

**District roundup**

**BARGUNA**  
**School girl commits suicide**

**From Our Correspondent**  
July 21: A school girl Ranu (12), daughter of Flight Sergeant (Retd) Anwar Hossain committed suicide here at Barguna College Road by taking poison recently.  
It is learnt that she was the student of class eight of Barguna Govt. Girls' High School. The cause of suicide could not ascertain immediately.  
No case has not yet been lodged in this regard.  
Another report adds: Kishlu (6), son Md. Sentu Mia of West Gaudigacha village under Barguna sadar thana met tragic death when he suddenly fell down in a pond and drowned.

**KISHOREGONJ**  
**House rent shot up**

**From Our Correspondent**  
July 21: House rent has increased manifold at Bajitpur town due to acute shortage of accommodation over the last few months.  
The middle class people as well as the small traders are being affected badly because of house rent hike.  
At present, a single unit of residential quarters is being let out at a monthly rent of Taka 1500. In many cases, the house owners realise advance rent from the tenants. As a result many tenants specially the fixed income group find it difficult to manage their accommodation here.  
Following the accommodation crisis, a large number of professionals both in private and public organisations are to live in this town leaving behind their families at village homes.  
Consequently, their children are being deprived of proper care and educational facilities. The employees in most cases have either to arrange accommodation in messes or in private houses.

**NARSINGDI**  
**Miscreants kidnap one at gun point**

**From Our Correspondent**  
July 21: One Aleya Siddequi Khuku (15), daughter of union parishad chairman was kidnaped at a gun point under Monohardi thana recently.  
It is learnt that the victim of Akdurare village came out at night from her house at the call of nature. Some miscreants caught and took her away.  
The father of the victim has filed a case against 12 persons with the Monohardi police in this connection. Police have arrested two persons so far in this connection.  
Another report adds: One Madbar Ali (29), of village Baratkandi under Narshindi sadar thana killed in a rival groups clash recently.  
The victim died on the spot. A case has been filed with Narshindi thana police in this connection. None has yet been arrested in this regard.

**CHANDPUR**  
**World Population Day observed**

**From Our Correspondent**  
July 21: World Population Day was observed at Chandpur district recently in a befitting manner.  
A big rally of cross-section of people was held in front of Chandpur Press Club in observance of the day. After the rally, a colourful procession with banners, fastoons and placards was brought out and it paraded the roads of the town. A seminar on "Ecologically balanced world is sought for future generation" was held at Haziganj thana auditorium.  
The seminar was presided over by Md Ismail, TNO, Haziganj. The seminar was addressed among others by Md Yakub Ali, DC Chandpur, Md Abul Kashem Ferdous, SP, Md Mahbubul Rahman, Deputy Director, Family Planning, Prof Md Hossain Khan, Sheikh Matyur Rahman, Dr Abdur Rashid, Civil Surgeon, Jiban Kanai Chakraborty.

**SIRAJGANJ**  
**10 AL, JSD (Inu) activists chargesheeted**

July 21: Police Monday charge-sheeted 10 Awami League activists and a leader of JSD (Inu) backed Chhatra League for their alleged attempt to kill Jamaat leader Advocate Khandakar Hafizur Rahman, reports UNB.  
Police submitted charge-sheet against them including the Chhatra League district president Shamsuzzaman Alo after investigation upon a case filed by Jamaat on June 25.  
Hafizur Rahman, secretary, district unit of Jamaat while going to the court was attacked by the anti-hartal elements during June 20 hartal called by the Jamaat.  
He was seriously injured in the attack and was admitted to sadar hospital.

**COMILLA**  
**Workshop on Norplant begins**

July 21: A two-day long regional workshop on Norplant and Orientation will be held here in the Bangladesh Rural Development Academy (BARID) auditorium from July 21, reports UNB.  
The workshop is jointly organised by Bangladesh Institute of Research for Promotion of Essential and Reproductive Health and Technology and the Family Planning Directorate.  
At least 175 participants including civil surgeons, deputy and assistant directors of family planning of all the districts of Chittagong division and doctors related to mother and child health care and local NGOs are expected to participate in the workshop.

