

District roundup

RANGPUR Irregularities in selection of contractors

July 18 : Public Works Department (PWD) contractors...

It was known that PWD has taken programmes of constructing the health complexes in Rangpur circle under financial assistance of Islamic Development Bank during the current financial year.

Accordingly the department already selected 26 contractors from out of the circle on the basis of pre-qualification of having an experience of constructing a project of Taka one crore.

They alleged that the department deprived them to participate in the tender call by giving condition of work experience of Taka one crore in a single tender. They said there was no single tender call of Taka one crore in Rajshahi division before.

The samity said many of their contractors have experience of construction of circuit house and other big work.

They said the government has to incur loss of a big amount as the selected contractor will submit monopoly rate for the construction.

They urged the authority to divide the proposed work in small groups so that the local contractors can get the work.

KUSHTIA

Virus fever alarming

From Our Correspondent July 18 : Virus fever has broken out alarmingly in different parts of the district specially in Kushtia town recently.

The disease is spreading in almost all houses and none of the members are being spared from the same.

According to physicians, the symptoms of this virus fever are high temperature, pain and headache.

The worst affected areas are sadar, Bheramara, Kumarkhali and Mirpur thanas.

There is curative medicine for this fever, doctors said. Women and children are the common victims of this virus, they said. The victims become very weak after suffering from the fever.

KUSHTIA

Husband kills wife brutally

July 18 : A house wife, Gita Rani Mondal (30), of village Machughata of Khoksha thana of the district was brutally killed by her husband on Wednesday, reports UNB.

Police and eyewitnesses said the husband Satya Charan Mondal hit his wife with a sharp dao three times.

Gita, mother of three children, died on the spot. Officer in Charge of Khoksha thana visited the spot. The motive of the killing could not be ascertained immediately.

Satya Charan Mondal is absconding since the incident. A case has been filed with the Khoksha police.

Another report adds : One Mokshed Ali of Abdulpur union of the sadar thana of the district allegedly committed suicide by taking poison of Tuesday.

It was assumed that Mokshed committed suicide due to family disturbances.

GAIBANDHA

Jamuna erosion devours vast area

July 18 : A big portion of area under Fulchhari thana headquarters has been devoured by the river Jamuna, reports UNB.

The erosion by the river intensified recently following sharp rise in its water level. The river is now flowing only 15 yards away from the post office.

Another report adds : Gaibandha modernised hospital has no electric generator for emergency electric supply during the power failure causing immense sufferings to the patients. Power failure has become a common phenomenon in the district town and the surgical operation in the hospital is often severely hampered due to the power disruption.

The local leaders and physicians at the hospital urged the authorities to solve the problem immediately.

CHUADANGA

One killed, 20 hurt in road mishap

From Our Correspondent CHUADANGA, July 18 : One person was killed and 20 passengers were injured, two of them seriously when a Chuadanga-bound minibus turned turtle into a road side ditch near Damurhuda Bus Stand on Chuadanga-Kaliganj bus route six miles off from here Monday last.

The minibus met the tragic accident when the driver lost control of the minibus while he was trying to save the victim who was crossing the road at that time along with his minor son and two cattle. All the injured persons were taken to Damurhuda Thana Health Complex for treatment.

In another incident, one minor boy was killed near local Daulatdiar Bus Stand while he was knocked down by a running truck. The minor boy was moving by a bi-cycle along with his friend while he was hit by the truck. The friend of the deceased was also seriously injured in the accident. He has been sent to Dhaka for treatment.

CHAPAINAWABGANJ

Lac production decreasing

July 18 : The production of lac, a dark red resin produced on the twigs of trees by insects, has been decreasing for want of proper patronisation, reports UNB.

Chapainawabganj is the main lac producing area of the country where about 20,000 maunds of lac are produced every year. A maund of lac is being sold at Taka 5,000 and total value of lac produced in the district is about Taka 20 crore.

But it was reported that the production has come down by 5,000 maunds in the last five years due to lack of patronisation and marketing facilities.

Experts and scientists expressing concern at the decreasing trend in production suggested financial assistance for the lac producers and expansion of marketing facilities.

They also suggested development and extension of facilities at the farm-cum-research centre at Kalyanpur Udayan.

Lac is used in making varnish in discs and gold ornaments.

Government can earn a lot of foreign exchange by exporting lac, experts said.

RANGPUR

Miscreants attack on ex-Commissioner

From Our Correspondent July 18 : Abdur Razzaque alias Raju, a former Commissioner of Rangpur Paurashava Ward No 1, was seriously injured by a group of armed hooligans of local Dhap area recently.

According to the allegation, the hooligans are terror of the locality and they were locked in a quarrel with their rival groups over a football game at Dhap area.

The victim, ex-paura commissioner, mediated the quarrel which was not satisfactory to them and therefore on the night of incident they attacked him and grievously injured him with hockey sticks and sharp weapons.

