six months more. The prosecution case in brief is that, on getting secret informations, on 22 August, 1991, a police party from the Sunamganj PS went to the residence of one Narain Das of Madhyabazar area of Sunamganj town and recovered 48 bottles of wine from there. Following registration of a case the police submitted chargesheet against the said person after investigations. The court after examining all the records and witnesses found the accused person guilty and passed the said sentence. One killed by nephew One person was killed by his nephew at village Khoshirgram under Kurabar union of Beanibazar upazila of the district recently. According to the reports, at about 1-30 pm, on the day of incident, a clash ensued between the nephew Shamsul Haque and the uncle Belal Ahmed as sequel to a previous feud. At one stage, the nephew became furious and took a dagger from a nearby place and hit Belal sharply. The victim was immediately rushed to the hospital, where the doctors declared him dead. The killer nephew Shamsul Haque had fled away since after the incident occurred, it is reported. A case in this connection had already been registered with the Beanibazar police station. The post-mortem on the body was performed in the Sylhet MAG Osmany Medical College Hospital. The body was later handed over to his relatives. Stealing of nut-bolts rampant Stealing of nut-bolts from the railway lines, led to the stoppage of train communication in the Sylhet-Akhaura Section for three hours, on the night following June 17 last. According to the reports, on the night following Wednesday last at about 10 pm, one Shashi Kumar took away 10 nuts and bolts from the railway line near the Moglabazar Station. The local people caught him redhanded and handed over him to the GRP at Moglabazar Rail Station.

Notes from Sylhet

From Our Correspondent

SYLHET, June 23: A Regional Workshop for the officers of the Department of Agriculture Extension was held in Sylhet recently. About 100 officers of the department took part in the workshop held at the conference Hall of the Deputy Director, Sylhet. The participants from Comilla, Brahmanbaria, Chandpur, Sylhet, Moulvibazar, Habiganj and Sunamganj took part in the workshop. Dr Ayubur Rahman, Director-General, Department of Agriculture Extension was present as chief guest in the programme. It was also addressed among others by Saidur Rahman, Director, Training Wing, Director, Cash Crops Division, Nurul Alam, Additional Director, Food Crops Division, Enamul Haque, Additional Director, Field Service and Dr Sayeed Ahmed, Deputy Director, Field Service Division. Mustafizur Rahman, Additional Director, Comilla region presided over the occasion. Youngman commits suicide

Aus, aman farming faces setback

JHENIDAH, June 23: Aus and broadcast aman paddy cultivation have been facing setback in six upazilas of the district during this season due to persisting drought, reports UNB. Agriculture Extension Department has undertaken a scheme to bring 81,992 acres of land under aus cultivation with a production target of 33 lakh maunds and 24,070 acres under broadcast aman with a production target of 5 lakh maunds. But due to persisting drought, so far 23,135 and 7,270 acres of land have been brought under aus and aman cultivation respectively which is far short of the target. Mentionable that 84,720 and 24,915 acres of land were brought under aus and broadcast aman paddy cultivation respectively in the district last year. According to farmers Bengali months Chaitra and Baishakh are the high time for sowing the paddy seeds. But due to shortage of rainfall during the period they could not bring the land under targeted cultivation. According to agriculture officials the district may incur a loss of about Taka 80 crore in terms of cash crops. Another UNB report adds: A mother allegedly tried to commit suicide after poisoning her child to death at Kullapara village in Kaliganj upazila on Sunday. Family and police sources said the victim Sweety (20), was being tortured for dowry by her husband Khokan and mother-in-law since her marriage two and a half years back. On the fateful day, Sweety daughter of Khairul Khan of Abulpur village being unable to bear the continued physical torture decided to kill herself and her one and a half years old child Sohag. She then allegedly poisoned her child to death first and took poison to kill herself, relatives said. She was rushed to the Jessore Sadar hospital where her condition was stated to be critical. A case has been filed with the police. Kotchandpur police recovered bodies of two youngmen from two different places of the upazila Thursday, reports UNB. Police suspected that they were killed by the assailants following old enmity. Police recovered the body of one Sayeed, 26, of village Solemanpur in Ketchandpur upazila from a corn field. Body of the another victim Belal, 25, of village Shalkupa in the same upazila was recovered from village Talshar. He was found hanging from a tree. Both the bodies bore several cut marks. Two separate cases were filed.