**JHENIDAH**  
**Afforestation programme begins**

**From Our Correspondent**  
July 21: Afforestation programme has been started here recently in order to maintain ecological balance and to develop forest resource.  
Kursheed Alam, Nirbahi Officer, Jhenidah sadar thana inaugurating the programme planting trees at the premises of local Fire Service office.  
According to the programme organiser, a total of 74000 trees of different varieties including fruit-bearing trees will be planted throughout the thana. The trees include mango, jackfruit, coconut, guava, mehogani, shishu, betel-nut etc.  
Of the total, 2000 trees will be planted in different prohibited areas while 72000 trees will be planted in 17 union parishads of the thana.  
A three-member observation team headed by Thana Nirbahi Officer was formed for the preservation and nursing the trees.

**SATKHIRA**  
**Former UZ chairman faces misappropriation charge**

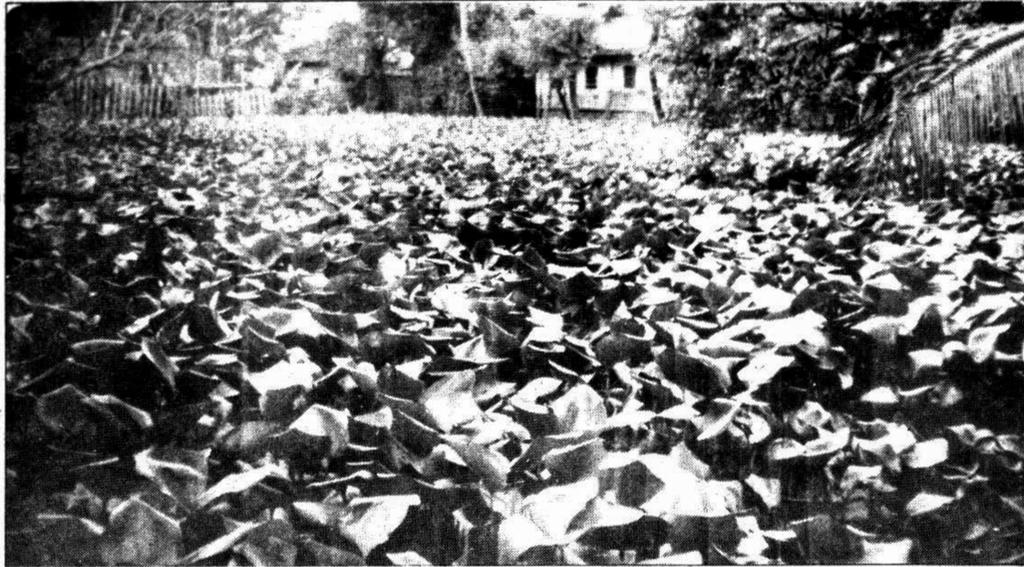
**From Our Correspondent**  
July 21: Anti-Corruption Department has filed a case against the project chairman and former Kaliganj upazila chairman for misappropriating of wheat recently.  
According to the district Anti-Corruption Department sources, government allotted 28.18 metric tons of wheat for repairing Nazimganj Bazar Road under Kaliganj thana in the fiscal year 1987-88.

**TANGAIL**  
**Ansars, VDP rally held**

July 21: A rally of Ansars and Village Defence Party (VDP) members was held at local public hall premises recently, reports BSS.  
Presided over by Mohammad Abdus Salam, Deputy Commissioner, Jamalpur. The rally was addressed among others by Thana Nirbahi Officer, and Ansar and VDP officers.  
A total of 500 Ansars and VDP members of five thanas participated in the rally.

**GAIBANDHA**  
**Embezzlement of Tk 1.25 lakh detected**

**From Our Correspondent**  
July 21: An embezzlement of Taka 1.25 lakh has been detected in co-operative branch of Janata Bank at V-Aid Road, Gaibandha.  
Jahangir Hossain Sarker, junior officer of the said bank misappropriated Taka 1.25 lakh of forging SDR. During the routine inspection launched by Assistant General Manager of Janata Bank the defalcation was detected.  
The AGM Janata Bank admitted the defalcation of said amount and told that action is being taken against the corrupted person after realising the embezzled amount.



CHANDPUR: The healthy growth of water-hyacinth in a big ditch of Professor Para in the town causing unhealthy situation through breeding of mosquitoes. — Star photo

**Diarrhoea kills 10, attacks over 100 in Brahmanbaria**

**BRAHMANBARIA, July 21:** Diarrhoea has claimed 10 lives and attacked over one hundred others in Ashuganj thana, according to unofficial reports available here, reports UNB.  
Five of the dead have been identified as Abdul Kader Munshi (60), Sukku Miah (55), Hafez Enayet Ullah (20), Waliullah (12) and Borhanuddin (25). A woman and a child are among the others.  
Sources said the disease has broken out in an epidemic form in Khulapara, Sharifpur, Tarua and Arashida areas.  
Adulterated food and impure water are reported to have caused the out-break of the disease.  
Mushroom growth of unlicensed medicine shops in different thanas of the district has created a serious threat to public health.  
Sources said at least 300 unlicensed medicine shops in eight thanas sell antibiotics and life saving drugs without prescription from registered doctors.  
It is alleged that some of these shops sell tranquilisers to the drug addicts even in the distant villages.  
Local leaders demanded action against these shop owners immediately.