He was immediately removed to the Rangpur Medical College Hospital in a precarious condition.

The incident occurred at a distance of only twenty metres from the Dhap police out-post but nobody rushed to the spot at the time of occurrence, it was further alleged.

A case has been lodged with the Kotwali police in this connection but none so far has been arrested in this regard.

KISHOREGANJ

Eve teasers active

From Our Correspondent July 18 : The guardians are worried over teasing of school and college going girls at Kishoreganj town for the last few days.

Some young boys roam about on the roads on their way from schools and colleges and tease them.

The local elite and guardians of the girls urged the authorities concerned to take necessary steps for checking anti-social activities in the town and to maintain peace and harmony in the society.



BARISAL: Nurul Alam Khan, DC, Bakerganj speaking as chief guest on the concluding day of 'Inservice training for the newsmen' of a local daily. — Star photo

Erosion of Padma takes serious turn People of 5 villages homeless

From Our Correspondent RAJBARI, July 18: The erosion of the river Padma has taken a serious turn with rise in water level.

The river has devoured five villages under Deogram Union of Gualundo and Sadar thana where several thousand families have become homeless. The erosion of the river started from the Mirzanagar Union of the Sadar thana.

Dr A K M Asjad MP along with the Deputy Commissioner, Rajbari visited the erosion affected areas and distributed some relief materials among the erosion-hit people of the area.

Meanwhile, the government has sanctioned Taka seven lakh cash and 100 bundles of CI sheets for the eroded people of the district.

The district administration has already distributed seven metric tons of rice, six metric tons of chira and 200 pieces of sarces and lungis among the erosion victims of the area.

The erosion affected people have taken shelter on embankment and passing a sub-human life.

From Our Correspondent

Earlier reports say about 20,000 people of Gualundo and Pangasa thanas have been staying on the embankment.

According to reports received here, thousands of people are eroded every year by the mighty river Padma and most of them are taking shelter on different embankments.

The homeless people and crop fields of Habashpur, Joshai, Joikrishnapur, Bahadurpur, Saingram, Baharampur and other adjoining areas have so far been devoured by the river. More fresh areas are going to the river beds every year swelling a number of distressed people.

The uprooted people have no land for building houses of their own. They have no money or source of income for their livelihood in these days economic stringencies. As a result, a large number of people take shelter on both sides of Mora Padma Embankment and have been passing their days under uncertainty.

Due to lack of medical facilities, many people mostly children fall easy pray to various diseases.

At least eleven educational institutions, 14 mosques, a good number of hats and bazars, government offices, commercial and industrial establishments in four thanas of the district which were close to the river side await devoured by the river.

The landless people of Gualundo thana are not getting possession of the allotted khasland.

According to informations, about 60.02 acres of land were distributed among the landless man and women of the locality. But the people are not getting possession of the said land as some influential people of the areas are already in possession of the lands.

The deprived people have lodged complaints to higher authorities in this connection but nothing imperative has been done yet.

The landless people of the locality have been urged the concerned authorities to take necessary steps regarding the matter and help the poor people have possession to cultivate the lands.

Birth, death entry irregular

From Our Correspondent BOGRA, July 18 : The registration of birth and death is not maintained properly by the pourashava and union parishes of the district.

As a result, complications arise during admission to the institutions. Due to absence of exact date of birth, job seekers, examinees of secondary school certificate, applicants of passport have been suffering much.

Moreover, authorities of the hospitals, clinics, maternity centre, mother and child health care centres of the district do not report about the birth of a baby to the concerned authority.

The local bodies find it difficult to chalk out programmes to meet the needs of a population.

Sources of Bogra Pourashava said the total figure of birth registration recorded in 1990 was 761 in 1991 it was 875. The total number of death as reported to pourashava in 1990 was 160, in 1991 it was 192.

Under the provision of the existing law, parents are to register the name and particulars of a new born baby with the local bodies like pourashava, union parishad within 90 days of birth. Besides, the health workers also are to collect information of new born baby and register the name with the local bodies.

The parents of a new born baby have to pay a fine of Taka five if they fail to report with the local body within the stipulated time. If needed, the rate of death could easily be obtained from the places where they are buried or put into flames.

At present, authorities ask for birth certificate from those who seek admission to institutions, jobs, passports and migration.

According to Bogra Pourashava, they issued about one thousand birth certificates in the last two years. Birth certificates were issued by pourashava to persons born 10 to 30 years back even, it is reported.

There is no system to change money for birth certificate from pourashava or union parishad. Some birth certificate seekers however complained that a section of staff of health division of pourashava claim Taka 100 to 500 for a birth certificate and sometimes even more.

Health officials of pourashava said in case of 20 to 30 years old cases they send the application to district administration to issue birth certificate.