Morgue poses serious threat to public health

MAGURA, June 23: The morgue in the town at a place adjacent to the residential area has been posing a serious threat to public health for a long time, reports UNB. Local people complained that the bodies brought from different parts of the district for autopsy are kept in the morgue for days together emitting bad smell and polluting the atmosphere. It may be mentioned that district and Sessions Judge Court, Sonali Bank, residences of district Civil Surgeon, Deputy Commissioner and other dwellings and shops are situated around the morgue. The affected inhabitants of the locality urged the authorities to shift the morgue in another safer place or hospital compound immediately. Another UNB report adds: A total of 242 tubewells had been sunk in four upazilas of the district during the fiscal year 1991-92. The tubewells were sunk under pure water supply programme which includes installation of tubewells in the rural areas of the district with the financial assistance of UNICEF and Dutch government. Of the total, 112 tubewells were sunk in Sadar, 35 in Mohammadpur, 28 in Salikha and 67 in Sreepur upazilas, official sources said.

Training of Ansars, VDP conclude

MEHERPUR, June 21: A fortnight long training of Ansars and Village Defence Party (VDP) members concluded recently at Meherpur district Ansar headquarters, premises, reports BSS. A total of 108 Ansars and VDP members including women participated in the training programme.

100 armed activists held in 20 days

From Our Correspondent BARISAL, June 23: Police arrested about 100 so called underground party members including Sharbahara from different places of Barisal, Jhalokathi, Pirojpur, Madaripur, Shariatpur, and Rajbari districts during the last 20 days. A police source informed that during the time of operations starting from May 10 to June first police also recovered 25 firearms and some ammunition from the hideouts. The operations were conducted by the Armed Police Battalion, Range Reserve Forces and ansars under the supervision of concerned police superiors of the districts. According to sources, these outlawed Sharbahara and other party members were engaged in collection of ransom, dacoities, rape, looting and armed hooliganism for days together in some areas of the districts. Professor Md Hanif, Principal of the Brojomohun University College, Barisal has been appointed Chairman of the Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education (BISE) Jessore it is learnt. The same source said that government had appointed Professor Md Makbul Uddin Ahmed, Principal, Government Barisal College, Barisal Principal of Brojomohun University College, Professor A F M Nurul Islam, Principal of Government Bhola College, Bhola has been appointed Principal of Government Barisal College, Barisal.

Malaria attacks 3000 in Chandpur

From Our Correspondent CHANDPUR, June 23: Malaria has broken out in all the seven upazilas of the district. It is reported that the disease is spreading quickly among the people of the rural areas. About 3,000 malaria cases have been detected during the last few months in the areas. The badly affected areas are — Chandpur, Faridganj, Haimchar, Kachua and Shahrasai. According to Civil Surgeon office sources, preventive measures have been taken by the Health Department officials after the detection of the disease but the disease is increasing day by day in the areas. It is gathered that the people of the rural areas have lost effectiveness of drugs as malaria are used frequently by the villagers in cases of simple fever at the advice of the village doctors. As a result, malaria drugs are not working properly in the areas. On the otherhand, mosquito menace has been prevailing in different areas which helps the attack of the disease very much. The poor villagers can not afford to buy mosquito nets and consequently they are to pass nights at the mercy of the mosquitos. In Maximum cases the people of these areas are unable to buy medicines in time for their poverty and have to bear the sufferings. Diarrhoea breaks out in Chuadanga Our Correspondent from Chuadanga reports: Diarrhoea has broken out through out the district in an epidemic form. It is reported that treatment of the disease is being hampered for want of medicine and the attacked patients have been suffering much. When contacted, the Civil Surgeon of the district confirmed the out break of the disease in different areas of the district. He informed that the medical teams have been working in the affected areas to combat the disease. Tk 10 lakh powder milk hijacked FENI, June 23: A truck loaded with powder milk and lubricant worth about Taka 10 lakh was hijacked from Khaira of the outskirts of the town recently, reports UNB. According to police, a gang of miscreants armed with lethal weapons halted the truck at Khaira on Feni by pass road and took away the truck. They also beat up the driver and helper of the truck.



GAZIPUR: Tongi thana police arrested seven gay girls along with seven youths from Shahara and Zakir Super market recently. — Star photo