**Notes from Chuadanga**

**From Our Correspondent**  
CHUADANGA, July 21: The prize giving ceremony of Book Reading competition, arranged by local unit of Bishaw Shahitto Kendro was held at local Sreemonto Town Hall recently.  
Sardar Ali Hossain presided over the function. Abdur Rahim, Superintendent of Police, Chuadanga was present on the occasion as the chief guest while Mokbulur Rahman, former upazila parishad chairman, Alamdanga, Rashida Hasna Ara and Rebeka Sultana were present as the special guests.  
Touhid Hossain and Poreh Kanti Shah also spoke on the occasion.  
Fifty best competitors were given prizes.  
**Diarrhoea claims one**  
One Khushi Bibi (50) of Kederganj Para died of diarrhoea at local sadar hospital recently.  
Besides, 10 more diarrhoea patients were also admitted in local hospital for treatment. The diarrhoea patients were admitted from different areas of Chuadanga sadar thana. Diarrhoea has broken out throughout Chuadanga district in an epidemic form. For the last two years, hundreds of men, women and children have been attacked by this disease and a large number of men, women and children have also died during the last two years.  
When contacted, the Civil Surgeon of Chuadanga told this correspondent over telephone that the authority was trying utmost to control the same.

**Paddy seedlings on 15,000 acres under pest attack**

**BARISAL, July 21:** About 15,000 acres of aus paddy and aman seedlings have been attacked by "Pamri" and "Mazra" pests in Patuakhali and Barguna districts, reports UNB.  
According to Agriculture Extension officials of Patuakhali, over one lakh acres of land had been brought under aus cultivation and aman seedlings raised on 19,645 acres in 6 thanas of the district during the current season.  
But farmers alleged that the price of pesticides was too high for them to afford.  
Two teachers' training colleges are going to be set up in Barisal and Sylhet districts with the financial assistance of Asian Development Bank.  
A team of ADB along with Principal Eunus Khan, State Minister for Education, recently visited some places and educational institutions to select the sites. The minister advised the construction of the college buildings to start as early as possible.  
Eunus Khan also stressed the need for immediate implementation of the ongoing development projects in different educational institutions.  
These projects, it is learnt, are expected to be completed during the current financial year.

**Bank dacoity committed**

A daring bank dacoity was committed at Agrani Bank branch of Andul Baria Bazar under Jibannagar thana of Chuadanga district at dead of night recently.  
According to a delayed message reaching here that a gang of armed dacoits numbering 17/18 entered the bazar at dead of night and at first took the attempt to commit dacoity at the bank.  
Three persons have so far been arrested in connection with two murder cases by Chuadanga thana police during a week.  
Of the total three persons, Aminul Islam and Jahangir Alam both of village Noor Nagar under Chuadanga Purashava area were arrested by Chuadanga thana police recently in connection with Enamul Haque murder case.  
Enamul Haque (27), son of one Ebadat Ali of village Dingdah under Chuadanga sadar thana was brutally murdered one and a half months ago in a Shishu garden near saglar bridge.  
After one and half months Chuadanga thana police traced out the clue of the murder and arrested those two persons who confessed their involvement in the murder said Enamul Haque.  
On the other hand, one Mahiron Nesa wife of one Bed Ali of village Shahebnagar under Chuadanga sadar thana was arrested by Chuadanga thana police from the above village on charge of killing her 'satin' Asta Khaton. The arrested woman Mohiran had been absconding for the case two years.  
None has been arrested in this regard. Investigation is going.