Young man kidnapped, killed in Magura

MAGURA, July 18: A young man of Uttarbirpur village in Sadar thana of the district was kidnapped and killed by some unknown assailants, reports UNB.

According to witnesses, the victim Abdul Hakim Malitha (25), son of Abdul Hasim Malitha while going to a local market was kidnapped by a gang of miscreants recently.

Later, police recovered the dead body from a paddy field of Sunaikundi village next morning and sent it to morgue for autopsy.

Local people suspected that Hakim was killed due to old enmity. Police arrested MD Abdul Aziz Mollah, the victim's father in law of Sollarpar village in this connection.

Over 300 activists of different political parties joined Jatiya Party in simple ceremony held at Inkhada Bazar of Sadar thana of the district recently. Presided over by Khabir Hossain, UP member of Hajrapur Union of Sadar thana, it was addressed, among others, by Advocate Omar Faruque, Khandkar Sirajul Islam, Kazi Bazlur Rahman and others.

Advocate Hassan Siraj Suju, secretary of district unit of Jatiya Party was present as chief guest.

The speakers welcoming the new comers called upon them to forge greater unity to launch movement to secure the release of their party chief former president Ershad.

They also blamed the ruling BNP government for patronising terrorism in different districts.

Monthly meeting of District Coordination Committee was held here with Deputy Commissioner, Nirmal Chandra Sarkar in the chair at his conference room recently.

All the district level officers, Thana Nirbahi Officers, Police Super and the members of the committee attended the meeting.

The meeting discussed various development and on-going construction works of the district. The DC urged the concerned officials to make necessary arrangement for completion of all development works within the scheduled time.

Bus terminal demanded

MAULVIBAZAR, July 18 : Bus passengers on different routes of the district are facing difficulties for want of a bus terminal in the district headquarters, reports UNB.

Witnesses said hundreds of bus passengers, both male and female are found standing on the roads in the open for hours together to reach their destinations.

The situation becomes more intolerable as there is no proper arrangement for parking of vehicles which causes inconvenience for the pedestrians.

Local people alleged that traffic management was virtually non-existent in the district town.

Rajanagar Hospital of the district has become practically inoperative due to lack of medicines and other basic facilities.

A large number of patients, who rush to the hospital are being turned back without treatment.

Sources said life saving drugs, saline and even common medicines are hardly available in the hospital store.

It is alleged that patients who stay in the hospital are required to buy medicines from the market.

The building also is in a deplorable condition and cracks in the roof let in rain water.

Power supply erratic, production in mills, factories hampered

SHERPUR, July 18 : Frequent power disruption and voltage fluctuations are creating problem to the town dwellers as well as hindering production in mills and factories, reports UNB.

Local leaders informed that power supply goes off for half to one hour four or five times a day.

Students are the worst sufferers and mills and factories are incurring huge loss, they said.

Community leaders and businessmen have demanded immediate steps to ensure uninterrupted power supply.

Potters of the district have been facing manifold problems and the traditional industry is now on the verge of extinction for want of patronisation.

Sources said hundreds of families engaged in pottery for generations are finding it difficult to survive on their ancestral vocation.

Many of them have already given up their profession as prices of inputs have gone out of their reach.

Note books for school going students are being sold here almost openly, defying government ban.

A group of school teachers informed here that some unscrupulous publishers are marketing these books using fake names.

They said these books are full of mistakes, distortion of facts and wrong data which badly affected the children's education.

Police recover body in Dinajpur

DINAJPUR, July 18: Police have recovered a dead body from Dagarbari village of Chirribandar thana, reports UNB.

The body was identified as Azizul Islam Khokan of the same village.

Police said, Khokan appeared to have been killed by miscreants on July 5. A case has been filed with the police.



Dr Ashraf Ali Khan, VC, BAU addressing the inaugural function of the tree plantation week organised by the Fisheries Research Institute, Mymensingh. The function was held recently.

Charitable hospital set up

TANGAIL, July 18 : Tangail Zahangir Smriti Sebasram, a charitable hospital, was inaugurated by Iskandar Zain Khan Gaznabi, the donor of the hospital, reports BSS.

Syed Ahmed, Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, attended the function as chief guest. Abdul Kader Siddiqui, Bir Uttam, president of the organisation, presided over the meeting.

Gaznabi expressed the happiness that the hospital could be set up for the needy. Alhaz Alma Khatoon Bhasani, widow of the late Maolana Bhasani, hoped that through this hospital people will find more medicare facilities.

Syed Ahmed said that government is determined to reach health care and family welfare facilities to the doorstep of people. "As such we are emphasising on preventive measures, primary health care, and family welfare facilities. For the successful implementation of these strategies

he stressed the need for cooperation of non-government and voluntary organisations. Meanwhile, Bangladesh has been able to attract the international attention for its family planning and EPI programmes.