**Erosion devours 10 educational institutions in Manikganj**

**MANIKGANJ, July 21:** Ten educational institutions of Shibabala, Daulatpur and Hari-rampur thanas of the district have been washed away by the rivers Padma and Jamuna during the last two weeks, reports UNB.  
Officials said one college, two high schools, three primary schools and one madrasa in Daulatpur thana, in Shibabala Zafarganj High School had been devoured by the Jamuna, while two primary schools in Hari-rampur thana went into the river Padma.  
About 7,000 students of these institutions have now been attending their classes in the open or in the make-shift sheds.  
The local leaders have demanded urgent steps for reconstruction of the institutions.  
A report from Pabna says: Four villages of Bera thana of the district went into river Jamuna rendering 1894 families homeless during the last five days.  
According to Bera Thana Nirbahi Officer, 557 families in Madhupur, 72 families in Singhashan, 1175 families in Bijoyganj and the rest 194 families in Ganapatodia villages were rendered shelterless on account of erosion by the surging river.  
Bharenga Union Health Centre, Nagarbari Ferry Ghat and Kawtola pump station are also threatened by the river.  
Meanwhile, three mosques, two madrasas and three primary schools were devoured, TNO added.  
The district administration has sanctioned three tons of rice and Taka 20,000 for the erosion victims.  
**Public, private offices under erosion threat**  
A BSS report from Netrakona adds: Vast public and private property, important public places, government offices and cultivable lands are under threat of erosion of various rivers in the district.  
The erosion position aggravated in the last few days due to the heavy and incessant rains that have contributed to the rise in the water levels of the rivers in the district.  
Reports reaching here say that Netrakona-Mymensingh Highway linking the capital city of Dhaka has been under threat of erosion of the river Mogra at Challishanagar, about four kilometres from Netrakona town. The highway is only a few yards from the river.  
Road transports including bus and trucks pass the area with great risk. Netrakona Roads and Highway Department built an emergency embankment on the river last year to check erosion but the embankment has developed breaches at a number of points. In case the embankment collapses all communications with the district headquarters would come to a halt.  
In Madan thana, the erosion of the river Mogra has reached an alarming stage.

**3 held on charge of murder**

Three persons have so far been arrested in connection with two murder cases by Chuadanga thana police during a week.  
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None has been arrested in this regard. Investigation is going.

**Body recovered**

Damurhuda thana police under Chuadanga district recovered the body of one Meher Ali (20) of village Dostopur under Damurhuda thana near his father-in-law residence recently.  
The cause of his death could not be ascertained it still remains a mystery.  
None has been arrested in this regard. Investigation is going.

**Illegal eviction of 25,000 families protested**

**From Our Correspondent**  
RANGAMATI, July 21: A meeting was held in the premises of Betunia High School on July 13 protesting the illegal eviction of 25,000 inhabitants of Kaskhali and Betunia in Kawkhali thana of the district.  
Participated by about 5,000 affected people, the meeting was chaired by Kanza Prue Chowdhury, Chairman of Betunia Union Parishad where the former Upazila Chairmans of Kawkhali Tushar Kanti Dewan was present as chief guest.  
A half-day hortal will be observed on August 1 if the government fail to withdraw the order declaring the area as reserved forest, Dewan announced in the meeting.  
A memorandum in this regards will be submitted to the Chairman, Local Government Council and Deputy Commissioner.  
A 101-member protection committee has been formed in this respect.  
The meeting was followed by a spontaneous procession chanting various slogan protesting the issuance of so-called illegal eviction order.

**No of unemployed youths increasing alarmingly**

**From Our Correspondent**  
KUSHTIA, July 21: The number of literate unemployed youths, is alarmingly increasing in the district.  
It is learnt that a large number of literate youths are found crowding near the notice boards of every office and newspaper stalls in search of jobs.  
It is also learnt from official sources that there are about 10,000 literate unemployed youths in the district. Most of them are graduates and post graduates. A section of unemployed youths are seen addicted of different drugs out of frustration.  
Besides, there is no recreational facilities at the town for them. It is felt that the government should take necessary measures in this connection to save the future generation of the country.  
Smugglers in greater Kushtia district are still active despite government restriction. The contraband smuggled items are being sold in different markets unabatedly.  
According to reports, border districts are the main transit points of smuggling.

**Law, order situation deteriorates**

**PABNA, July 21:** Law and order in the greater Pabna district is deteriorating day by day causing panic among the peace loving people, reports UNB.  
According to police, during the last month a total of 357 crimes occurred which include 15 murders, 29 dacoities, 12 loot and arsons, 23 riots, 66 thefts, 85 clashes, 22 hijacking and cheat and 93 others.  
Police said the outlawed Sharbahara activists gunned down a village headman Kashem Sarder (50) of Beelchapur village on July 18 when he refused to pay them toll.  
Pirates looted 260 bags of rice from a boat in the river Jamuna on July 10.  
Villagers said about 100 cattle were looted for 30 houses of Madhupur, Gonapatodia, Ragnathpur and Jadupur villages of Bera thana in three days recently.  
Bera thana police recovered only 32 cows on July 13.  
Local people urged the authorities to form a task force to combat the increasing crimes in the district to restore social peace and security.