He hoped that through this hospital people will get more family planning and medicare facilities.

Among others Professor A T M Siddique, Director General, Health Services, Rafiquzzaman, Director General, Family Welfare Director Fazlul Rahman and Dr H R Khan spoke on the occasion.

Bangladesh Civil Service (Admin) Association Tangail District Branch held a tree plantation programme Thursday at zila sadar campus.

Syed Ahmed, Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, planted a sapling as chief guest on the occasion.

Speaking on the occasion he stressed the need for growing more trees and mass participation in the programme.

Islamic Varsity VC calls for peace on campus

KUSHTIA, July 18: Professor M A Hamid, Vice Chancellor of Islamic University called for peace and tranquility on campus, reports BSS.

He was speaking as chief guest at a seminar held on Thursday at its auditorium organised by Department of Management of the Islamic University.

The VC called upon the political leaders to stop politics on the campus.

He said, students are the future of the nation so they should not be misguided.

Dr Anawarul Karim, Principal, Meherpur Government College presented a paper on the terrorism on the campus. Dr Mosharruf Hossain, Chairman, Management

Department presided over the seminar. Others who spoke on the occasion are Prof. Moniruzzaman, Prof. Siddiqur Rahman Nizami and Prof. Kamaluddin.

The law enforcing agency personnel seized contraband goods worth about Taka 19,000 from Mirpur Thana recently.

A Bangladesh Rifles press release said the goods include 22 Indian sarces, 40 kgs of sugar and salt. The goods were deposited to Kushtia customs and excise office.

In another operation the BDR personnel recovered 307 Indian sarces, 55 kgs of salt and some Indian sugar valued at Taka 93,000 from Bheramara Rail Station recently.

3 buried alive in landslide

SIRAJGANJ, July 18: Three boys of Kathisatbaria village in Shahjadpur thana were buried alive by a landslide Friday, reports UNB.

According to villagers, Ziaul (10), Solaiman (9) and Ershad (10) met the tragic end when they took shelter in a hole of a nearby road during the heavy rainfall.

On information, the local people rushed to the spot and recovered the bodies.

Police outposts demanded

MADARIPUR, July 18: A police outpost has been demanded to control crime in the remote areas in between the Kalkini and Shibchar thanas, reports UNB.

Local leaders said the areas were at present under the control of the local mastans and hoodlums.

The people cannot take police help as the thanas are located far away and the means of communication are boat and bicycles.

3 including a woman injured in clash

MAGURA, July 18: Three people including two women were injured, one of them seriously, in a clash between two rival groups at Atharakhada in Sadar thana of the district recently, reports UNB.

The clash ensued over a disputed land between the two rival groups and at one stage the supporters of Ichai Shaikh swooped on the supporters of Mujibar Rahman with lethal weapons leaving Mujibar Rahman (25), Rehana Begum (20) and Rajia Begum (30) injured on the spot, villagers said.

Later, Rajia Begum was taken to Magura Sadar Hospital in a critical condition.

A case was filed with the police but none has yet been arrested in this connection.

Cattle lifters create panic

SHERPUR, July 18: Rampant cattle lifting by an organised gang of cattle lifters has created panic among the farmers of the district, reports UNB.

At least 120 cattle were lifted from different parts of Sadar, Sreebordi, Nokla, Nalitabari and Jhenagati thanas during the last six months.

On many occasions the cattle lifters demand ransom money from the farmers. Finding no other way most of the farmers are compelled to stay in cow-sheds at night to protect their cows.

Local people have urged the law enforcing agencies to take necessary steps to check the check the menace immediately.

World Population Day observed

CHANDPUR, July 18: The World Population Day was observed in Chandpur district through various programmes including rally, procession, discussion, seminar and film show, reports BSS.

A colourful procession with banners, festoons and play cards was brought out from Chandpur Press Club and paraded streets of the town.

A seminar on "ecologically balanced world" was held at Hajeeganj thana auditorium in this connection. The seminar was addressed among others by Md Yakub Ali, Deputy Commissioner, Chandpur.

Post office set up

A post office has been set up at village Melang under Kailati union, Nawabganj thana of Dhaka district on June 30, says a Press release.

Twenty thousand people of village Islampur, Matabpur, Kunda, Kartikpur, Melang, South Melang, Kailati, Telanga will be benefited. There are three bazars, eight primary schools, one high school in the area. Melang is 11-mile away from the city but it takes four hours to reach there.

Two short guns, one pistol recovered

KHULNA, July 18: Mongla police recovered two country-made shot guns and one Indian made revolver with three rounds of ammunition from the house of one Abdul Mannan of village Haldibari under Mongla Police Station on Thursday, Mongla police said, reports BSS.

Police also arrested Abdul Mannan and registered a case against him in this connection.



RAJBARI: A scene of a drama staged recently on the occasion of freshers' reception of the local government college. — Star photo