**Obscene, blue film shows demoralising youths**

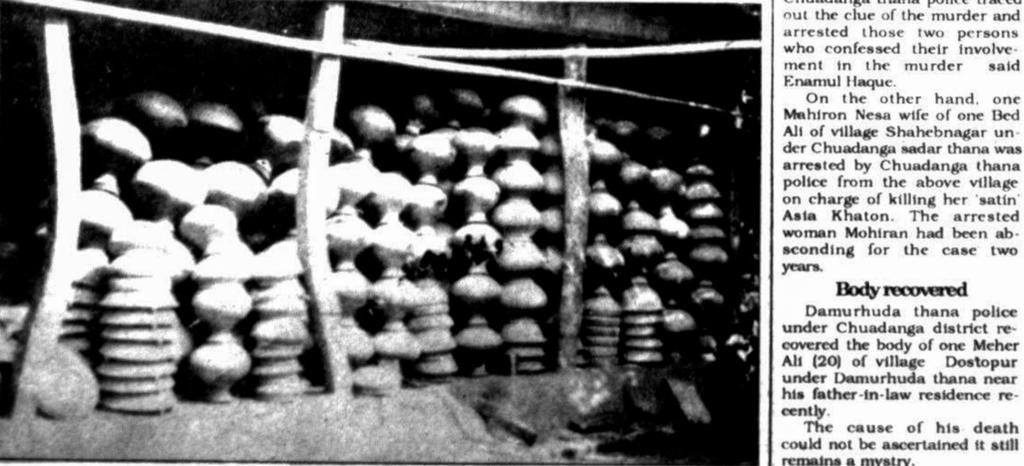
**MAULVIBAZAR, July 21:** Obscene and blue films are being shown almost unabatedly in different thanas of the district causing moral degradation of the young generation, reports UNB.  
Local people complained that most of the video clubs in the town and different thana headquarters are engaged in brisk business for a long time. Most of the club owners are allegedly showing blue films on commercial basis.  
They also alleged that they brought the matter before the local administration time and again but no action has yet been taken in this regard.  
Local guardians demanded to the authority to take immediate steps to stop these obscene show.  
Telephone subscribers of district headquarters have complained poor service, mismanagement and dishonesty against the local telephone department officials.  
Some operators of Maulvibazar Telephone Exchange collect illegal tolls from the subscribers, attend to their demands ignoring the priority calls from others, they said.  
It has also been alleged that a section of subscribers are allowed to make calls at random and without requiring to pay. People with urgent bookings have to wait for hours to get a line, they added.  
Moreover, most of the telephone lines of the local exchange remain dead for days, they said.

**Welding shops create problems**

Mushroom growth of welding workshops besides the roads and residential areas in the district town has been causing problems to the dwellers for long.  
Local people complained that the sparks from these workshops affected the eyesights of the pedestrians as they do the work without any protective shield either for themselves or for the passersby. School students are the worst sufferers.  
Most of the workshops have no valid licence and many owners illegally grabbed the government land to do the welding business with the connivance of some dishonest officials.  
Local leaders urged the authorities to remove the welding workshops from the roadside and residential areas and take action against the unauthorised workshop owners immediately.

**Bus journey on different routes hazardous**

**BARGUNA, July 20:** Bus journey on different routes in the district has become hazardous because of overloading, reckless driving and unrepared roads, local leaders complained, reports UNB.  
Passengers are taking a great risk every day while the rate of accidents has been increasing.  
It is reported that most of the bus drivers have no valid driving licences and in most cases they drive vehicles at maximum speed.  
The bus conductors demand high and unreasonable fare which result in frequent altercation and violence.  
The bus stand without waiting-shed at sadar, Purakata and Amtali adds to the trouble of the passengers. The situation gets worse during rainy season.  
Local leaders and businessmen have demanded development and extension of the Chandkhali Bazar which has become an important commercial centre in the district, reports UNB.  
Some of them said many buyers and sellers have been converging from various parts of the district and trading at times has been very brisk.



RAJBARI: The potters have made the earthenwares for sale but the number of customer of these items is very few. As a result, they are facing economic crisis. — Star photo